The Unfolding Patter
Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

    A. Text: Hebrews 9:24-10:18.

    B. Christianity is not just about keeping the rules.

II. The tabernacle in the wilderness provided a picture of the new system of life but it was inadequate.

    A. Unlike the old system, the new system is not limited to space.

    B. Heaven is the realm of the spirit--the inner man.

        1. When Jesus Christ enters into the life, He brings heaven into the soul.

        2. The believer is seated with Christ in the heavenlies.

        3. Christ's work for the believer is never hindered because He is in the believer.

    C. The old system required repeated sacrifices--the new is beyond time.

    D. The new arrangement is beyond judgment.

        1. The judgment of a Christian has already been faced because he has died in Christ.

        2. There is no longer condemnation. (Romans 8)

III. The demonstration of life under the new system.

    A. The essential quality in a God-approved life is that one would be willing to lay his life down.

    B. God is pleased in the self-giving, not self-loving.

    C. Jesus died in order that one might be free to die and rise with Him.

    D. God's interest was in what the blood of sacrifices pointed to--the life that is given to Him entirely.

        1. Sanctification means to put to the proper use.

        2. The attitude that one is willing to give of himself demonstrates this.

        3. The business of being willing to be used by God is standard operating procedure.

IV. The sufficiency of the new arrangement.

A. There was no chairs in the old tabernacle--when Christ offered sacrifice He sat down. Jesus did all that it took to get the job done.

B. The believer enters into provision for perfect guidance and perfect peace of heart--he is at peace with God.

Application questions:

1. How would you characterize the new arrangement God has provided in Christ?
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2. How do Christians often struggle to live selflessly?
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3. Why is it important for believers to trust in God's provision instead of their own for peace? Explain.
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