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Hebrews Serving the Living God

Growing in Christ

(Just getting started...learning the ropes)

Close to Christ

(Beginning to experience the difference Jesus makes)

Christ-Centered

(Mature, grounded believer)

Jesus is Absolutely Supreme!

Seven Excellencies of Christ

- Heir of all things
- Created the world
- Radiance of God's glory
- Exact imprint of God's nature
- Uphold the universe
- Made purification for sins
- Sat down at right hand of God

Hebrews 8:6

But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.

Hebrews 9:1

Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness.

Solomon's Temple—960 B.C.

Destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar—581 B.C.

Second Temple—515 B. C.

Destroyed by Syrians—December 15, 167 B.C.

Herod's Temple—64 A. D.

Destroyed by Romans—70 A. D.

Hebrews 9:5

Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

Lamp Stand: Jesus is the Light of the World.

Table of Sacred Bread: Jesus is the Bread of Life

Altar of Incense: Jesus constantly intercedes on our behalf.

Numbers 17:10

And the Lord said to Moses, "Put back the staff of Aaron before the testimony, to be kept as a sign for the rebels, that you may make an end of their grumbings against me, lest they die."

The Ark: God's faithfulness

Exodus 25:22

There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.

Mercy Seat: God's Presence and Forgiveness

Hebrews 9:6-7

These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties, 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.

Priests: Jesus is our High Priest forever.

Sacrifices: Jesus became the one-time-for-all-time sacrifice for our sin.

Hebrews 9:8-12

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 (which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

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) 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.

I realized that evil is endemic to the human condition—that any one of us could commit the same atrocities.

-Yihiel Dinur

Eichmann is in all of us.

Hebrews 9:13-14

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, 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.

Only Jesus can forgive you—purify your conscience (the inner man) from dead, useless works and allow you in a fresh way to serve the living God.