

Christ The Provider

Harmony M.B.C., May 31, 2009 (Morning)

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Heb 10:5-7 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

Our text is a well known announcement by Jesus Christ about His mission to earth. David prophesied this truth in the 40th Psalm, and here the inspired writer of Hebrews refers us to it. It is a telling statement by our Lord, and I believe it implies much more than we usually take it to mean. This subject of Heb. 10 speaks to us about the physical appearance of Jesus Christ in a fleshly body prepared for sacrifice in fulfillment of the multitude of messages preached by the Jews as they served God at the door of the tabernacle of old and in the temple built by Solomon. In the history of the Jews during the times of sacrificial offerings (at least from the dedication of the tabernacle in the wilderness to the destruction of the temple more than 900 years later) the priests offered two lambs a day (Numbers 28:3) every day for that period which, discounting the multitude of lambs offered by individuals as sin offerings and the multitude of lambs offered by the priest during other observances, we have a total of more than 328,500 sermons preached (by action alone) about the blood sacrifice of the body of Christ for His people's sins during that period.

I highlight this glorious truth because it is the heart of the good news to men. But, it also acts as a threshold for us to walk through a door of thought about the Lord Jesus Christ as the Provider for His people. In this instance of our text, He has provided the means for our complete and enduring salvation by the offering of Himself once for all of us. He provided everything we would ever need to satisfy the just demands of God. God has said that sin must be judged as a crime against Him...which it is. He has said that sin must receive a sentence of death...and it has. He has said that every creature must give account of himself...and they will. He has said that sin must be punished...at it either has been or it will be. For all of these requirements, Christ stood in our behalf and provided Himself as a sacrifice to the full satisfaction of God. Now God is satisfied concerning our sin debt...those of us who have come to Christ and relied solely on Him as the one who paid that sin debt. So this is what we see referred to in our text verse.

With Christ as the Provider in mind, I want us now to think in those terms and see four glorious instances of Christ in scripture as the great Provider for the needs of His people. There are more instances than these, but the four I will speak about are great and earth changing instances.

I. Christ as Provider for His chosen nation (See 1 Cor. 10:1-4)

Here, Christ provides the children of Israel with daily necessities

Reference here is to what occurred at Mt. Horeb (Exodus 17:6)

Notice that Christ accompanied (followed) them in the form of that daily provisioning

Notice that despite the failings of the children of Israel, Christ was faithful to provide
They were in the wilderness; much of it was desert; these were more than a million people;
The water was with them from this first day until they reached Kadesh
The water is called spiritual water because it was supernaturally provided and the intent of the
word of God is to give us the understanding that this was spiritual provisioning; not some
incident of nature that just occurred because there was a bunch of hidden water in that desert
place that suddenly gushed forth
Christ is His people's Provider of necessities of life

II. Christ coming as Provider for the Eternal Salvation of His People (See Jn. 17:1-3 and John
19:30) Jn. 19:30 - "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished:** and he
bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

In our introduction we summarized this great presence of Christ as Provider of eternal life
Whatever is required for us to be accepted of God, Christ has provided
Whatever issues God had with our unrighteousness, Christ provided the solution

III. Christ coming as Provider for His Church and for daily living for His people (See John
14:15-20)

Christ has come in the person of the Holy Spirit to provide all spiritual essentials for His people
in this interim as we wait for His return

As Comforter He will never leave the people of God

As Comforter who has access to all truth He will show us that truth

IV. Christ coming as Provider of a final glorified state for His saints (See 1 Thess. 4:17)

He has provided a way out of the grave for His sleeping people

He has provided a way for us to be translated out of our sinful bodies if we are alive at His
coming

V. Conclusion:

In the four examples of Christ's great presence among His people we see four sides of our great
Provider:

1) In His presence with the children of Israel in the wilderness we see that He provides what we
require physically and emotionally as creatures here on earth (to have one who both knows and
has power to give us our daily bread, to clear a path for us through the wilderness of this world;
to strengthen our dependence on Him by discovering to us that He will always meet our needs;
to calm our emotional upheavals by making us know that the vagaries of the world will not
wreck us, nor take from us what we need).

2) In His presence upon earth as the substitutionary sacrifice for His people we see Christ the
Provider of the bridge between the physical and spiritual that we are (to have one who can
reconcile the temporal creature with the eternal God; to have one who can reconcile the sinner
with the Holy God; to have one who can provide the temporal creature with the link to the
spiritual in the form of the NEW CREATURE created in Christ Jesus)

3) In His presence upon earth in the person of the Holy Spirit we see Christ as the Provider of all
the spiritual requirements we need for our sojourn through the world (to have spiritual capacity;

to have opportunity for spiritual growth; to have a mentor and guide for our spiritual advancement; to have a spiritual intercessor).

4. In His second coming presence we see Christ the Provider of all our eternal requirements and spiritual desires (to have an eternal homecoming; to have an eternal completeness; to have an eternal, joy-filled future)