

He Sat Down

Ponder: When the job was done, He sat down.

Scripture: “And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God” (Hebrews 10:11, 12, NKJV).

I wonder if we understand and appreciate how fortunate and blessed we are to be Christians. By saying this, we are not disparaging the Old Testament. Paul clearly taught that “the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good” (Romans 7:12). The fault wasn’t just with the Old Covenant, but with sinful people (Hebrews 8:8, “finding fault with them, He says: ‘Behold, the days are coming . . . when I will make a new covenant . . .’”) The sacrifices simply could not take away sins, even though the priests stood every day offering them. They knew they would do the same thing the next day, and the next, and the next.

Jesus put an end to that. He sacrificed not a lamb, a goat, nor a bull, but Himself. After His resurrection, He ascended to Heaven and “with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption” (Hebrews 9:12). The single offering of Jesus’ blood fulfilled all the types and shadows of the Old Testament offerings. His sacrifice need never be repeated, “but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself” (9:26).

Since He will not repeat the offering, there is no need for Him to stand, as there was for the Levitical priests at the altar. His task being finished, He “sat down at the right hand of God (10:12).

That’s good news for us! “For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified” (10:14). Folks, that’s us! We are complete (perfect) in Christ! We can “draw near with a true heart and full assurance of faith” (10:22). And so the Hebrews writer exhorts us to “hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He Who promised is faithful” (10:23).

What a privilege it is simply to be a Christian! Never surrender that blessing for anything else!

Song: “I’d Rather Have Jesus”