

Why a Sacrifice Was Necessary

Nothing unclean can have fellowship with something holy (**2 Corinthians 6:14**). Therefore, to have fellowship with God, we must be reconciled to Him. Scripture tells us how to do that. Separation from God means death - because He alone is the source of life. Fellowship with Him means life. The Scripture tells us that the life of the creature is in the blood (**Leviticus 17:11**) and that it is the blood (life) that makes atonement. Only life can bring life. God Himself, therefore, made the first sacrifice (**Genesis 3:21**). The old covenant was a type or form of the new covenant to come, which was the substance. This is what Jesus meant by coming to fulfill the law, not to abolish it. The blood of animals (goats, rams, bulls, etc.) were a type of example or tutor to explain the plan of the perfect sacrifice actually capable of removing sin – the blood of Jesus, the son of God (**Hebrews 9:13-14**). Many other religions have animal sacrifices, but none have the perfect sacrifice of God Himself. The enemy understands that the life is in the blood, but he cannot create, only counterfeit.

Read Hebrews chapters 9 and 10.

The subject matter of Hebrews 9 and 10 is not just symbolism, analogy, metaphor or visual imagery. It is powerful reality. Jesus *literally* went before us into the heavenly tabernacle to make a way for us to come before the Father. This is what is meant by, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” (**Matthew 5:17**)

Explain how Jesus replaced the sacrifice of animals and what that means for us.

Read Romans 7:1-25, and 8:1-16.

Is the “law” bad? Why or why not? Why do you think the Christian Church has historically typified and taught the “law” in a derogatory manner?

What does it mean to be “reconciled” to God? **2 Corinthians 5:17-19**

What does it mean to be “born again”? **John 3:1-21**

What does it mean to be “renewed”? **Titus 3:3-7**

What is “regeneration”? **Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:17-24**

If all this refers to man's salvation, how then can man be saved? **John 1:12; Acts 16:31; Romans 3:22-24, Romans 4:3-5**

What is the difference between salvation and justification?

Salvation: Past, Present and Future

In Scripture, there are three grammatical tenses of salvation used: past, present, and future. At first glance that could get confusing as to whether we "were saved", are "being saved", or are "going to be saved". When we understand that man is a tri-part being, it helps make these passages a bit clearer. Many times in Scripture the past tense of salvation is referring to the spirit. Our spirits were saved at the point of regeneration. Often the present tense is referring to man's soul—the sanctification process. The future tense is often referring to the destiny of the body. The context of the passage will help determine if that concept holds true in the portion of scripture you are studying.

When Christ gave His life for us on the cross, the moment He died, the *literal* curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom **Matthew 27:51**. This symbolizes how we are to "enter in" to the Holy of Holies, through the tearing of the veil or flesh **Hebrews 10:19-20**.

Look up the definitions for the following Greek and Hebrew words. To which part of the trinity of man is each referencing, body, soul or spirit?

Greek words for life:

bios _____

psuche _____

zoe _____

Hebrew words for life:

chayyim _____

nephesh _____

ruach _____

What happens at the point of salvation?

Body: 1 Corinthians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Corinthians 2:15; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Philippians 2:12-13

Soul: Romans 8:22-27; 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; 1 Peter 1:5-9

Spirit: Matthew 10:22; 2 Timothy 1:9-14; Mark 3:28-29; 1 Corinthians 3:15; 1 Corinthians 5:5; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5

Look up the following Scriptures, paying close attention to verb tense.
What does the verb tense seem to indicate in each case?

Past tense: saved or were saved (Spirit)

2 Timothy 1:9-14

Titus 3:5-7

Ephesians 2:8

1 Corinthians 2:10-16

Present tense: being saved (Soul)

1 Corinthians 1:18

Philippians 2:12

1 Peter 1: 5-9

Future tense: will be saved or to be saved (Body)

Matthew 10: 22

Matthew 24:13

Romans 5:9-10

1 Corinthians 3:10-15
