

Reformation – Discussion 4: Christ alone

Watch: The Reformation in England (5:15)

Discuss

Thomas Cranmer moved the English church away from the medieval misunderstanding of sacrifice.

Read Hebrews 9:1-10.

1. List the activities involved in Old Testament sacrifice.
2. What were the difficulties with that sacrificial system? (See especially verses 8-10.)

Read Hebrews 9:11-22.

3. What is the significance of blood in this passage? (See especially verse 22.)
4. What has the blood of the Christ achieved? (See especially verses 12-14.)

Read Hebrews 9:23-28.

5. Why has Jesus' sacrifice superseded the old system of sacrifice?
6. Does the writer see the sacrifice of Christ as something repeated/repeatable, or as something that happened just once?

Watch: A crude and monstrous fiction (6:55)

Discuss

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34.

7. What is the purpose of the Lord's Supper?

8. As we celebrate the Lord's Supper, should we think of it as a sacrifice or as a remembrance?

9. How should we go about celebrating the Lord's Supper (vv. 27-29, 31, 33-34)?

Read 1 Timothy 2:1-6 (especially verses 5-6).

10. How is it possible for someone to approach God with "petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings"?

11. What do these verses suggest about the Roman Catholic practice of praying to the saints and to Mary, asking them to mediate between God and us—as with the famous Roman Catholic prayer 'Hail Mary' (below)?
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Watch: Bishops burned for their faith (8:30)

Discuss

Read Hebrews 4:14-16.

12. How does Jesus' role as a great high priest affect our:

- times of personal weakness?
- assurance of salvation?
- approach to God in prayer?

13. Have you drawn near to Jesus' throne to find mercy and grace?

Pray