

Bible Study Questions

Everything You Ever Hoped For: Forgiveness

Focus

In offering His blood as the perfect sacrifice once for all, Jesus has fully dealt with our sin, making it possible for us to be redeemed and forgiven, and to spend eternity in the presence of God.

Read

[Hebrews 9:15-28](#)

Listen

CCNYC teaching on Hebrews which can be found on our [website](#)

As you study this passage on your own or with a small group of others, here are some questions for study, reflection, and application.

Questions for Review

(The purpose of these opening questions is to review the passage that was recently preached on in order to make sure that everyone understands the basic structure, events, people, and point of the passage.)

1. Work through some basic review questions for this passage – for example:
 - What's the context? (Where are we in Hebrews; the New Testament; and the Bible as a whole?)
 - Who are the people and/or situations that this passage is addressing?
 - What clues are there about the author and his circumstances?
 - Is there a conflict or high point in this passage? (What is the structure of this passage that builds to that point?)
 - What was the main point or theme of this passage that was identified in Sunday's sermon?
 - What surprises are there in this passage?
2. What questions do you still have about this passage that you'd like to discuss?

Questions for Reflection and Application

(The purpose of these reflection questions is to help each other not just understand what the passage is saying, but to think more deeply about what it means so that we can then accurately apply it to our lives today.)

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1. What does it mean for Jesus to be the 'mediator of a new covenant'? How does His role as a mediator differ from our culture's usual understanding of a mediator as someone who tries to strike a compromise between two estranged parties?
2. The emphasis on blood in the Bible is an emphasis not just on death but specifically on the death of a sacrifice. What was the purpose of the Old Testament sacrifices? What were they pointing us to? What does it tell us about Jesus' death that it was a sacrifice?
3. According to this passage, what was the purpose of Jesus' sacrificial death? Specifically, what did He accomplish with regard to our sin? And therefore what does it mean for Him to 'appear in the presence of God on our behalf' (verse 24)?
4. How does a biblical understanding of what Jesus accomplished on the cross – bearing our sin, receiving God's judgment, etc – shape our lives and our relationship with God? (Similarly, how might a truncated or even a wrong understanding of the cross unhelpfully shape our lives and the kind of relationship we have with God?)
5. If you were to meditate on not just the fact of Jesus' redeeming work for us, but also on *how* He accomplished our redemption and what it cost Him, how might that fill you with greater love and appreciation and worship?
6. Consider verse 27 in light of your own impending death and judgment, how should you respond to this verse?
7. What would you expect to see in the life of someone who's eagerly awaiting the return of Jesus?
8. As you look back over this passage and consider all that it's teaching, can you find any motivations for evangelism in this passage?

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Ongoing questions to ask of any passage:

1. Has studying this passage in any way challenged your understanding about who God is and what He's like? If so, how so?
2. In light of studying this passage, is there any behavior or attitude that you need to personally address in your life? If so, how specifically will you address it?
3. How does this passage help you to love, trust, and worship Jesus more fully?