



Did you know that many of the children's stories reflect religious overtones?

For instance: The Story of the Old Troll (3 Billy Goat Gruff), The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, and The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe, and "MY FAVORITE" ...The Ransom of Red Chief by O'Henry.

All of these stories are saying that "Crime Doesn't Pay" and "Good" will eventually triumph over "Evil."

The writer of Hebrews knew that the readers believed in the triumph of good over evil. So...He centered in on why Christianity is more than a good religion compared to others. Central argument in Hebrews 4:14 through 10:18 is that Jesus is a better high priest than the priests of Judaism...a better ministry...a better mediator of a better covenant.

The better covenant led to a better worship for the followers of Christ. Jesus offered and is offering a better sacrifice than that available through Judaism and, a better provision for access to God.

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

CHAPTERS 8 AND 9

Synopsis/Outline of the Two Chapters

I. HEBREWS 8:1-13 SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD

A. AS HIGH PRIEST

1. Right to receive honor given Him
2. Right to receive worship given Him
3. Holds office by the decree of God himself by oath
4. Chosen, called, and ordained to the office (Willing to go into the Holy of Holies)
5. Risen and ascended Lord maintains priesthood in heaven
6. Eternal
7. Perfect
8. Holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, higher than the heavens
9. Consecrated forevermore (*for an endless time*)
10. Sits at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven
11. Serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle in heaven orchestrated and approved by God
12. Our Minister in the sanctuary

B. AS SON OF MAN

1. Perfected in every way
2. Able to be merciful, faithful, sympathetic, and compassionate
3. Better than prophets, angels, Moses, Joshua, or Aaron
4. Finished work on earth ("It is finished.")
5. Willingly humbled himself; exalted by God himself (Phil. 2:7-9)
6. **PERFECT SACRIFICE:** His Blood cleanses us from all sin

II. SUPERIORITY OF CHRIST'S SACRIFICE

A. Hebrews 9:1-10 WORSHIP IN THE EARTHLY TABERNACLE

1. Regulations for worship
2. Earthly sanctuary

B. Hebrews 9:11-28 WORSHIP IN THE HEAVENLY TABERNACLE

1. The Blood of Jesus, the Christ, THE CROSS"

- a. Gives Peace and Hope to the Sinner, *Col. 1:19,20*
- b. Removed Barrier/Provided Fellowship with God, *Corinthians 5:18,19,21*
- c. Gives Meaning to the Universe
- d. God is perfectly holy: *Sin separates man from God.*
- e. The cross and the Blood satisfied every demand of His holiness
- f. The preaching of the Cross and Jesus is the wisdom and power of God, *I Cor. 1:18, 23-25*
- g. Fulfills Old Testament Covenant /Vital to the New Testament Covenant
- h. God dwells among us by the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit *Ephesians 2:18-22 I Peter 2:5*

- i. He writes His laws on our hearts.

2. Heavenly sanctuary

- a. Jesus provided access
- b. Holy Spirit invites us
- c. Jesus prays for believers
- d. Equips us to pray for sinners.

I Cor. 5:18-20; Romans 1:16

Lesson 13, Hebrews 9

Hebrews 9:1-28, "Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary.² A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place.³ Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place,⁴ which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.⁵ Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.⁶ When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry.⁷ But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.⁸ The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning.⁹ This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper.¹⁰ They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—

external regulations applying until the time of the new order. ¹¹ But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. ¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! ¹⁵ For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. ¹⁶ In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, ¹⁷ because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. ¹⁸ This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood. ¹⁹ When Moses had proclaimed every command of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. ²⁰ He said, “This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep.” ²¹ In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. ²² In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. ²³ It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God’s presence. ²⁵ Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶ Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.”

These conclusions are developed in Hebrews 9

The tabernacle had some Holy vessels in them that represented the “ministry of Christ” to and for all believers.

- **Holy place---had candlestick (menorah) and the table of showbread according to Hebrews.**
- **However, in Exodus, the golden altar of incense was in the Holy Place.**
- **In Hebrews, the golden altar of incense was in the Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies).**

This is not a contradiction in Scripture:

It says of the holy of holies... “which had the golden censor” (Heb. 9:3).

In Exodus 25 and 30 given to Moses, this golden censor did not form part of the furniture of the holy of holies in the tabernacle described.

To what then is the reference?

- ✓ **Leviticus 16:12-13, “And he (the high priest) shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the Lord, and his hands full of sweet incense beaten small, and bring within the veil: And he shall put the incense upon the fire before the Lord, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is upon the testimony, that he die not.”**
- ✓ **“For 359 days in the year Aaron (the High Priest) ministered at the golden or incense altar, which stood in the holy place; but on the remaining day, the annual “Day of Atonement,” he did not. Instead, he used the “golden censor” of incense, passing with it within the veil. It is this which explains why there is no mention of the “golden altar” in v. 2, for this is a representation of the Christ (Jesus) fulfilling “the Day of**

Atonement.” That which was represented by the “golden censer” was the acceptability of Christ’s person to God and the efficacy of His intercession.

As stated in Exposition of Hebrews, Arthur W. Pink, Page46

NOTE: I took the liberty of summarizing some of Mr. Pink’s exposition (interpretation).

Now do you understand why the writer says in Heb. 9:5, “....but we cannot discuss these things in detail now”?

Remember...The Messianic Jews, who the author of Hebrews was addressing in this epistle, were not mature enough to handle the details of the reference to Jesus being the fulfillment of the blood being sprinkled on the Ark of the Covenant. The author was just trying to get them to understand that Jesus was the Perfect and True Sacrifice.

Hebrews 9:1-10 emphasize the series of barriers between the worshipper and God in the Old Testament covenant.

As beautiful as the tabernacle was (Holy Place and the Most Holy Place), only the elite or specific few could enter. Only one could enter the Most holy Place (Holy of Holies)...and entered only once each year to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people (Day of Atonement).

Note: The ordinary people were barred from entering the sanctuary.

Someone had to offer the blood sacrifice for himself and the people (all of this was temporary).

The summary of the Day of Atonement...given in Leviticus 16:33, “He shall make atonement for the sanctuary and he shall make atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and all the people of the assembly.”

The worship of the ancient tabernacle was designed to bring people into the presence of God, but only in the most shadowy and imperfect way.

Hebrews 9:11-15...Jesus is the only high priest who brings a sacrifice that can open the way to God...and that sacrifice is Himself.

What is the difference between the two sacrificial ceremonies?

1. *The ancient sacrifices cleansed the body from ceremonial uncleanness; the sacrifice of Jesus cleansed the soul. The sacrifice of Jesus takes the load of guilt from people’s consciences.*
2. *The sacrifice of Jesus brought eternal redemption...whereby the ancient sacrifices were only temporary.*
3. *The sacrifice of Christ enabled people to leave the deeds of death and to become the servants of the Living God.*
 - *The sacrifice of Jesus was not only the paying of a debt; it was the giving of a victory.*
 - *This sacrifice did not only win forgiveness for past sin, he enabled men and women in the future to live godly lives.*

The sacrifice of Jesus was different than the sacrifice of animals!

- *Jesus’ sacrifice was voluntary...the animal sacrifice was not.*
- *Jesus’ sacrifice was spontaneous...the animal sacrifice was a ritual and a product of law (Jesus’ sacrifice was the product of love).*

- Jesus sacrifice was rational...he knew what he was doing with eyes wide open. The animal had no idea what was happening.
- The sacrifice of Jesus was moral...Animal sacrifice was mechanical (a mechanism of law...a prescribed ritual); but Jesus' sacrifice was a choice of love (Jesus obeying the will of God for the sake of men and women).

Summary of Hebrews 9:16-22, ...Divine forgiveness is a costly thing.

JESUS PAID IT ALL, ALL TO HIM WE OWE. BLOOD SACRIFICE = REDEMPTION (COSTLY PERFUME OFFERED FOR THE UNWORTHY AND UNHOLY HUMAN RACE). GHASTLY DEEDS BY MANKIND COST THE PRECIOUS AND HOLY SACRIFICIAL LAMB!

Hebrews 9:23-28, The Necessity, Superior Dignity, and Power of His Priesthood and Sacrifice.

The way in which the work and the sacrifice of Christ are supreme:

1. Christ did not enter a holy place that had been specially created for worship; He entered into the presence of God.
2. Christ entered into the presence of God not only for His own sake but also for ours.
3. The sacrifice of Christ never needs to be made again (Praise God!)

The writer of Hebrews draws a parallel between human life and the Life of Christ:

- Human beings die, and after that the judgment.
- Jesus dies, but lives again. He enters a place where God is present and has made it possible for us to enter also.

“Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me. For in My Father’s House are many mansions...”

Wow!!

