

Life Group Discussion Questions
Hebrews 9:9-28 – The Real Reformation
Jan. 27th, 2010

Summary – At this point in his sermon, the preacher calls his Hebrew congregation to radical obedience in light of the great reforms that Christ, our Great Reformer, has brought about (vv. 9-10). As described against the backcloth of the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16), the preacher describes how Christ’s reforms the OT ritual system, including a reform of priesthood, tabernacle, sacrifice, and result. The preacher then goes on to explain that these reforms were made possible by the sacrificial death of Christ that “signed, sealed, and inaugurated” God’s “New Covenant” that Jeremiah had announced (Jer. 31:31-34) that address the problem of people’s inability to obey God’s law. Though Christ’s reforms began with His first coming, the goal of them is his second coming where Jesus will declare (not decide) the verdict of judgment that was made at the cross.

General Questions:

1. What grabbed your attention the most?
2. What was the big idea?
3. Any questions that arose for you?

Specifics:

Reformation – Respond to the following:

1. What meaning has the word “reformed” meant for you? Does it carry positive or negative connotations and why?
2. Some folks are fans of the Protestant Reformation, and often speak as if it was the pinnacle of the Christian Faith. Others view it as a distant and irrelevant relic of the past. What difference does it make to both groups that the “real reformation” began not in the 16th c., but with Jesus Christ?

The Need for Reformation

3. This morning we saw that Christ reformed the priesthood, tabernacle, sacrifices, and the results they brought. Of these “reforms” which one stands out to you the most? What practical difference does it make in your own life and walk with Jesus?

Radical Results

4. The radical nature of Christ’s reforms has motivated God’s people to radical action. In what ways do you believe that you’re complacent in your Christian walk? What would “radical” faith look like for you?

The Way of Reformation

5. This morning we saw that Christ's reforms were made possible by Christ's sacrificial death which "sealed" God's "new covenant" promised through Jeremiah. While on the one hand, this is "heady" stuff, on the other it address our most practical problem – the inability to obey God's law remedied by the sending of the Holy Spirit that "write God's law on our minds and hearts." Try to describe what reliance on the Spirit has looked like in your own life practically speaking.

The Goal of Reformation

6. The goal of Jesus' reforms are ultimately future. At his second coming he will not decide, but declare the verdict of judgment that was decided at the cross. How much does the goal of Christ's reforms, His second coming, impact your life right now? Is his second coming something you think about often? Why or why not?