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***The Shock Treatment…Reality to Life’s Core***

***Lesson 16: Hebrews 10:26-39***

***Hebrews shocking truth! Paul knew that if people didn’t live the truth of God’s Word in public and in secret that there was no escaping God’s judgment!***

***Hebrews 10:26-31, “****If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28Anyone who rejected the Law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30For we know him who said, “It is mine to avenge; I will repay, “and again, “The Lord will judge his people.” 31It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*

**The Horror of Sin**

**The writer of Hebrews has a sternness about him when he sees those who calls themselves Christians and still live like the devil.**

**He has this horror of sin for two (2) reasons:**

1. **The church was under attack. He felt that there were members in the church body who were bad advertisements of the Christian faith**.
2. **The new knowledge of God through Jesus has brought double penalty for rejecting the blood of Jesus.**

**Three (3) Definitions of Sin in this passage:**

1. **Sin is to trample Christ underfoot.** The one who rejects the Savior is the one who rejects his love and ultimate sacrifice. The hardest thing for a parent…their child who rejects their love and prayers. Jesus prays for us…that we might accept His love.
2. **Sin is “failing to see the sacredness of sacred things.”** Sin is the failure to realize (rejection) the sacredness of Jesus sacrifice on the cross (the shed blood, the broken and bruised body of Jesus)…for mankind.
3. **Sin is the insult to the Holy Spirit.** The Holy Spirit prods us and pleads with us to not do wrong…placing within us a sense of what is right and wrong. To disregard the prompting of the Holy Spirit is an insult to the Spirit and grieves the heart of God.

**Hebrews 10:32-39*, “****Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. 33Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. 34You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. 35So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.36You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. 37For “In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay.” 38And, “But my righteousone will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.” 39But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.”*

**“Be what you were at your best” is what the writer of Hebrews is saying to the church.**

***Christianity does not demand the impossible; but, if we be as honest, considerate, and as courageous as we can be as a Christian, life would be transformed and we would have a better chance of living in the world but “not being of the world.”***

**According to this Scripture, we Christians need certain things:**

1. **We need to keep our hope and goal in sight.** Heaven is real, our salvation is real, and our Jesus is waiting on the other side to live with us for eternity. Our loved ones, our friends…all who know Jesus are waiting for us.
2. **We need perseverance**. Most people can start well…and almost everyone can keep going intermittently. We need to understand what it means to walk and not be weary...and not to faint.
3. **We need to look for the end**…**not the means.** Victory comes only to those who hold on. Life is a journey that makes its way into the presence of God.

***This is a summons to “never be less than the best.”***

***If life is the road to Christ, no one can afford to miss it…or to stop half-way before you get there!***

**HE WHO HAS OVERCOME HAS MADE IT CLEAR…**

***He who overcomes:***

1. ***Jesus “will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God”,***
2. ***Will not be hurt at all by the second death,***
3. ***Will give him some of the hidden manna…and a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it,***
4. ***Jesus “will give them authority over the nations just as I (Jesus) have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star,***
5. ***Will be dressed in white and his name will never be blotted out from the book of life…but will acknowledge his name before my Father and His angels,***
6. ***Jesus “will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it….he will have my name written on him,”***
7. ***Jesus “will give him the right to sit with Jesus on His throne, just as Jesus overcame and sat down with His Father on His throne.***

**Are you a member of the Church of Jesus Christ… Bought and paid for…JESUS: Waiting for you on the other side?**

***Question: Do you think the idea that God requires a “blood sacrifice” to enter His presence is a hindrance to the spreading of the gospel?***

***Significance of the Blood of Jesus Christ***

The Bible regards blood as the symbol and source of life. Leviticus 17:14 states, "For the life of every creature is its blood: its blood is its life…" ([ESV](https://www.learnreligions.com/english-standard-version-bible-700661))

Blood plays a major role in the Old Testament.

 (Exodus 24:6-8)

**The Blood of Jesus Christ**

* Because of its relationship to life, blood signifies the supreme offering to God.
* God's holiness and justice demand that sin be punished. The only penalty or payment for sin is eternal death.
* The offering of an animal and even our own death are not sufficient sacrifices to pay for sin. Atonement requires a perfect, spotless sacrifice, offered in just the right way.

[Jesus Christ](https://www.learnreligions.com/profile-of-jesus-christ-701089), the one perfect God-man, came to offer the pure, complete and everlasting sacrifice to make payment for our sin. [Hebrews](https://www.learnreligions.com/book-of-hebrews-701032) chapters 8-10 beautifully explain how Christ became the eternal High Priest, entering [heaven](https://www.learnreligions.com/the-bible-on-death-eternal-life-and-heaven-701969)(the Holy of Holies), once and for all, not by the blood of sacrificial animals, but by his own precious blood on the cross. Christ poured out his life in the ultimate atoning sacrifice for our sin and the sins of the world.

In the [New Testament](https://www.learnreligions.com/the-new-testament-4684894), the blood of Jesus Christ is the pivotal catalyst to remove the sin of God’s most beloved and fascinating creation…man!

**The Blood of Jesus Has Power To:**

* **Redeem us**

 *In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace …*([Ephesians](https://www.learnreligions.com/book-of-ephesians-701036) 1:7, ESV)

 *With his own blood — not the blood of goats and calves — he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.* (Hebrews 9:12)

* **Reconcile us to God**

 *For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.* ([Romans](https://www.learnreligions.com/book-of-romans-701034) 3:25)

* **Pay our ransom**

 *For you know that God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.* (1 Peter 1: 18-19, NLT)

 *And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation …* ([Revelation](https://www.learnreligions.com/book-of-revelation-701050) 5:9, ESV)

* **Wash away sin**

 *But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.* (1 John 1:7, NLT)

* **Forgive us**

 *Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no*[*forgiveness of sins*](https://www.learnreligions.com/what-is-forgiveness-700640)*.* ‎(Hebrews 9:22, ESV)

* **Free us**

 *… and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to*[*rise from the dead*](https://www.learnreligions.com/the-resurrection-story-700218)*, and the ruler of all the kings of the world. All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us.* (Revelation 1:5, NLT)

* **Justify us**

 *Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.* (Romans 5:9, ESV)

* **Cleanse our guilty conscience**

 *Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow could cleanse people’s bodies from ceremonial impurity. Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins.* (Hebrews 9:13-14, NLT)

* **Sanctify us**

 *So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood.* (Hebrews 13:12, ESV)

* **Open the way to the presence of God**

 *But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.* (Ephesians 2:13, NLT)

 *And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven’s Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus.* (Hebrews 10:19, NLT)

* **Give us peace**

 *For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself. He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross.* ([Colossians](https://www.learnreligions.com/book-of-colossians-701038) 1:19-20, NLT)

* **Overcome the enemy**

 *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.* (Revelation 12:11, [NKJV](https://www.learnreligions.com/new-king-james-version-700665))