

WAITING WELL

(03/26/2023; Hebrews 9:23-26; Steve Thiel; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: God gave instructions regarding the purification of the tabernacle. These details point forward to Jesus' once for all sacrifice so that sinful people might dwell securely in God's presence. Therefore, we should eagerly await Christ's return and our eternal salvation!

I. Salvation “Already” – Read Hebrews 9:23-26

- A. How does Hebrews 9:23-28 pickup from where we left off last week in Hebrews 9:1-22? How would you summarize the author's argument in chapters 8 and 9?
- B. Read Hebrews 9:23-24. What are the “copies of the heavenly things” referring to and why do they need to be purified? For what reason does God's presence need to be purified with better sacrifices? How does (v.24) and the phrase “on our behalf” help to answer that question?
- C. How is it possible that the Lord Jesus could offer Himself up as a “once for all” sacrifice for sin? In what ways is this radically different than what was accomplished by earthly priests?
- D. Read Hebrews 9:24-26. What are all the different ways in which Jesus' death on the cross is a superior sacrifice? And how would you interpret the phrase “at the end of the ages”?

II. Salvation “Not Yet” – Read Hebrews 9:27-28

- A. Read Hebrews 9:27-28. How would you explain the comparison that is being made here between all mankind and Christ? How are they similar? How are they different?
- B. How would you interpret Hebrews 9:27? What does the author mean when he writes, “it is appointed for man to die once”? And what judgment in particular is he talking about?
- C. Read Hebrews 9:28. Why does the author draw a comparison between man's death and the death of Christ? How is His death different than our death? And how does the purpose, “to bear the sins of the many” connect back to Isaiah 53:4-12? Why is that significant?
- D. Why will Jesus not be coming again to deal with sin? How does His first coming connect with His second coming and His ability to save all of those who eagerly wait for Him?

III. Salvation Forever – Application

- A. Would you say that you are afraid of dying? What might cause you to be afraid of death or judgment? How does verse 28 and Jesus' second coming help to relieve those fears?
- B. What would you expect to see in the life of someone who is eagerly waiting for Christ's return? How would you like to grow in patiently anticipating His return? Are you excited for Jesus' second coming? What things in this world challenge that excitement and anticipation?