

But This Man

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.

Hebrews 10:12,14

A consistent theme throughout the book of Hebrews is that of the advent of Jesus bringing the New Covenant and showing it to be better than what existed under the Old Covenant. Chapter 10 describes the inefficacy of all the previous sacrifices that were made for man to secure a right standing with God. God had given specific instructions regarding the quality of those sacrifices, and yet they still had no power to completely cleanse since they were just a shadow of the Perfect Sacrifice which was to come. The priesthood itself proved faulty for it was occupied by fallible and mortal men who themselves were in need of sacrifices. The frequently repeated sacrifices, which did not produce a clear conscience or a holy life, became an external ceremony in which the Lord took no pleasure. All of this only led to a condition that subjected all mankind to a life time of bondage through fear of death.

But *this man*, our Lord Jesus, arrives at the appointed time and fulfills every jot and tittle of the law in order to deliver us from sin and the bondage of external religion without true faith. His pure and sinless sacrifice of himself has the efficacy to not only secure eternal life for us, but also because He himself was tempted, He can help us in times of temptation. When His mission was fulfilled, He sat down to signify that His sacrifice was complete and permanent. As we put our trust in Him and the power of that one sacrifice which totally purchased eternal life for us, we are now safe solely because of Him.

When we are going through the motions of religious duties which depend on carnal efforts, or if we are having seasons of fear and doubts, may we remember that *this man* is better than all for which we have ever hoped. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. No man could ever produce eternal life and peace; but *this man* did!!! Hallelujah!

JDE