

## Hebrews 7.13

### A New Tribe's Altar

Why is there a need for a new tribe to officiate at the altar? Why is there no longer a need for the altar of sacrifice at which Levi ministered? The prophetic words which the writer of Hebrews is addressing concern the strangeness of a tribe other than Levi acting as priest over Israel... the word for "another" is **<heteros>** meaning completely different; completely new. Having no prior connection to the altar or its purpose, a different kind of a tribe; And with the difference in tribes we enjoy a different kind of interaction with God through the worship and offering they bring to us. With the new Tribe officiating at the altar, and at the new altar as well, we find that the impact and the effect of that officiation is profoundly changed and unspeakably superior.

#### I. DIFFERENT TRIBAL ROLES

- A. Jacob, on his deathbed pronounced prophetic blessings over his sons. It is important to understand that this blessing was going to shape

the nation that his family would become. Jacob's words give us insight into the defining attributes and character markers of the tribes of Israel.

### **Genesis 49.1**

B. God originally chose Levi to be the priesthood. It is a strange choice, for Jacob's blessing over Levi is not commendable nor does it find any hope that Levi will be compassionate

### **Genesis 49.5-7**

1. the law was harsh and full of judgement, it destroyed everyone who did not fulfill its demands...
2. Levi will be given cities instead of a part of the land. Scattered all over the nation
3. Simeon takes his inheritance out of that which is given to Judah... and when Simeon sides with Israel after the rebellion against Rehoboam, they essentially lose their inheritance...
4. These two things kept these tribes from dominating the rest of the nation, But Levi was to administer the law... it was a powerful position and the bondage of the nation under

the law became a bondage under the religious leaders who held them in thrall...

- C. Judah however became the leader, provider and caregiver as well as protector and avenger. God chose to anoint him with royalty and the responsibility to provide for all of Israel.

### **Genesis 49.8-12**

1. When God determined to bring Judah to the altar to minister before Him, the character of the King is reflected in the manner of relationship that the leader provides, and in its subsequent religious expression.

## **II. DIFFERENT TRIBAL ALTARS**

### **A. Levitical Altar**

1. Continual sacrifice demanded by impotence to remove sin
2. Bondage to the law, slaves to sin
3. Physical core, spiritual shadow

### **B. Judaic altar**

1. One sacrifice for all removes sin forever for all who are covered
2. Bondage to righteousness, slaves to God
3. Spiritual Core, physical expression

## **III. DIFFERENT TRIBAL RESULTS**

A. Welcome - Exclusion v. Invitation

**Numbers 1.51-53**

**Matthew 11. 25-30**

B. Fellowship - Distance v. Indwelling

**Exodus 19.21-24**

*Leviticus 16:2 (NKJV) <sup>2</sup> and the Lord said to Moses: "Tell Aaron your brother not to come at just any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, lest he die; for I will appear in the cloud above the mercy seat.*

*Romans 8:9 (NKJV) <sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.*

C. Intention - Pushing Sin Forward v. Removing It Forever

**Romans 3.21-26**

D. Effectiveness - Cover over v. Cleansing

**Hebrews 10.1-4**

E. Affect - Remind v. Forgive

*Hebrews 10:3 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.*

*Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace*

F.Source - Best of Man v. GodMan

### **Leviticus 4.1-3**

*1Peter 1:18–19 (NKJV) <sup>18</sup> knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

G. Purity - Altar had to be redeemed v. Son who carried His own blood to the true altar of God and was well pleasing to God

*Leviticus 16:18 (NKJV) <sup>18</sup> And he shall go out to the altar that is before the Lord, and make atonement for it, and shall take some of the blood of the bull and some of the blood of the goat, and put it on the horns of the altar all around.*

### **Hebrews 9.12-14**

H. Identity - Children of Wrath v. Blood-bought Children of the King

### **Ephesians 2.1-3**

### **Ephesians 2.19-22**

I. Family - outsiders v. adoption

*Ephesians 2:11–12 (NKJV) <sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—<sup>12</sup> that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*

*Galatians 4:3–5 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

## J. Eternity - Heaven v. Hell

*Revelation 20:15 (NKJV) <sup>15</sup> And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 21:26–27 (NKJV) <sup>26</sup> And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. <sup>27</sup> But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.*