**Greater Than All - wk 10 – Nothing but the blood**

**Summer and Blood – never liked sight of blood. Passion of the Christ – offended many for all the blood. Why all the blood?**

**Why did Jesus have to die, why his blood? God sacrificed his son. Seems harsh from a mean vindictive God.**

**Why couldn’t God just say – you are forgiven?**

**Hebrews 9:14 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, (there is mercy for your memories!) so that we may serve the living God! (Our response to this great eternal redemption)**

**I’ve said and done bad things… how could God forgive me? That’s the power of the blood of Jesus! A lot about the blood.**

**15 For this reason (our sin) Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, (old way is obsolete – Jesus finished it) that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance (kingdom of heaven and relationship with God) - now that he (Jesus) has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. (Ransom = same as redemption – a payment for release. Paid in full! Every payment for sin was made.)**

**16 In the case of a will, (a will and testament – your inheritance) 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. (An inheritance is activated when someone dies. That is the catalyst for the inheritance. Jesus had to die.) 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 (blood on) the scroll and all the people. 20 He said, “This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep.” (word of God and people were sprinkled with blood - faith in the blood) 21 In the same way, he (Moses) sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies. (All the items in the temple were sprinkled with blood)**

**22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**

**This is the key verse – and a foundational principle.**

**Forgiveness is not a product of time or good works, but blood.**

**23 It was necessary, (the blood) then, for the copies of the heavenly things (the temple) to be purified with these sacrifices, (sprinkling of blood) but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. (a better blood)**

**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. (Last week) 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. (Last week) 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.**

**Culmination of the ages, “slain before the foundation”- Rev 13, Heb 9:26**

**YET - Romans 5:6 …at just the right time… Christ died for the ungodly. Galatians 4:4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son**

**\*\*When the time was right – Jesus appeared – just as planned.**

**9:27 Just as people are destined to die once, (not many times – no reincarnation – ghosts) and after that to face judgment, (Judgement from who?) 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.**

**Three Sure Things and One Mystery**

**1. The Judgement**

**He 9:27 Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,**

**Judgement by who? God. We will all stand before God to answer life.**

**Rom 14:10b For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.**

**Death is certain – and so is judgement before God.**

**For some the judgment is good - for others it is not.**

**“God is loving he is not a judge” That is not God”**

**Psalm 75:7 But it is God who executes judgment, putting down one and lifting up another. // Psalm 50:6 The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge! He does not just judge – he is *the* judge.**

**Holiness of God – God is a consuming fire of sin. (Heb 12:29) This judgement is called – wrath. (Lots of verses)**

**Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.**

**We will all give account to God when this life ends…**

**God is creator of all – and holy above all - and has perfect and holy justice and judgment – Wrath – on the unrighteous.**

**“How could God judge people – I thought he was loving?”**

**An earthly judge who ignores or looks past injustice is a bad judge. Likewise, the perfect judge – can not look past injustice and sin.**

**Is He a God of love or a God of wrath??? YES**

**God’s love and God’s wrath are not in opposition to each other.**

**God does not have love, he is love – God does not have justice, he is just. Whatever attribute He has, He fully is *(the simplicity of God)***

**Good, gracious, merciful, wrath – he is not pieces of them – he is 100% all of them - they work simultaneously together.**

**2. The Sacrifice – (aka. the blood)**

**Heb 9:15 …He (Jesus) has died as a ransom set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. (Heb 8-10 the ransom)**

**A Ransom (same word for redemption) – PAID IN FULL!**

**A purchase for new ownership and freedom for a slave. Born slaves to sin, Jesus purchased our freedom and ownership. Jesus is a sacrifice / payment for our debt of sin - a substitute.**

**We can’t understand the payment unless we understand the justice.**

**An important doctrine is presented in this chapter. Possibly one of the most important things you can learn concerning Jesus.**

**\*\*\*Penal Substitutionary Atonement (Punish - substitute - to cover)**

**The words Blood - sacrifice - payment – are repeated over and over in Hebrews.**

**Atonement - Kaphar (HB) – to cover – to propitiate.**

**Propitiation = wrath receiver - wrath satisfier.**

**Jesus took our place of punishment. He was our substitute.**

**Hebrews 2:17 (Jesus became) a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.**

**\*Sounds mean & vindictive. Cosmic Child abuser, like a vengeful abusive father - pagan deity wanting a child sacrifice. Paid off with blood of his son. I need blood!**

**Divinely commanded sacrifices – wrath – no way!**

**God killed Jesus – really?? Sounds vindictive!**

**But this misses two important things:**

**1 - That Jesus was not forced, trapped, or tricked - but was willing**

**John 10:17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”**

**2 - That Jesus was God himself in the flesh, (Father, Son, HS) from all eternity in the flesh - knowing full well the end from the beginning.**

**Romans 3:22 The righteousness of God (Holiness) through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. (received by faith) For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (judgement) 24 and are justified by his grace (favor) as a gift, through the redemption (ransom) that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, (God submitted Jesus for wrath) to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins.**

**God was the author of the cross – God planned the crucifixion.**

**The father gave his son – God himself (Jesus) paid the price.**

**God’s justice was satisfied by God – he took it upon himself.**

**It was because of his love for us that he did this, not so that we could have his love (John 3:16) He already had love for us. BUT – we also had his judgement coming – it was that love that led to blood.**

**Not wanting to accept that a holy God will judge unrighteous leads to theories of the cross – that hint at truth but fall short. Don’t let people fool you. Changing the definition and purpose.**

**\*\* Christ the victor Theory (Cristus Victor) Jesus dies in order to break the power of Satan over our lives (Heb 2:14-15) True, but incomplete.**

**For some that means the cross not only brings salvation – but also health, healing, and prosperity in this life. (Not biblical)**

**The Cross is more than a meal ticket and power up!**

**\*\* Moral influence Theory – the cross was an act of love, example to follow. Let me show you how much I love you by dying for you.**

**Now Go do the same… But alone it does not accomplish anything.**

**Dying to save a drowning person - vs - just jumping in and dying to show my love (sociopath) it accomplishes nothing. One is a sacrificial love - other is pointless w/ no real meaning.**

**The Cross is more than a model or example of Love.**

**\*\* Ransom Theory – Sounds true, but it twists the scripture saying the ransom was to Satan. A type of pay off. Adam and Eve sold the rights of mankind to Satan at the fall – and God was at the mercy of Satan.**

**That Jesus spiritually died went to hell and suffered in hell. Paying the debt. False – salvation was fully won on the cross!**

**What is often missed - *the ransom is to God himself*.**

**Paul Washer – “God has saved us from himself, God has saved us by himself, God has saved us for himself.”**

**Each of these have verses that give us a glimpse or a nugget of truth – but oftentimes – downplay, ignore, or intentionally remove the PSA.**

**Hebrews speaks of the sacrifice of Jesus – the satisfied sacrifice.**

**With PSA the other notions have meaning and purpose. Without it, the cross become is pointless or selfish.**

**1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.**

**Yes, it was love, yes there is victory, yes it was a ransom - but ultimately it was a substitute and payment for our sin to God.**

**This is the gospel!!! 1 Cor 15:2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures… (He did not die to simply show love, to give us victory, or pay off Satan – but our sins against God – PSA)**

**We will not be guilty of not preaching the gospel. This is our mission and purpose as a body – as a people.**

**Why does God need payment to forgive sins? Why death? Why Blood?**

**Heb 9:22 In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**

**That is not forgiveness - that’s payback. Cosmic John Wick, “someone is gonna pay!” Why kill anybody – just forgive. After all, that not what God asks us to do - forgive w/out retribution?**

**\*\*\* Understand this - Forgiveness always require sacrifice**

**What is the sacrifice of forgiveness? It costs pain and loss.**

**Matt 5:38-39 – If you are slapped – justice is you slap back. What does Jesus say? Turn the cheek. Forgiveness absorbs the pain and receives the justice the other deserves. When we forgive, we sacrifice the loss.**

**When lied to / cheated / abused – the sacrifice you absorb is pain. When something is stolen, the sacrifice is what is lost. You don’t get it back, that’s the sacrifice of forgiveness**

**We see this on the cross: when we sin against God’s justice is required (Ro 6:23) the wages of sin is death, God’s justice & judgement = wrath.**

**But what Jesus - himself absorbed the justice & judgement, becoming Sin for us. (2 Cor 5:21) So instead of us dying for our sin – Jesus dies for our sins. He absorbed our punishment.**

**We see this on the cross – when we sin against God justice is required (Ro 6:23) wages of sin is death, God’s justice & judgement = wrath.**

**John 3:36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.**

**You will receive the wrath - or Jesus will receive your wrath (by faith). You will have judgment and punishment or by faith trust Jesus received the judgement and punishment.**

**(Hebrews 9 - sprinkling – the act of faith in the blood)**

**3. The Return**

**Heb 10:28 So Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; (his first coming - purpose was the cross) and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.**

**1st coming- To Redeem // 2nd coming- To Rescue the redeemed**

**A day is coming when he will return - (Isaiah 45:23, Romans 14:11, Revelation 22:1-5) Philippians 2:9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Those in Christ will be received those without – judgement remains)**

* **OT - he is predicted // Gospels – he is revealed**
* **In Acts – he is preached // In the epistles – he is explained**
* **In revelation – he is expected // The response – is submission**

**4. The Mystery - The Calling**

**Heb 9:15 … 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…**

**Those who are called… to set them free.**

**The called, the elect, the chosen… does God pre-pick people?**

**We see it in every character in the OT, the Gospels, and the apostles’ letters. (Romans 8:28-30, 9:11,16, 11:2, John 6:37,44, 15:16, Ephesians 1:4-5,11, Acts 9:15, 13:48, Mark 13:20, Matthew 22:14, Titus 1:12 Peter 1:10, Col 3:12)**

**Grace itself mean = unmerited favor.**

**We do not have to agree on this mystery.**

**How do you know if you are the elect, chosen, or predestined?**

**If this is true? Simple… are you born again? Do you understand and know who Jesus is and why we need the cross? If you respond with submission to Christ. Then you are the chosen, called, and elect.**

**Do you hear the HS calling you today?**

**What can wash away your sin? Nothing bot the blood of Jesus – the grace of God poured for us who believe.**

**The issue of universalism – chap 10**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1lbrlP-kOc**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1lbrlP-kOc) **– 55:30 / 59:54**

**The Covenant of Redemption**

**God’s love is an expression of his love within himself (God is love verse)**

**The Father loves the son – giving him an inheritance and rule over all**

**Jesus loves the father – all he does is for the glory of the Father (including the cross) out of love for the father.**

**HS loves the Father and Son – who is the expression of this love in all creation and enables the work to be known and experienced – applying redemption to those for whom Christ died.**

**It is all the work of the love God has within himself.**

**Early church heresy – Socin-ian-ism**