

Expecting Positive Outcomes

Description

Hebrews 9:11-15.

Whenever we try to do a deep clean at our house, especially with having young kids, it never seems to get clean enough. Clean one room, and the other has been messed with. Clean everything and there is still a toy or two we overlooked. The cleanest we can get still leaves the messes we do not know about or couldn't get to.

Being cleansed from sin has been important for the people of God for a long time. In ancient Israel, the priests would enter the temple to bring sacrifices before God for the cleansing of sins. This was effective and important, purifying the flesh of the people. As with any mess, this cleansing always exposed a need for deeper forgiveness, something the people could not do on their own.

The writer of Hebrews points out that Jesus has surpassed what was before. If what is temporary provided forgiveness through sacrifices, how much deeper the cleansing power of the eternal God who knows us completely and became the sacrifice himself, an atonement for sins! We believe that the grace of Jesus is so great that it can sanctify us completely. No mess, no sin—no one is beyond the cleansing power of Jesus!

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