

Hebrews 10:19-20 (NKJV)

Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,

Hebrews 9:11-14

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹² he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

The blood, among other things, must purify our consciences from "dead works".

Another way this could be said is that the full and only payment of the Lord for our sins, Jesus' blood, must cleanse our consciences for guilt stemming from sins but also purify from the activity of trying to earn our forgiveness through religious works.

Our conscience, our inner compass for right and wrong, must not only be freed from shame but also must be re-calibrated to function by faith in the grace of God.

To walk in religious works for our right standing with God is like the uncleanness that was produced in the Old Covenant of touching a dead body which would lead to seven days of being unclean and defiled, according to the book of Numbers.

Hebrews 10:22 says we must be cleansed from an "evil conscience" by the blood.

Hebrews 10:22

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

But we also must have a purified conscience from "dead works" by the blood.

So let us trust more radically than ever in the blood of Jesus and his finished work as our only means of approaching with boldness the presence of God.