

Hebrews 7:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

Analysis

Unlike high priests who must daily offer sacrifices 'first for His own sins and then for the people's,' Jesus did this 'once for all when He offered up Himself.' The Greek 'ephapax' (once for all) emphasizes the unrepeatable finality of Christ's sacrifice. His sinlessness eliminated need for self-atonement; His perfect sacrifice eliminated need for repetition. Reformed theology emphasizes Christ's finished work - nothing needs adding to His completed atonement.

Historical Context

Daily sacrifices were offered in the temple morning and evening (Exodus 29:38-42), and the high priest offered special sacrifices on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16). Christ's single sacrifice accomplished what endless animal sacrifices couldn't.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the 'once for all' nature of Christ's sacrifice affect your understanding of ongoing sin and forgiveness?
2. What practices or attitudes suggest you're trying to add to Christ's finished work?

Interlinear Text

ὅς οὐκ ἔχει καθ' ἡμέραν ἀνάγκην ὡςπερ οἱ
Who **not** **needeth** **daily** G2250 G318 **as** G3588
G3739 G3756 G2192 G2596 G5618

ἀρχιερεῖς πρότερον ὑπὲρ τῶν ἰδίων ἀμαρτιῶν θυσίας
those high priests **first** **for** G3588 **his own** **sins** **sacrifice**
G749 G4386 G5228 G2398 G266 G2378

ἀνευέγκας ἔπειτα τῶν τοῦ λαοῦ· τοῦτο γὰρ
to offer up **and then** G3588 G3588 **for the people's** **this** **for**
G399 G1899 G2992 G5124 G1063

ἐποίησεν ἐφάπαξ ἑαυτὸν ἀνευέγκας
he did **once** **himself** **to offer up**
G4160 G2178 G1438 G399

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 9:12 (Parallel theme): Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Hebrews 9:28 (Sin): So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Hebrews 9:14 (Parallel theme): How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Ephesians 5:2 (Sacrifice): And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

Hebrews 5:3 (Sin): And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins.

Romans 6:10 (Sin): For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Titus 2:14 (Sin): Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Hebrews 9:25 (Parallel theme): Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others;

Leviticus 16:11 (Sin): And Aaron shall bring the bullock of the sin offering, which is for himself, and shall make an atonement for himself, and for his house, and shall kill the bullock of the sin offering which is for himself:

Hebrews 9:7 (Parallel theme): But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: