

Intro

~ What does the word sacrifice mean to us?

~ To athlete sacrifice means training when you don't feel like it, to the doctor sacrifice means years of medical training, to the mother sacrifice means serving your family's needs and not your own, to the soldier it means sacrificing comfort, family for your duty.

~ Meriman-Webster defines sacrifice as - the act of giving up something that you want to keep especially in order to get or do something else or to help someone. : an act of killing a person or animal in a religious ceremony as an offering to please a god. : a person or animal that is killed in a sacrifice.

~ A great picture of sacrifice is the soldiers who stormed the beaches of Normandy called "Operation Overlord" is an amazing picture of sacrifice. Maybe we've seen the movie "Saving Private Ryan" which gives us an idea of what that day would have been like

~ Operation Overlord - Operation Overlord was the codename for the Battle of Normandy, the Allied operation that launched the successful invasion of German-occupied Western Europe during World War II. The operation was launched on 6 June 1944 with the Normandy landings. A 1,200-plane airborne assault preceded an amphibious assault involving more than 5,000 vessels. Nearly 160,000 troops crossed the English Channel on 6 June, and more than two million Allied troops were in France by the end of August.

~ The scene in "Saving Private Ryan" when the Landing Ships delivered the troops to the shores is an intense scene. It's sobering and astonishing as the soldiers storm the beaches with bullets flying all around them

~ Curious things about the operation is Eisenhower had to wait for a window of good weather and when they decided to proceed with the operation they caught the Germans unready. High ranking officers were off duty

~ An even greater sacrifice is that of the Lord Jesus Christ sacrificing his life for us on the cross

~ He was perfect, sinless, the spotless lamb of God yet he also made a sacrifice of himself to better others and free them from sin

~ Though Christ was sacrificed for us we considered him our enemy because God identifies us as sinners

~ *Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

~ The reason we were the enemies of God is because all of creation is fallen and has sinned against God, yet we blame and reject God for our sinful condition

~ Christ sacrificed his human life by tolerating pain, loneliness, accusation, hatred and also bore our sin

~ Sacrifice is the greatest when it cost the most

~ The word sacrifice is used of Christ in 4 different chapters in Hebrews

TextSacrifice

~ Thusia (2378) From G2380; sacrifice (the act or the victim, literally or figuratively): - sacrifice.

~ Thuo (2380) A primary verb; properly to rush (breathe hard, blow, smoke), that is, (by implication) to sacrifice (properly by fire, but generally); by extension to immolate (slaughter for any purpose): - kill, (do) sacrifice, slay.

Passages

Heb 7:27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

- The OT high priest had to offer up sacrifice for his own sins first before offering up a sacrifice for the people's sins
- It's sacrifice when we take the blame for someone else's mistake
- Christ took our blame when he himself was pure and holy
- 1 Pet 2:21-25
- Christ only had to offer up a sacrifice and it was for the sins of the people – not himself
- Christ's sacrifice was for our sins
- We are the ones who are guilty – not him
- Once – one time was sufficient for all time

Heb 9:26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

- Christ has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself
- Notice since the foundation of the world there has been a need for sin to be dealt with
- Sin originated with Lucifer but he deceived Eve and thereby introduced sin into human race
- But Christ has come to put away our sin
- Put away - cancellation (literally or figuratively): - disannulling, put away
- A cancelled debt

Heb 10:5-8 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

Heb 10:6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Heb 10:8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law

- Animal sacrifices brought no long term pleasure to the Father
- While the OT sacrifices pointed to Christ only Christ could please the Father
- The Father prepared a body for Christ
- Christ would be a sacrifice that would please the Father
- Only Christ was good enough to take care of the sin problem

Heb 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God

- But this man – he's the greatest man
- After Christ offered one sacrifice for sin he sat down
- The work is done and finished
- Jn 19:30 it is finished
- "Papyri receipts for taxes have been recovered with the word tetelestai written across them, meaning 'paid in full.'" [Note: Blum, p. 340.]
- Christ completely, thoroughly and adequately dealt with the sin problem
- Heb 7:27 also speaks of this sacrifice as "once" – no need for repetition
- Christ then sat down at the Father's right hand

Summary

Heb 7:27 Christ's sacrifice was for the peoples sins (Our sins)

Heb 9:26 Christ put away sin by his sacrifice (Our sins were put away)

Heb 10:5-8 Christ's sacrifice brought pleasure to the Father (His putting away sin pleased the Father)

Heb 10:12 Christ sat down after he sacrifices himself (Christ's sacrifice for sin was final)

Conclusion

~ He took my whipping for me sermon illustration

~ Christ has taken our place and put away our sin by sacrificing himself on our behalf

~ Though we were enemies Christ was sacrificed for us

~ *Rom 5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.*

~ If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him. *Charles Studd*

~ Give your life to Christ in salvation, sanctification and service

Communion

~ 1 Cor 5:7 Even Christ our Passover is sacrificed (2380) for us

~ Matt 26:26-28