

Saving the Best for Last

Studies in Hebrews



Bringing Home the Bacon

Intro to Hebrews 8-10:18

The prize for catching the greased pig at county fairs has always been the pig itself. The winner was able to "bring home the bacon". Likewise mankind's need to be right with his Creator is even more elusive than the proverbial greased pig. Being fundamentally flawed by sin, man is unable to "bring home the bacon" of being right with God. This week's study, though, shows exactly how this has been accomplished. It is through Jesus' work as our high priest that our rightness with God has been secured; thus, He has brought home the bacon for us. First, we see that Jesus has secured a better covenant for us than the first one that came through Moses. This first covenant could not actually make a person right with God on the inside be-

cause it dealt only with copies of heavenly realities where God was. In the New Covenant, though, God's law has been written internally on His people, every one of them knows God personally, and all their sins have been thoroughly forgiven. Christ also secured our rightness with God by offering Himself as a new and better sacrifice. The Old Covenant dealt superficially with the problem of sin because the sacrifices that were offered were only animals. Intuitively man knows that the blood of animals cannot actually satisfy sin's debt, which is death. If a man has sinned, then a man must pay for his sin, but under the Old Covenant animals were sacrificed. Christ, though, came to offer Himself as a perfect sacrifice, and since He was perfect He



Jesus is God's best and last answer for man's sin.

only had to offer Himself once forever. This leads to the third aspect of Christ's work: He secured complete forgiveness of sins for us so that we no longer have to wonder if we will be accepted by God. All who have placed faith in Christ are completely right with God—their sins have been forgiven and the perfection of Christ has been credited to them. They are truly considered right before God. Without a doubt, Christ has "brought home the bacon" for us.

- The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life**
- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
 - **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
 - **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
 - **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
 - **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Daily Study Questions for Hebrews 8-10:18

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to [www.thehospitalchurch.com/small groups/ABFs/leader resources](http://www.thehospitalchurch.com/small_groups/ABFs/leader_resources))

1. Read Hebrews 8:1-5. Where does Jesus, our high priest, minister (v1-2), and what is His offering (7:27)? How is this different from the Levitical priests (v4-5)?	
2. According to 8:6-13 what is better about Jesus' ministry (v6)? Describe the "new" covenant (v10-12). Why is this better than the old covenant (v8-9)?	
3. From 9:1-5 what was the layout (v2, 3-5) of the earthly tabernacle? What was in the Holy Place (v2), and in the Holy of Holies (v3-5)?	

Hebrews 8-10:18 Daily Study Questions (cont)

<p>4. From Heb 9:6-10 who enters the Holy Place (v6) and how often (v6)? What about the Holy of Holies (v7)? What does this signify (v8-10)?</p>	
<p>5. Based on 9:11-15 what is different about Christ's high priestly ministry (v11, 12)? Why is this important (v12, 13-14, 15)?</p>	
<p>6. Looking at 9:16-22 what puts a covenant (or will) into effect (v16)? How was this done in the Old Covenant (v18-21), and what principle does this underscore (v22b)?</p>	
<p>7. Using 9:23-28 contrast Christ's ministry with the Levites' - where (v24), what was offered (v25), and how often (v25). What difference does this make (v26-28)?</p>	
<p>8. According to 10:1-4 why were the sacrifices of the Mosaic law ineffective (v1, 3, 4)? How is this seen from a logical standpoint (v2)?</p>	
<p>9. In 10:5-10 what body was sacrificed for sins in the New Covenant (v5, 10)? Why was this sacrifice effective (v7, 9-10)?</p>	
<p>10. From 10:11-18 what did Christ's offering accomplish (v14), how is this reflected in the New Covenant (v16, 17-18)? What does this mean?</p>	
<p>11. Looking over Heb 8-10:18 what is better for us about the New Covenant, and Christ's sacrifice? How should that impact your life this week?</p>	

Scripture to Remember

"For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified."

Hebrews 10:14 (NAS)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Let's Get Real about Salvation (1 Peter 1:1-3)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. What is it about "getting real" that just feels right? Why don't we do it more often?
2. Read 1 Peter 1:1-3. How do you feel about saying that some things just can't be understood, but just accepted? What does that reveal to us about ourselves and God?
3. What does it mean to you that you have been specially chosen of God—and that He knew us beforehand? How should this truth affect us?
4. What does it mean that "the real mystery of salvation is not that everyone is not saved, but that anyone is saved"? How and why should God's mercy change us?
5. Discuss what it means for us to be commissioned as "sojourners" and as "seed". How does the fact that we are chosen by God and changed by mercy relate to this?
6. Bring up anything else important to you from Sunday's message if there is time.