

Cleansed to the Core

Hebrews 9:11-14

Wanting a “clean slate”

But...

It is never really clean

And I am still the one who writes again



Hopes that disappoint

Trying (harder) to try to please God ⇒ religion

“The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning.” Hebrews 9:8

Trying harder to please us and others

Finding better ways to please us and others

Getting better people to please

Trying harder not to care...



Hebrews 9:11-14

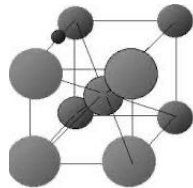
How much more, then, will the blood of Christ,

who through the eternal Spirit

offered himself unblemished to God,

cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death,

so that we may serve the living God!



The Big Idea

Life with God

comes only through

Christ’s death in our place

When we trust in the death of Jesus Christ in our place...

We are “cleansed to the core”

We join His work of filling our whole being with this cleansing work

We grow in a fruitful relationship with Almighty God

As we wait with eager expectation the full experience of this cleansing when Jesus returns

Good Friday is so good because...

we celebrate the extreme action of love by Jesus Christ for us

so that we have the promise and first fruits

of joyous life with God forever

The perfect Son of God, the creator

gave everything He could possibly give

to cleanse us from the core

so that we can live and love with God forever

Reflection Questions for later today or this week...

1. What hopes have disappointed you? Has the church or religion been a part of that disappointment?
2. What is different between a whitewash and cleansing our conscience?
3. If Christians are cleansed in our consciences, why do we still struggle with feelings of guilt and regret?
4. What is it like to have a “fruitful relationship with Almighty God”?
5. If somebody asked you, “Why do we call it ‘Good’ Friday”, what would you say?