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Reformed Worship — Hebrews 9:1-14

Warm-Up Question:

What is your favorite part of the worship service and why?

READ: Hebrews 9:1-14

Main Point: REFORMED WORSHIP IS CHRIST-CENTERED

- What was the main purpose of the tabernacle in the Old Testament? Why was this important to God and his purposes toward us?
- Read v. 3. & 7. What was God communicating about himself and us being that only the high priest could enter into the Most Holy Place with blood behind the curtain once/year (v. 3, 7)? (People had to remain in the “first section” (v. 8), meaning the outer part)
- Why couldn't the “conscience of the [OT] worshipper be “perfect” then (v. 9)? See also 7:19 and 10:1.
- What is the significance of the veil tore from top to bottom (Matt. 27:51) and Jesus “entering once for all into the holy place by his own blood” (v. 11-12)? If we are united to Christ, what does that mean for us?
(See also John 14:6 & Heb. 10:19-22)
- Do you feel like you have that kind of access to God? At what ways or times are you tempted to doubt it?
- Why should being united to Christ “purify our conscience” (v. 14)? (See also Ps. 51:7, 10 & Rom. 8:1). What must we do to maintain a clean conscience?
- Do you feel you live with a purified conscience? If so, based on what? If not, what should believe from this passage?
- How does this passage inform us on what our weekend worship should look like? Although there are many expressions of Christ-centered worship, what are some ways churches could miss it? (Think of things such as legalism, emotionalism, hyper focused on certain things, etc.)

What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?

Inside of the Tabernacle



For Prayer:

- Praise God for bringing you near to him through the work of Christ.
- Ask God for a purified conscience based on the work of Christ.
- Pray for some you know to come to know Christ.



SEVEN RIVERS
CHURCH

REFORMED WORSHIP
Hebrews 9:1-14

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Scriptures Used

Heb. 9:1 Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. **2** For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. **3** Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place, **4** having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. **5** Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

Heb. 9:6 These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties, **7** but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people. **8** By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing **9** (which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, **10** but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

Heb. 9:11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) **12** he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. **13** For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, **14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Heb. 7:19 (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

Heb. 10:1 For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

Matt. 27:51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Heb. 10:19 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, **20** by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Psa. 51:7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psa. 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Rom. 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.