

PERFECTION

HEBREWS 7:11-19

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: The Hebrew word that means to make perfect is *teleioo*. It means “to complete, make perfect by reaching the intended goal...In the epistle to the Hebrews, *teleioo* (to make perfect) is used in a moral sense meaning to make perfect, to fully cleanse from sin, in contrast to ceremonial cleansing.” Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, #5048. In these verses, the idea of the perfection of God’s people is used for the first time in Hebrews as applying to God’s people instead of to Christ. William L. Lane, Word Biblical Commentary: Hebrews 1-8, p. 180.

I OBTAINED. The Old Testament Jew offered animal sacrifices year after year for temporary forgiveness of sins. This ceremonial cleansing pointed to the ultimate—the perfect final sacrifice of Jesus Christ. I obtained perfection not on the basis of what I did but on the basis of what Christ did for me. Jesus went to the cross and permanently paid once for all my sins. I obtained this perfection when I by faith placed my trust in Him for my salvation. (**Hebrews 7:11-14, fn 7:11-17, Hebrews 10:11-14, fn 10:11, 12, fn 10:14, Ephesians 2:8, 9, fn 2:8, 9**) *How are you made perfect in God’s sight?*

I HAVE. Death and sin were defeated by the power of the resurrection by Jesus. It is by this same power that His life in me is indestructible. I have Christ’s resurrected life! Because He perfected me at the cross, His Holy Spirit lives in me, and I have a personal relationship with Him. I am filled with His power! (**Hebrews 7:15, 16, Ephesians 1:17-20, fn 1:19, 20, Acts 2:24, fn 2:24, Colossians 1:28, 29, fn 1:28, 29, Galatians 2:19, 20, fn 2:20, Acts 1:8, fn 1:8[1st]**) *How can you experience the power of the Holy Spirit in your life?*

I GAINED. The impersonal Law could not save and was not permanent. It was useless in providing personal access to God. Therefore, the Levitical system was canceled when Jesus died to provide the perfect and permanent sacrifice for sin. Now with sin forgiven and His perfection gained, I go readily to Jesus in heart to heart communion that gives me joy unspeakable! (**Hebrews 7:17-19, fn 7:18, 19, fn 7:19, Acts 13:36-39, fn 13:38, 39, Hebrews 10:1-4, fn 10:3, fn 10:4, Hebrews 10:19-22, fn 10:21, 22, fn 10:22-25**) *How and when do you draw near to God?*

As you daily study the truths about Jesus, in what ways is the presence of the Holy Spirit revealing to you God’s majesty and glory?

