

The Ultimate Offering

“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? (Heb .9: 14).

Ultimate Frisbee is a competitive non-contact team sport played with a flying disc known as a frisbee. Similar to American football, the object of the game is to score points by passing the disc into the opposing end zone. One difference, however, is that the players may not run while holding the disc. Distinguished by the principles of fair play, good sportsmanship, and a love to play, Ultimate Frisbee is being called the world’s favorite sport.

It isn’t my desire to merely reduce the Lord Jesus to a popular sport. However, I do want to borrow the “ultimate” concept and magnify Christ as the Ultimate One. In His youth Jesus was the ultimate baby, the ultimate child, and the ultimate family member. In His ministry He was the ultimate Teacher, the ultimate Servant, and the ultimate Example. In His present relationships with believers He is the ultimate Redeemer, the ultimate Savior, and the ultimate Friend.

In the verse before us we are confronted with Christ as “The Ultimate Offering.” Throughout the Old Testament the Israelites brought special offerings before the Lord. Five of these were the sin offering, the burnt offering, the meal offering, the trespass offering, and the peace offering. Because none of the offerings could take away sin, one superior to all the offerings was anticipated.

Christ is the ultimate Priest! The offering of Christ’s body was not officiated by a Jewish priest. Rather, we are told that “through the eternal Spirit” He “offered Himself.” No, Jesus was not a priest of the lineage of Aaron cooperating with the Levitical laws. But “Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec” (Heb. 5:10), He cooperated with the Holy Spirit in offering Himself.

As the ultimate Priest, Christ offered Himself as the ultimate Sacrifice! One of the demands for the offerings in the Jewish economy was that they must be “without blemish” (Lev. 1:10). As the ultimate Sacrifice, the offering of Christ more than met these requirements. The Lord Jesus was “as a Lamb, without blemish and without spot” (1 Pet. 1:19), and as our text relates, “offered Himself without spot to God.”

The blood of this ultimate Sacrifice is effectual for sinners! There was a measure of sanctification in the temporary offerings of the Old Testament. On that basis, the Holy Spirit reasons with us, “If the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ . . . purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?” The blood of Jesus avails for you and me, dear friend! Have you trusted Christ as “The Ultimate Offering?”