

Commentary on Hebrews

Review

SIN OFFERING

I. Difference Between Sin and Trespass Offering

- A. Sin offerings deal with the first five commandments, the trespass offerings deal with the last five.
- B. The sin offering views sin as an insult against Divine nature and the trespass offering as an insult to Divine government.
- C. The sin offering involves sins as they wrong God, but the trespass offering involves sins that injure man.

II. Difference in the attitude of the sinner and his possibility of forgiveness in the sin offering

- A. The willful, stubborn, “high-handed” sinner was deprived atonement.
 1. Such caused him to be “cut off from the people” as the minimum penalty that could be imposed.
 2. Or to be stoned to death as the maximum punishment.
 3. Loss of fellowship with God and Israel is understood in both cases.
- B. Sins for which there was no provision made for the sacrifice were:
 1. Murder, blasphemy, adultery, idolatry, etc.
 2. The reasons in the Law of Moses:
 - a. To emphasize to Israel’s conscience the aggravated wickedness of such crimes against God and man.
 - b. To attenuate the commission of such crimes.
 - c. To develop in Israel a sense of need for a perfect sacrifice that would atone for all sins, not just some!
- C. If one ever committed such sins and was ever restored to God’s fellowship, it was because of:
 1. His deep penitence – which involves turning away from such things and truly despising them in his heart.
 2. His abhorrence of the wrongs he has perpetrated – which involves his own agreement with God’s judgment against his sin.
 3. His expression of love and devotion to God in attitude and deeds and relations with his brethren.
 4. Psalm 51 would be a good example of this.

Continuation

THE SIN OFFERING

III. CHRIST AND THE SIN OFFERING

- A. **He Is the Anti-typical Sin Offering** – Jesus is “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” – John 1:29-36

1. John's witness gives us another important perspective on God's Word made flesh. Not only had God's Word come to dwell among us that we may come to believe and witness His majesty; but there was a superior motive than just for us to behold His glory - He had come to offer Himself up as propitiation for our sins that had separated us from Him in the first place.
2. God's Son was only begotten, meaning *the only unique One*, in the sense that He was the Only One adequate to be sacrificed on our behalf that we may have the right to become His children! His blood was the only truly innocent blood that could take away the sins of the world!
3. The following account shows what John's eyes beheld to testify that Jesus indeed is this Lamb of God! Read John 1:29-36

B. The Whole Book of Hebrews is Dedicated to This Concept

1. "God made him a sin offering" (2 Corinthians 5:21).
 - a. [2 Corinthians 5:21 NIV](#) God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
 - b. All of the righteousness of God ever achieved upon earth was wrought by Jesus our Lord.
 - c. Those who would participate in the righteousness of God must do so "in him," that is, "in Christ."
 - d. Only "the righteousness of God" can save people; and that righteousness is "in Christ"; thus no man can be saved out of Christ.
 - e. What constituted that righteousness? It was the perfect faith and obedience of Christ.
 - f. Just like the faith of Abraham was to bring blessings to many peoples, the faith that saves, in any absolute sense, is therefore the FAITH OF CHRIST.
 - g. [Galatians 3:8-9 NIV](#) Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." (9) So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.
 - h. Therefore, one can only be saved by the faith of Christ when we obey Him that we may become the righteousness of God because of Jesus' faith.
2. "Christ gave his life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28).
 - a. [Matthew 20:28 NIV](#) ...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
 - b. Those "many" are the ones who respond to the message of the Gospel and those who will die in ignorance of their sin, like children, the mentally disabled and the like.
 - c. More on this when we cover the Day of Atonement.
3. "His blood poured out for many for remission of sins" (Matthew 26:28).
 - a. Only by the blood of Jesus can our sins be forgiven!
4. "He will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

- a. Notice only those who will be saved are “His” people! Those who obey His voice!
- 5. “Who in his body bore our sins on a tree” (1 Peter 2:24).
 - a. He gave his body as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.
 - b. A perfect body had to be offered, without blemish. Innocent blood had to be spilled.
 - c. Nobody’s blood or body would do since we have all sinned!
- 6. “God made him to be a sin sacrifice” (Romans 8:3).
 - a. God did something that the law could not do. God showed us His mercy: something the law was unable to do. The argument here is that the law was weakened by the flesh. It could not justify us because it was ready to condemn us since we were obedient to sin in our flesh.
 - b. God sent His only begotten in the flesh to:
 - i. Condemn sin in the flesh
 - ii. Atone for sin on our behalf
 - iii. Free us from the law of sin and death
 - c. Only God’s Son in the likeness of flesh could satisfy the law’s requirements because:
 - i. **He is perfect** – He was the only one capable to fulfill the law perfectly in the eyes of God. He is perfect in His obedience.
 - ii. **He is adequate** – By dying in our place as one of us (in the flesh), He loosed us from the previous testament that we may be free to join Him in a New one. Only He is able to satisfy the requirements of the holy Law of God and also atone for our sins before God. He is the only one adequate to die in our place that now we may live in Him.
 - i. [Hebrews 2:9-10 NIV](#) But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God **he might taste death for everyone.** (10) In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered.
 - iii. **He is willing** – By His perfect faith (Heb 12:2) He completed the task, unwavering and determined. He showed us His perfect love for God and for us on the cross (John 3:16).
 - iv. **He is glorified!** – By being raised on the third day Jesus gives us true hope. It is through the power of the Spirit, the same power living in us now (Rom 1:4; 15:13), that Jesus was raised giving us a preview of what lies ahead for those who walk in the Spirit. Jesus is the firstfruit of many more to come: those who are His!

- i. [1 Corinthians 15:20 NIV](#) But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
- ii. [Romans 8:23 NIV](#) Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.
- iii. [James 1:18 NIV](#) He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.