

Weekly Sermon Reflection Guide

July 11, 2021

The Greatness of God

Revive

[Hebrews 9:23-28](#)

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- * What did you hear?
- * What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- * What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

26 But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, 28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:26-28

REFLECTION

This summer study of Hebrews has been a reminder of the joy we can experience when we build our lives around Jesus. This week, the author presents to his Jewish Christian audience how Jesus could be understood through the temple and systems of sacrifice. ***Do you think we have advanced beyond this system and that is why these rituals are not required of us today? Since this system is not required, why would it be easy for us to think of the God of the New Testament as less fierce and more loving?***

Theologian Miroslav Volf says “Violence thrives today, secretly nourished by the belief that God refuses to take the sword.” If we believe that the God of the New Testament is milder than the ferocious parent of the Old Testament, then that is not a God worth following. Rather, God’s love is stronger as is his call to justice. ***Consider and discuss how the reality of the power of God’s love should make us feel:***

- 1) **Amazingly loved** - He looks at the harm that’s been done to us in our lives and wants to make it right
- 2) **Uncomfortable** - He looks at the harm we have done to others in various ways and wants to make it right

Aaron’s role as high priest to lead the people through the rituals of atonement [is described here](#). Today, Jesus embodies this entire ritual not because we are less selfish, but because of God’s ferocious love. ***Describe how Jesus has become each part of the ritual: the high priest, the bull, and the “scapegoat.” How can you celebrate being free from sin and death, and be empowered to work against injustice alongside God?***

Heavenly father, thank you for the worth we have in your eyes. May that love wash over us. Thank you for Jesus and what He has uniquely done for us. Amen