

**OUTSIDE THE CAMP****I. CHRIST OUTSIDE THE CAMP**

- A. The sacrificial animals were taken outside the camp. (Lev. 16)
1. The sin-offering was not only slain, its blood sprinkled in the tabernacle.
  2. The carcass was taken outside the camp and utterly consumed in a clean place.
  3. This sacrifice was not detestable to God, but wholly consecrated to him, not a polluted thing.
  4. The other goat was set free in the wilderness: as far as east is from west, so far removed are our sins from us.
- B. Christ suffered for sins “outside the camp” .
1. When Jesus was crucified, it was not within the “city limits”, but outside the gate on Golgatha.
  2. The theological reason:
    - a. God ordained it to a fulfillment of this OT type.
    - b. Christ as the sin-bearer endured the fiery indignation of a sin-hating God.
    - c. Christ offered himself to God as a sacrifice for the sins of his people, to atone!
    - d. God would teach the people his own abhorrence of sin
  3. The historical reason:
    - a. The Jews despised Jesus. They had him cast out in malice!
    - b. But God used this. It was “by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God” (Acts 2: 23)
    - c. God made the hatred of Satan and his agents to subserve his purpose and accomplish his will.
    - d. By this action, Christ appears as the true sin-offering!
  4. By ordaining Christ crucified outside the gates, God put an end to all sacrificing in the temple.
  5. Christ outside the gate, no longer in the church of the Jews, their house in now left desolate!
- C. Implications:
1. Christ is placed where murderers and filth dwelt. That is the place the Holy One entered for us!
  2. Christ remained personally and essentially the Untainted one even when our sins were laid on him.
  3. Christ was precious in God’s sight while groaning under God’s wrath, made a curse for us.

**II. OUR CALLING TO GO FORTH OUTSIDE THE CAMP**

- A. “Therefore”.
1. Because Jesus himself suffered without the gate, let us go forth unto him, bearing his reproach.
  2. Christ has left us an example! Let us follow his steps.
  3. Partaking of the food of our altar, let us use the strength of it in a pleasing and glorifying way.
- B. The apostle called the Hebrew Christians to go forth unto Christ!
1. Think of what it meant for a converted Jew to abandon the altar of Judaism:
  2. To his unbelieving brethren he would appear as a renegade of his fathers, apostate from God.
  3. He would be ridiculed and hated.
  4. God through the apostle calls them to go out to Christ, outside the camp. Why go back to the shadows??
  5. The camp here would be apostate Judaism which would have none of Christ.
  6. This was not to be merely a private matter, in their hearts, as they were tempted to do.
- C. How this speaks to us today.
1. It is not only the privilege , but it is also the duty of the servant to be were his master is.
  2. Only the truly regenerate prefer the substance to the shadow, ritualistic rites & performances.
  3. Privately in our hearts we go out to Jesus. This is the activity of faith.
  4. But also publicly the believer must go out to Jesus, outside the camp.
  5. Jesus is abhorrent to most of the church world today.

**III. NECESSARY RESULTS**

- A. Negatively:
1. We must go outside the camp.
  2. We bear his reproach and hatred.
- B. Positively:
1. We are fed by Christ’s substance.
  2. We are nourished to eternal life.
- C. We offer up sacrifices upon the altar.
1. Not sacrifices for atonement. That is finished.
  2. We are to bring sacrifices of thanksgiving, praise, good works, and obedience.