

Sermon Series
The Superiority of Jesus Christ
January 2, 2022

Title: Divine Wisdom

Subject: The Father, The Son, The Trinity, Divine Wisdom, The Incarnation, The Everlasting Covenant, Sacrifices, Offerings, The Son's Obedience, Divine Cooperation

Theme Text: Hebrews 10:5-6 (ESV) ⁵ Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶ in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Theme Illustration: What are we reading here? What are we gazing at? What you and I see and read here is more magnificent than the Mona Lisa, the Grand Canyon, The taj Mahal and anyone of the seven wonders of the world. Can you see it? We are beholding the glory of God. In certain scriptures, we are let in on a conversation between the Father and the Son. Psalm forty-two has captured the attention of our inspired writer. Here we see the Second Person in the Trinity personally addressing the first Person, the Father. Jesus is praising the Father for His wisdom in the Son's incarnation and the Father's plan to redeem His people.

In Jesus' high priestly prayer in John 17, we read that Jesus is eagerly awaiting to be with the Father like he was before the world began, **John 17:5 (ESV) ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.** Jesus's request follows His report to the Father that He has finished the work the Father gave Him to do. Remember that in Psalm 110 we hear the Father designating the Son as High Priest forever as in the Order of Melchizedek.

Today's text is also most blessed. The Son is so impressed by the wisdom of the Father's plan and purpose that He praises Him and commits to

obedience. If the Son of God thought it right to praise the Father and obey, so should we.

Read: Hebrews 10:5-7

Introduction: In our present chapter, the Holy Spirit has been impressing upon the recipients of this letter, the insufficiency of the Levitical sacrifices to produce the effects needed for sinners to stand before God as accepted worshipers. The Spirit is therefore emphasizing the sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice. He taught them that the old covenant provided only a shadow of the good things that would result from something that was coming.

He also taught them the difference between ceremonial forgiveness and real forgiveness. Both sacrifices maintained an external fellowship with God and therefore temporal punishment for their sins was averted. The insufficiency of both sacrifices was apparent by their frequent repetition. Fresh sacrifices were required by fresh sins. The blood of bulls and goats could never make atonement, verse four.

The Holy Spirit has repeatedly affirmed the superiority of Jesus Christ over the Levitical system. All of this was foreknown and planned by God. These were temporary measures awaiting the fullness of time, **Galatians 4:4 (ESV)** ⁴ **But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law...**

Transition: As we will see, the whole truth concerning God's eternal purpose and his plan of redemption requires cooperation between all three persons of the Godhead. In our text, we behold the Father's wisdom, the son's agreement, and the son's willingness to do the Father's will.

1. The Father's Wisdom: Hebrews 10:5 (ESV) ⁵ **Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me;**

As I have already said, these verses include a direct quotation from the 40th Psalm. In it, Jesus is speaking to the Father. The word consequently reminds us that our understanding is contingent upon the previous teaching.

We are being transported back before the foundation of the world and are invisible observers of the eternal counsel of God. The person being discussed is the second person of the Trinity. It is concerning the One, by whom and for whom all things were created, things that are in heaven, in the earth, visible and invisible, **Colossians 1:16 (ESV)** ¹⁶ **For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.** The one who is speaking is the one with overall blessed God forever, **Romans 9:5**. This indescribably glorious person condescended not merely to send an ambassador but to personally come into the world to do the Father's will. It was the Divine coming to execute the eternal purpose of the Godhead, to fulfill the terms of the Eternal Covenant, and to fulfill all the prophecies and promises of the Old Testament Scriptures and to perform that one magnificent work, which would bring in incalculable praise and glory to God.

In verse five, we behold the perfect intelligence of the Son concerning the mind and will of the Father. Jesus had access to all the councils of the deity. Thus, Jesus was able to declare, **John 5:20 (ESV)** ²⁰ **For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.**

Jesus knew that those Old Testament sacrifices were placeholders. God's will for those sacrifices did not include the effects that God ordained by Jesus's sacrifice. His body, His humanity was both foreordained and created by the Father.

Thus, the scriptures reveals that the foundation of the salvation of the redeemed, His people, is found in the Father's will, grace, wisdom, good pleasure, His love, and His sending of the Son. Therefore, our Lord was so intent upon doing the will of the Father.

It was by the Holy Spirit the human nature of Christ was created. His body was prepared not by the ordinary means of procreation. The by the supernatural power of the third person of the Trinity working upon and within Mary. This text is a clear prophecy of the virgin birth of Christ.

God did not form the body of the second and last Adam out of the dust of the earth. No, the Lord took of the seed of Abraham, and so fashioned it to meet the demands of His task. Christ took upon himself the perfect form of a servant, **Philippians 2:7 (ESV) ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.**

The human nature God prepared for Jesus was exposed to all the outward causes of sin yet was so sanctified that it was not possible that He should be touched with the faintest hint of sin.

Although the actual creation of Christ humanity was through the work of the Holy Spirit, Luke 1:35, it was the work of the Father according to His divine will that the plan and execution of the plan were of the Father. In the smallest increment of time the Father willed everything, the Holy Spirit created it, and the Son received it.

Transition: Thus, we now transition to:

2. The Son's Agreement: Hebrews 10:6 (ESV) in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

Here we hear the Son's wholehearted agreement with the Father and understanding of the Father's plan. It was clear to Christ, why His incarnation was necessary. Christ understood that the decreed religion of Israel could not bring pleasure and satisfaction to the Father concerning the desired effects. Those desired or decreed effects are the perfection of His people.

The Father never intended. All these offerings to achieve what the Father intended for His people. We also remember that God imposed until the

fullness of time. Those sacrifices could not produce an atonement that was accepted by God. They were all pictures, parables, and foreshadowing of Christ who the Father sent in the fullness of time.

Transition: We moved from the Son's agreement to:

3. The Son's Willingness: Hebrews 10:7 (ESV) 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'"

These words express the readiness and willingness of the Son to do all that the Father decreed for the salvation of His people, to His own satisfaction. God's will was to take away sins and to make His people perfect. It was by God's gracious design to remove all the effects of sin, original and personal, which provoked His judicial actions towards us. All the while, He intended to give us a righteousness that would give God a loving delight in us. The Father had not only predestinated us in Christ to forgive us, but to have us adopted, **Ephesians 1:5-6 (ESV) 5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.**

This was God's eternal purpose in Christ, **Ephesians 3:11 (ESV) 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord...** We moved back to the Garden where Jesus inquired of the Father, **Mark 14:36 (ESV) 36 And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."** If God could achieve His purposes by other means, why did Christ say, yet not what I will, but what you will? Why did Jesus take the cup? It was because, in the wisdom of God, He decreed it, ordained it, and willed it.

Conclusion: Had God so pleased, He could have accepted the blood of bulls and goats. The only reason He did not is that He decreed that Christ would make atonement. Everything that God does, must be traced to this one thing, **Ephesians 1:11 (ESV) 11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having**

been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will...

The way things exist has been decreed because of the eternal purposes of the Trinity. God would have satisfaction or none at all. Jesus knew all of this and so consented to the entire plan. The Son was in full accord from the foundation of the earth, **Zechariah 6:13 (ESV)** ¹³ **It is he who shall build the temple of the LORD and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.**” This text is a synopsis of this covenant agreement between the Father and the Son. The Trinity is in full agreement about how they will accomplished this plan.

The Son’s renewed His consent was His incarnation and revealed to us at His birth. Thus, the Son agreed to be obedient unto death, as the Lord’s servant.

There is nothing we can do to change any of this but to receive it as the truth. God planned our salvation and perfection since the foundation of the earth. If we refuse God’s gracious offer, we alone will pay what we did for our indignity to the glory of God. The alternative, of course, is if we believe all that Christ has done, we will live as the adopted sons of God.

The apostle Paul while considering these truths exclaimed, **Romans 11:33-36 (ESV)** ³³ **Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!** ³⁴ **“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”** ³⁵ **“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”** ³⁶ **For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.**