

"One & Done"—The Concepts of Redemption and Repetition

Hebrews 10:1-14

September 1, 2024

INTRO ... We're about to arrive at **Heb 10:19ff** "**Therefore, brothers... SINCE WE HAVE ...LET US _____ !**

...Our Life Choices, Our Actions, Our Attitudes, Our Hopes—are being informed by the Spiritual Possessions that Hebrews has been describing to us for the last 4 chapters! (We live out of our "Possessions"—the Things we OWN)

"REDEMPTION"

Heb 7:26-28 ²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

The 'PERSON' of JESUS CHRIST.....v. 26... "**Such a high priest...**

- **He is Unique in all of humanity in his "disassociation" with sin! ...HE has unique qualities & qualifications by which He can be "near to God"** (where Hebrews is trying to take us!)
- **He is Unique in His 'Magnitude'/'Capacity' to Redeem –**

Eph 1:7-10 "**In him** we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth." [unite = To sum up, gather together in one. (CWSB Dictionary)]

Heb 9:11-12 ¹¹ But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹² he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

...This Unique Person could also accomplish a Unique Act—v. 12 ...He enters the presence of God and Secures Our "Redemption"

λύτρωσις **lytrōsis**; *a ransoming, redemption; deliverance, esp. from the penalty of sin*

"The saying does not explain why God requires a ransom instead of liberating us freely. God owes explanations to no one but follows his own wise and righteous will. Jesus accepts this, and in so doing discloses to us that his death is the obedient service to God on the one side and the vicarious service for us on the other whereby freedom from sin is secured." (Kittle, Theo. Dict. of N.T.)

Mk 10:45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

"...the atonement cannot be focused properly where the biblical view of God's justice as one facet of his holiness and of human willfulness as the root of our racial, communal, and personal sinfulness and guilt, is not grasped. Justice, as such, is essentially giving everyone their due, and whatever more God's justice (righteousness) means in the Bible it certainly starts here, with retribution for wrongdoing.

...For human nature is radically twisted into an instinctive yet deliberate and ineradicable habit of God-defying or God-denying self-service, so that God's requirement of perfect love to himself and others is permanently beyond our reach, and falling short of God's standard marks our lives every day. What is due to us, then, from God is condemnation and rejection.

...God's redemptive love must not be conceived—misconceived, rather—as somehow trumping and displacing God's retributive justice, as if the Creator-Judge simply decided to let bygones be bygones. ...Evidently there was no alternative to paying that price if we were to be saved, so the Son at the Father's behest, 'through the eternal Spirit' (Heb 9:14), paid it. Thus God 'set aside' the record of debt that stood against us... nailing it to the cross' (Col 2:14).

...How did Christ's sacrificial death actually save us... By redeeming us, which means effecting our transfer from a state of bondage without hope to a state of freedom with a future, by paying the price that the transfer required. ...How then did the cross actually redeem us, through Jesus' death? By reconciling us to God, ending the alienation and estrangement that were previously there, linking God and us together in new harmony, replacing enmity between us with friendship and peace, by means of the putting away of our sins. **J.I. Packer, *In My Place Condemned He Stood*, p. 23-25**

When I go to construct my "philosophy of life", and I have a category called— "Relating to God"—Do I Have a Concept of "Redemption"? ...a Ransom being paid that satisfies the claims of justice against me!

"REPETITION"

Heb 9:24-28 ²⁴ For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

My "Religious Repetitions" provide a revealing and interesting commentary on my understanding of "Redemption" & "Reconciliation" to God! ...Heb 9-10 presents Man's Presentation to God (man's religious efforts to make things right with God) in the following light:

Heb 10:1-4 ¹ For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. ² Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? ³ But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

v. 1, 4

- There CAN BE Religious Activity Performed by Man—that Fails to Make us Right with God!
- "Drawing Near" is what we are attempting to do!
- Perfection is Our Need—Not Performance!!!

"...the gospel of Christ included the news that there is a righteousness—a perfect obedience of Jesus Christ—that is offered freely to all through faith alone. And when faith is given, that righteousness is imputed to the believer once and for all. Together with the sin-forgiving blood of Jesus, this is our hope. From the moment we believed until the last day of eternity God is 100 percent for us on this basis alone—the sin-bearing punishment of Christ, and the righteousness-providing obedience of Christ." **John Piper**, "The Future of Justification", p. 9

v. 2-4... Repeated Human Rituals don't have the power to cleanse the conscience and silence sin's reminding presence!

Islam's 5 pillars ...Buddhism's reincarnation cycle & efforts ...Moralism's boundaries
 ...Catholicism's (confession, penance, purgatory, rosaries, candles, indulgences) ...Mainline
 Denomination's church attendance, moral efforts, & higher power acknowledgments can't do this!

... **"In these there is a reminder of sins every year"**

...Redemption INFORMS Repetition! ...Jesus Brings a New Voice that Silences Repetition's Reminders

Heb 10:5-7, 10-14

⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

⁷ Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'

...¹⁰ And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

v. 14... is One of the most Clarifying Verses in all of Scripture—it links something about us that is FINISHED and something about us that is CONTINUING... and it is Not Confused about Them!

"We're justified not by our personal obedience to the law but by faith in Christ. ...faith involves both a 'renunciation' and 'a reliance'. First, we must renounce any trust in our own performance as the basis of our acceptance before God. We trust in our own performance when we believe we've earned God's acceptance by our good works. But we also trust in our performance when we believe we've lost God's acceptance by our bad works—by our sin. So we must renounce any consideration of either our bad works or our good works as the means of relating to God. ...Second, we must place our reliance entirely on the perfect obedience and sin-bearing death of Christ as the sole basis for our standing before God—on our best days as well as our worst." **Jerry Bridges**, "The Bookends of the Christian Life", p. 28

...Something is COMPLETED, while something else is in PROCESS—and they are somewhat related, thus we easily can confuse the related concepts. ... "Getting Right w/ God" is not the same as "Becoming Like God"

- One is an Instant ...the other is a Process

"Justification is not subject to degrees. God's work in us is. We differ in the extent to which we allow his Spirit to make us like Christ, and it is possible therefore to be more or less Christ-like. But it is not possible to be more or less justified!" **Sinclair Ferguson**, "The Christian Life", p. 77

- One Gives Birth to the Other (Justification brings the "cleansing"/"righteousness" that makes the "Indwelling of the Spirit" possible! ...the Indwelling Spirit changes and transforms us)
- One Testifies to the Other (Sanctification is the "fruit" of justification—it is the progression of the Spirit's work in us that began with Justification and the Faith that Received that Justification.)
- One is "Received" the other is "Run-after" (Strive for Holiness) ...the language of striving, pursuing, putting on, mortifying, etc.—These are things to be accomplished by us!
- One Contributes Differently than the Other in our "Experiencing the Presence of God"

...That's why the Redemption declared in Heb 7-10 can be followed up with **Heb 10:19ff** "**Therefore, brothers... SINCE WE HAVE ...LET US _____ !**