**Vengeance is Mine!**

***Hebrews 10:26*** *For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,*

***Hebrews 10:27*** *But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.*

***Hebrews 10:28*** *He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:*

***Hebrews 10:29*** *Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?*

***Hebrews 10:30*** *For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.*

***Hebrews 10:31*** *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

 ***Despite*** insult; an act showing defiance

We have all heard the scriptures that say “vengeance is mine.” Sounds like if we just leave things to God, he will get even! This passage of scriptures makes us shudder! If we sin willfully after we have received the truth, there is no more sacrifice for sin. It is even worse with more consequences to defy the Spirit of grace than to sin according to the law. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God!

It sounds bad, but that is because we are only reading on the surface without taking into consideration what the chapter as a whole is trying to say. Going back to the beginning of chapter 10, it begins by saying that the law was only a shadow of things to come. The law with its sacrifice system was unable to purge man from his consciousness of his own sins and weaknesses. God was not pleased with the old sacrifice system because man could never be released from the guilt and condemnation that sin imposed upon him. The sacrifices had to be done over and over again but it was never enough. It was impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin. **Hebrews 10:1-4**

Jesus came to do away with the old system. He sacrificed himself one time and that was enough to do away with sin forever. We have been perfected forever and God himself is no longer conscious of man’s sins. **Hebrews 10:12-17** We can boldly come before the presence of God at any time.

We can come into His presence with that boldness having full assurance of faith. There is no reason to ever waver from that position because Jesus was enough and it is all based on the integrity of God’s faithfulness to us.

***Hebrews 10:22*** *Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

***Hebrews 10:23*** *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

We have been given the task of manifesting this love to mankind. We are to encourage one another always pointing man to God’s faithfulness.

 **Hebrews 10:25 Mirror Word** In light of our free access to

 The Father, let us extend that embrace to one another. Our

 Gatherings are no longer a repetition of tradition but an

 Essential fellowship where we remind one another of our true

 Identity. Let us do so with greater urgency now the day has

 Dawned in our understanding.

This leads us into verses we began with. **Hebrews 10:26-31** If we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there is no more sacrifice for sin. In other words, if we choose to ignore what Jesus has done for us, or discount the fact that we have been perfected forever, there is nothing more we can do to ease or take away the guilt. The new covenant does not include sacrifices. To say that Jesus was not enough leaves us suffering with the “self inflicted” judgment that comes from the law of works-with no way out! **Hebrews 10:26-29** There is no alternative mercy outside of God’s grace. Refusing to acknowledge what the work of the cross has accomplished for us “despites” **[insults]** the grace of God and his faithfulness towards us.

***Hebrews 10:30*** *For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.*

***Hebrews 10:31*** *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

 **Vengeance** vindication [a setting free from a charge of

 wrongdoing]; retribution [payback an injury for an

 injury]

We all look at the word vengeance and think the worst. The definition actually includes two opposite meanings. God does not

Get even. He loves even those that despitefully use him. Jesus even said on the cross, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

We have been set free from the charge of wrongdoing. We have been perfected forever and God is not continually reminding us of our short comings. He set us free from our wrongdoings. He does not remember our iniquities. Satan does and he is the one that is the accuser. **Revelations 12:10**

***Revelations 12:10*** *And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.*

***11*** *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.*

***12*** *Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.*

In **Hebrews 10:30** it says that God will recompense. The word recompense means payment in like kind. **Proverbs 23:7** says as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. If you begin thinking that Jesus was not enough, you will begin to experience condemnation in your life.

***Hebrews 10:35*** *Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.*

Don’t let the enemy and condemnation rob you of your allotted portion! Jesus perfected you forever. He was a perfect sacrifice. We focus so much of the time on our unfaithfulness to God. God wants us to be “God conscious” and focus on his faithfulness to us!

***Hebrews 10:23*** *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)*

We overcome the enemy by the blood of the lamb and by the word of our testimony concerning the faithfulness that God has towards his people.