

9-10 5. The Fourth Comparison: Christ is the Perfect Sacrifice, the Ultimate Offering.

(In the discussion thus far it is seen that Christ is superior to heavenly beings, earthly leadership, divinely appointed priestly orders. We are warned that there is no alternative to His message, no "rest" without trust in Him, and no party to represent us to God other than the Lord Jesus. He is shown in all of these roles in the perfection of His person and in the state of perfect righteousness before God. AT the same time He is available to us, understands us and is able to minister to us. There is, however, no power that can be substituted for Him. Therefore the attempt to have followers of Jesus returned to principles of law or ritual is a very bad thing, ruinous of what they are (practically) and defiant of what they can be. The lesson is to believe on Him and live in Him as an absolute end in itself.)

(And while I am in this parenthetical mode, this new section is a bit complex in that it makes its point and then comes on with new material to the same point. We will walk through it rather slowly.)

9:1-10:18 a. The Argument: Christ is the last word in Sacrifice

9:1-12 (1) Phase 1--Christ the ultimate high priest has entered the Holy Place for us. (11-12)

--He has fulfilled the types of the Law 1-8

(A brief excursus on types)

--the articles of meaning: the tabernacle 9:1

--the candlestick 9:2 (light)

--the table, the shewbread (representation) 9:2

--the veil 9:3

--the ark 9:4

--the golden censon 9:4

--the symbols of failure 9:4

--the cherubim 9:5

--the mercyseat 9:5

Symbols of man's need and God's provision. Christ fulfilled the typology on both sides of the veil and "rent it" so that through Him we have access to God (Eph. 2).

--He has completed the services of priesthood 9:9-12

--entered the Holy Place

--obtained redemption

9:13-28 (2) Phase 2...Christ offered Himself and our consciences are "free"

--the act: 9:14

--The work of the Trinity

--The result

--The comparison