

Jesus is our sufficient priest – Hebrews 10v1-25

Two words summarise our text – Cleansing (v1-18) and Confidence (v19-25).

Our Promised Cleansing

If we are to meet with God and have confident joy in His presence, we need to be clean.

A day of cleaning

The day of atonement: 'A once a year sacrifice to atone for sin, to c _____ over or c _____ away sin so that you could be at one with God.'

What must the High Priest do before meeting with God? Leviticus 16v4

Different animals were used in the sacrifice. What was each one for?

The Bull v11 'to make atonement for his o _____ s _____.'

The first Goat v15-16b 'a sin offering for the p _____ because of their un _____.'

The second Goat v20-22 'to carry on itself all the s _____ to a r _____ place.'

What was the whole purpose of the ritual? v30

What was the problem with all these sacrifices? Read Hebrews 10 v3-4

They r _____ you of sin.

They did not t _____ a _____ your sin.

Greater cleaning

The whole sacrificial and cleansing system was a '*shadow*' (v1) pointing beyond themselves to something better and greater to come. The sacrifices did not make you clean, they only left you with a guilty conscience (v2) because they could not take away sin that made you unclean (v3).

What was the lesson learned from this?

If you want to get close to God, if you want to enjoy God's presence, you must be p _____, s _____, without s _____. You must be c _____.

What are the effects of sin on us?

Sin defiles us and makes us un _____, im _____, un _____.

Christ who cleans

Christ came as God promised, not to offer sacrifices but to be the sacrifice for us.
He came to set aside the old covenant and establish the new covenant (v9).

How do some religious people try to make people spiritually clean?

How do people who are not religious try to make themselves inwardly clean?

What does Christ's sacrifice do for us?

Verse 10 'We have been made *h*_____, once for *a*_____.'

Verse 14 'Made *p*_____ *f*_____.'

Because of the death of Jesus Christ for our sins what else does this mean for us?

Verse 17 'Their sins I will *r*_____ no more.'

Verse 18 'Sacrifice for sin is no longer *n*_____.'

Remember: Once you have been cleaned by Christ, there is no sin that can defile you or blemish you ever again. Once made clean – always clean.

Our Confident Joy

Through the internal and eternal cleansing work of Christ we now have absolute confidence to meet with God. It is unhindered and unrestricted (v19).

Jesus *body* is said to be like the *curtain* in the holy place (verse 21). What does it mean that Jesus's body is like the curtain?

Confidence in Christ

Our confidence is not in our ourselves but in Christ who has made us clean forever. That means we can joyfully live in God's presence every day. To see how this is true think about how the Father now treats the Son.

Which one encourages you the most?

If the Father welcomes the Son – He welcomes you.

If the Father delights in his Son – He delights in you.

Does Jesus live in fear of the Father – Neither do you live in fear.

Does Jesus have a sinful past that hinders his relationship – Neither do you have a sinful past.

Will the Father ever remove Jesus from his presence – So you will not be removed.

Will the Father ever deny the Son access – So you will not be denied access.

What is the only thing that stops us enjoying God?

It is believing the I _____ that I am un_____.

The author of Hebrews shows us that there are three things that will keep us in joyful confidence everyday:

First lets us draw near to God v22

What is a sincere heart? See Psalm 51v16-17

What two things do we discover as we draw near to God?

(i) As we come we are **r** _____ that it is Christ who cleaned me once and for all.

(ii) As we come we **c** _____ our sin knowing that he will forgive us of all our sins.

'It is only when I am near to God in Christ that I know my sins forgiven. I feel his love, I know I am his child and I enjoy the priceless blessings of peace with God and peace within and peace with others. I am aware of his love and I am given a joy that the world can neither give nor take away.'

Second let us hold to our hope v23

Our hope is not in our promise to be faithful, but Christ's promise to be faithful to us.

The author reminds us: *'We have this hope as an anchor for the soul firm and secure'*. 6v19

If Jesus is our anchor what does this mean for us?

Third let us spur each other on v24-25

To Spur each other on, is to provoke each other. We are to gently remind one another of God's Son Jesus Christ.

Holding the truth before them until you get a reaction.

What kind of reaction are we looking for? v25

Who can you encourage this week? (Write down their name)

What truth about Jesus will you tell them? (Write down the truth)

Remember: *Cleansing has been promised by God and is received by faith in Christ, so that we can joyfully enter God's presence with confidence.*

