

How knowing God frees us from guilt

Living in relationship with God- session 9

Hebrews 10:11-25 (p. 1208)

Introduction: The problem of guilt

*“By one sacrifice Jesus has **made perfect for ever** those who are being made holy”*

Hebrews 10:14

→ Because of the cross, in God’s eyes there is no such thing as a good Christian or a bad Christian. There are only perfect Christians.

1. Christians have been **made perfect**

a. Our sin has been completely forgiven at the cross (v12, v16-17)

b. Jesus’ perfect record has been given to us

“God made Jesus who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God”

2 Corinthians 5:21

<i>A day in the life of me</i>	<i>A day in the life of Jesus</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Lacking self-control● Not spending time with God● Anger● Deceit● Fear of other people● Prayerless <p>Verdict: Fails to love God with all his heart mind soul and strength. SINFUL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Perfectly self-controlled● Loves spending time with God● Always patient and forgiving● Always perfectly truthful● Joyful testimony about God● Loved to pray <p>Verdict: Loves God with all his heart mind soul and strength. RIGHTEOUS</p>

2. Christians have been made perfect for ever

a. The problem with OT sacrifices (v11)

b. The completeness of Jesus' sacrifice (v12-14)

3. What that means for us now (v19-25)

a. No guilt (v22)

"Whenever the devil charges us with our sins and pronounces us guilty of death and hell, we ought to say to him: I admit that I deserve death and hell; what, then, will happen to me? [The Devil replies:] Why, you will be eternally damned! [The Christian answers:] By no means; for I know One who has suffered and made satisfaction for me. His name is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Where He abides, there will I also abide." Martin Luther, Table Talk

Three practical steps to dealing with guilt:

- Repent** *If we feel guilty, is it because there's an area of sin that we continue to live in?*
- Rejoice** *By his death Jesus has made us perfect for ever! Believe it, and be joyful!*
- Repeat** *Keep doing this for the rest of your life!*

b. No complacency

NEXT TERM!



Next term in the Discipleship Course we'll be taking in the big picture of the whole Bible. How it all fits together, what God's great plan is, and how we fit into it. The dates are below. Do put them in the diary now!!

15th January	<i>The life we were made for</i>
22nd January	<i>The rejection of life</i>
29th January	<i>The promise of life (Nash Room)</i>
5th February	<i>Life in the promised land</i>
12th February	St Mary's Evening
19th February	HALF TERM
26th February	<i>The end of life in the land (Nash Room)</i>
5th March	<i>The Way, the Truth and the Life</i>
12th March	St Mary's Evening
19th March	<i>The spread of life</i>
26th March	<i>The restoration of life (Nash Room)</i>

Small Groups – Luke 7:36–50 (p. 1036)

Next Time

Next time we'll be thinking about how to prepare for Jesus' return

Talk: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11

Bible-studies: Matthew 25:14-30

Some questions to get you going-

- What will happen when Jesus returns?
- What difference should Jesus returning make to our lives now?

Taking it further

Memory Verse

By one sacrifice he has made perfect for ever those who are being made holy

Hebrews 10:14

Further Bible-study- Romans 8:1-4

- Why should we be facing God's condemnation?
- Why according to this passage do Christians no longer need to face God's condemnation?
- When God looks at a Christian believer, how many of the 'requirements of the law' does he see them as having kept? How can this be?
- The word 'now' in v1 talks of 'no condemnation' being a continuous state for Christians. How can you use Romans 8:1 to fight feelings of guilt and shame this week?

For the book-worms

<i>The Cross centred life</i>	CJ Mahaney	A wonderful, short book, both explaining the achievement of the cross, and encouraging us to live daily in the light of it.
<i>The glory of the cross</i>	James Philip	A wonderful 30 page booklet introducing what Jesus achieved through the cross. A must read.
<i>Death by Love</i>	Mark Driscoll	Jesus' achievement on the cross is applied to a whole variety of different situations in life. Very practical, and well applied. Chapters are written as 'letters from a pastor' to different members of his congregation.