

Lord's Day 5; Hebrews 9 & 10

RESTORED TO FAVOR ONLY BY SATISFACTION

I. The great need.

- A. Reconciliation implies a friendship which is broken.
- B. How can it be restored? Only by the satisfaction of God's justice.
 - 1. God CAN bestow favor ONLY on those who have satisfied His justice.
 - 2. Divine justice demands death/blood (Heb. 9:22).

II. The satisfaction of God's justice is impossible for us.

- A. It is utterly hopeless for the sinner.
 - 1. First, our spiritual debt cannot be paid because hell is punishment, not payment.
 - 2. Second, even if hell paid for sin, it would not earn favor. It only fulfills an obligation.
 - 3. Third, salvation requires paying the full penalty for past sins AND rendering perfect love each moment.
- B. Also, there is no mere man who could qualify as a proper substitute for us.
- C. Nor can satisfaction be made for us by another creature!
- D. It is truly hopeless to look to man for the possibility of reconciliation between God and man.

III. God Himself provides the only possibility (Eph. 2:4,5).

- A. The only kind of Mediator must meet three requirements (Matthew 1:23).
- B. So great is the punishment of sin that the death of God Himself is necessary to satisfy God's justice.
- C. Application.
 - 1. There is no pardon except through the shedding of Christ's blood.
 - 2. Let us experientially and consciously claim Christ's payment by faith.