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W. O. Vaught

Ouachita Baptist University

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EARMARKED FOR BLESSINGS

A STUDY OF THE BOOK HEBREWS
NUMBER 77
HEBREWS 10:9-10

Dr. W. O. Vaught
Immanuel Baptist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

This passage reminds us again that we are engaged in a spiritual warfare.

Let us look at a corrected translation of verse 5-8.

Verse 5

"Therefore, when He entered into the world (his incarnation) he said (Quotation from Psalm 40:6-8), 'You, God the Father, do not desire sacrifices and offerings, but you have prepared for me a human body.'"

Verse 6

"You have not been propitiated by burnt offerings and concerning sin offerings."

Verse 7

"At that time, in the cradle, I said, Behold I have arrived. In the scroll of the Book it stands written concerning me, I have arrived to accomplish your plan, your purpose, your design, O God."

Verse 8

"Above when he said--Sacrifices and food offerings and burnt offerings you do not desire, nor have you been propitiated by them, which category of shadows are being offered according to the law."

Verse 9

"At that time he said in the past, with the result that it stands spoken forever, Behold, I have arrived to accomplish your plan, your purpose, your design..."

The Application Of What Christ Said

The application of what Christ said concerns us personally, since we are members of the royal family of God, and since we share in the great victory which the death on the cross provided for us.

Jesus turned the victory of his slavery into our salvation. Jesus thus taught us the glory of the slavery of service. A doctor is a slave to the idea of making sick people well. In every profession this kind of slavery opens the door to the glory of service.

"He taketh away" is the present, active, indicative of anaireo and it means to do away with, to abrogate, to annul by authoritative action, to abolish. He puts this in the present tense to set forth this event as though it is now occurring. God the Father actually abrogated the old covenant. The old covenant was a shadow pointing to the cross, but once the cross became an accomplished fact, the old covenants were all abrogated, annulled. The indicative mood here states that this abrogation is an accomplished fact.

Next we have "The first" from to proton and this refers to the Mosaic Law. It refers to the sacrifices offered by the Mosaic Law and they were all shadows. They never did propitiate God the Father, they just pointed to the real work of Christ on the cross. Once the real work was accomplished, the shadows were no longer needed. The shadows always have to go when the reality appears.

Next we have hina a conjunction meaning "in order that" which introduces the real purpose. Next we have the aorist, active, subjunctive of histemi and it means "to establish." This is a culminative aorist which sees the event in its entirety and regards the accomplishment from the viewpoint of its existing results. It means that the new covenant is established for all time to come. The new covenant authorizes the Royal Family, but this culminative aorist emphasizes the results. The result is that the believer lives in the Holy of Holies. The result is that God has something for you that never existed before. Moses actually longed to see this day which we now enjoy. (Luke 10:24) We have blessings as members of the Royal Family which Moses and Abraham did not have. The active voice means that God the Father brought these things about. The subjunctive goes with the purpose clause. This is not a potential subjunctive, it is an actual fact. This is the establishing of the second- - to deuterion.

So this verse says,

"At that time (when Christ was in the cradle) he said in the past with the result that it stands spoken forever, Behold I have arrived to accomplish your plan, your purpose, your design. (Now the application. He had abrogated the first covenant, in order that he might establish the second (In our case this is the new covenant to the church).

1. The first in this passage refers to the Mosaic Law. It was the Mosaic Law that authorized the shadows and authorized a specialized priesthood to use the shadows.
2. When reality comes the shadows depart. When we read about these Old Testament saints, we do not read about the monotonous ordinary things of their lives. They had wonderful experiences but there was a lot of monotony in their lives. But we live under the "much more." We have something far greater than Moses or Abraham ever had.
3. Therefore the Mosaic Law has been abrogated and has been replaced by the new covenant and reality.
4. The Levitical priesthood of the Mosaic Law has been replaced by the Royal Priesthood, the believer of the Church Age.
5. The new covenant, called in this verse "The second" not only authorized the Royal Priesthood under Christ, but specifies a system where we can live under divine blessings all the time. We are being prepared for the last half of this chapter. One reason why God is keeping you alive is so he can give you his blessing and not just provide for your needs.

Pseudo Blessings Not Enough:

There are pseudo blessings, and they only bring temporary stimulation. They always bring these temporary blessings at the expense of reality. They bring these temporary pseudo blessings at the expense of doctrine. You can temporarily lease your soul to the Devil and get some temporary blessings out of it. It is a pseudo arrangement and you will eventually lose it. You will only end up much more miserable and will always be in danger of dying the sin unto death.

Now some of you would be willing to lease your soul to the Devil for a time in order to get something you want. For some success or promotion you are willing to do this. The Devil just loves to get some member of the Royal Family involved in something like this for it is a feather in his cap. Maybe I should say it is a feather in his crown. I use the word feather for it floats away when the Lord allows a little trouble or disaster to blow on the believer. The word "feather" is a good word here for a feather can tickle you a little while and you will have some temporary happiness. But this is not the plan of God for you. It is a temporary substitute for God's super grace blessings.

The Devil's Storehouse

The Devil has a full storehouse of blessings all stored up for you. But once you get them, you see that they are not what you at first thought they would be. That's why the Bible says, "The way of the transgressor is hard." The Devil will try to fake you right out of your shoes. Pseudo happiness, given by the Devil, is one of the most deceptive things in the earth, and about the worst trap you can walk into. You may think you can handle what the Devil sends your way but you will soon discover that his ways are a trap and a share. The Bible is more real than anything else and you just can't afford to fill your mind with the Devil's nonsense. Maybe you would rather be eating cotton candy at Six Flags or whatever people do to find happiness these days. The Devil is quick to whisper to you just how much you are missing. The gang went that way but you came to church. You want the good times to roll, but remember, they roll the best when God greases the wheels.

Genuine Happiness and Blessing

Real blessings are based on doctrine. Don't become a slave to your personal ambition and don't try to vault yourself into some position you think will bring you happiness. I don't know whether you will ever learn to advance in the Devil's world without the Devil's help or not. He makes many assets available to you, but every time you hear the siren voice of Satan, you should turn and walk the other way. The Devil likes to appear in the celestial convocations and call attention to your stupidity and your fall and your denial of doctrine. But remember this--what does the Lord think of you? We are going to soon move into chapter 11 of Hebrews to call attention to how they did it back there, in spite of the fact that they were not royal family and they were not filled with the Holy Spirit. You have fantastic assets that they never dreamed of having.

Life Demands Hardship

If anything is worth having it demands plodding, study, solid staying with it, concentration, stability. The drudgery of practice and the monotony of the training the soldier goes through, illustrates this. (One of the real discoveries of my life has been this truth as it applies to Scripture. I come to a passage I don't especially care for--but before I finish it, some of the glory of God breaks through. We all must fight the battle on monotony--self-discipline, and hard work.)

We Are Here For A Purpose

We are here so God can demonstrate to Satan that he can make us victorious in time. God wants to demonstrate to Satan and to us that he can distribute to us the spoils of the strategic victory and can do it here and now in the Church Age.

"The second" in this passage refers to the new covenant. This new covenant not only authorizes the royal priesthood under Christ, but deals in realities. These realities are the doctrines of the Church Age which were a mystery back there. They are in the golden urn of manna.

The Purpose of The Third Metamorphosis--(Which is Christ's coming to earth)

HEBREWS 10:10 "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." This gives emphasis to the importance of staying with doctrine. You can't get the spiritual life by beating the tambourines, by emotional trips, by speaking in tongues, or by any of the other emotional trips people take and call it spirituality. You just have to keep with it, day after day, learning doctrine. Doctrine will stabilize you.

"By the which" comes from the preposition en plus the relative pronoun hos. Then we have thelema which means will, purpose, design. This is that perfect something that God planned for us in eternity past and is now carrying out what he planned. God planned millions of years ago that he would defeat Satan in time. These are the spoils of victory and they are all related to his written Word.

Next we have "we are sanctified." This is what we call a periphrastic and is the combination of a participle and the verb "to be." This is the perfect, passive, participle of hagiazō and the present, active, indicative of eimi. Put them together and it is the highest form of a permanent state that you can imagine. We have been sanctified in the past with the assurance that this will remain forever.

We Are Earmarked For Eternity

Sanctification means that you are earmarked for something. One of the things we are earmarked for is blessings in time. We are not earmarked to be some freak, to be some rag tail queer, to suffer for Jesus in some abnormal way. When God blesses, it is permanent. It all starts at the cross and it continues throughout all eternity. You see, all three roads meet at the cross, the roads of redemption, reconciliation and propitiation. When these three problems were solved this demanded a distribution of spoils to the living. In eternity it will be so fantastic it can't be put into words. But we are to begin receiving those blessings now. But receiving these spoils depends on our daily attitude toward doctrine. So, stay with it, day in and day out, and the victory will come to you.

1. You are positionally earmarked. You are to spend all eternity with God and you will be like Jesus Christ.
2. But being experientially earmarked depends on the amount of doctrine we put into practice every day.
3. Eventually you will be eternally earmarked.

But remember this, God has determined to bless you right here in the Devil's world and he will do so if you will permit him free range in your life and mind.

THE DOCTRINE OF SANCTIFICATION

1. A Unique Blessing For Believers Only.

Prior to the Church Age the Holy Spirit was the agent in regeneration. But now in the Church Age the Holy Spirit has assumed a new role. You are as unique in the Church Age as

Christ is unique in the universe. In addition to placing you into the family of God, he took you by the hand and led you right through that heavy curtain and led you right into the Holy of Holies and said to you and to me, "This is where you are to live." Now this is what sanctification means. This is what the baptism of the Holy Spirit means. It doesn't mean that you have now become queer. It doesn't mean that you have had a great emotional feeling. It doesn't mean that you are spiritually superior to others and that you should now have a different look, and a different way of talking and a different atmosphere about you.

Our bodies are indwelt by the Holy Spirit and this is our royalty. TO BE BORN AGAIN IN THE CHURCH AGE IS TO BE INDWELT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. This is the highest state the believer can reach. We are royal family. This is God's standard of nobility. We are the only people in all human history who actually have our bodies indwelt by the Spirit of God.

God was very specific in giving instruction for building the Temple and for building the Tabernacle, but all these things were shadows. But when he wanted to build reality he said, "I will build a temple inside of every one of the believers in the Church Age and the Holy Spirit will dwell there." You are a walking sacred building. He wants to fill that sacred building with the treasures of his grace. In addition to this, we are sealed--and this is the security of his grace. In addition to this each believer is given a spiritual gift and this is the guarantee of royalty.

2. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is unique.
 - a. It is the work of God and God alone.
 - b. Man can't duplicate it.
 - c. It is a permanent state. The power is always there. If you don't turn the switch on, then don't blame God.

3. A Prophetic word concerning the beginning of this unique relationship was given to believers.
(John 14:20, Acts 1:5)
These promises were given right at the conjunction of the dispensations. The Church Age is the most important age of all to God, and is his way of preparing the world for the Millennium and for Eternity.

4. The mechanics of this spiritual baptism is most important.
 - a. It is not a physical feeling or an emotional response.
 - b. It is not some overt activity on our part.
 - c. It is not worked up by emotion or spiritual activity.
 - d. It is the work of God entirely. It is a work of grace.
 - e. It is instantaneous.
(1 Cor. 12:13)

5. This is the unity of all believers.
This is the way all believers are linked together. We are thus made members of the body of Christ.
(Ephesians 4:5)

This is something every believer has in common. THIS IS WHERE BELIEVERS ARE EQUAL AND THE ONLY PLACE WHERE THEY ARE EQUAL. He has put us in the Holy of Holies to stay. We are earmarked for blessing. This should take all the hot air out of snooty people and should cause us to realize the true source of our power and our production.
(Galatians 3:26-28)