

A Reason to Celebrate
Series: The Supremacy of Jesus
July 25, 2010 Pastor Bill Bump

There is nothing more necessary to having a vital faith than the knowledge that we are free of sins and that our conscience is clean.

We are most vulnerable to temptation when our conscience accuses us and we are unclear on the fact that God has forgiven our sins.

The good news to celebrate today is that we can awaken every morning absolutely certain that God accepts us and loves us.

Romans 8:1 (NLT) So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

Language of the new covenant:

Hebrews 9:14 (NLT) Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our hearts from deeds that lead to death so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins.

The new covenant is more certain:

Hebrews 9:15 (NLT) That is why he is the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, so that all who are invited can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.

Hebrews 9:16, 17, 22 (NLT) Now when someone dies and leaves a will, no one gets anything until it is proved that the person who wrote the will is dead. The will goes into effect only after the death of the person who wrote it. While the person is still alive, no one can use the will to get any of the things promised to them...Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins.

Jesus not only promised life as an inheritance, his death had the effect of sealing his promise, making it irrevocable.

The irrevocable promise of God:

Hebrews 9:27, 28 (NLT) And just as it is destined that each person dies only once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ died only once as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again but not to deal with our sins again. This time he will bring salvation to all those who are eagerly waiting for him.

When Jesus returns, he will not bring up the issue of our sins. He will return again for salvation, for a

joyful reunion, for the purpose of establishing righteousness.

The supremacy of this new covenant:

Hebrews 10:11-14, 18 (NLT) Under the old covenant, the priest stands before the altar day after day, offering sacrifices that can never take away sins. But our High Priest offered himself to God as one sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down at the place of highest honor at God's right hand. There he waits until his enemies are humbled as a footstool under his feet. For by that one offering he perfected forever all those whom he is making holy....Now when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.

1 John 1:9 (NLT) But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.

CONCLUSION:

This is what we celebrate: Every day of our lives we awaken with the knowledge that we are forgiven and that we live as sons and daughters of God.