

Jesus' Coming Will Be For Salvation

TO THE EDITOR:

This letter is written in reply to Jeff [redacted] letter to Readers Write of March 6. I will agree with Jeff that at the mass Jesus does not die again. As Jeff wrote, "The mass is the renewal and perpetuation of the sacrifice of the cross in the sense that it offers anew to God the victim of Calvary . . . and applies the fruits of Christ's death upon the cross to individual human souls . . . a representing of the original sacrifice does not necessitate a new crucifixion."

However, according to the scripture, the Catholic definition of the mass is an impossibility. God's word defines Christ's offering like this, "For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it . . . and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness . . . For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands . . . but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; nor was it that He should offer Himself often . . . otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often . . . but now once He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment, so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, shall appear a second time

for salvation without reference to sin to those who eagerly await Him." (Hebrews 9:16, 22, 24-28).

In the above verses we see that although the Catholic church does not teach that Jesus dies again at the mass nor sheds His blood or suffers, the scriptures are very clear that if He was to be offered again in some way, He would have to suffer again. Also, since no blood is shed at the mass, there can be no forgiveness of sins. And, to clarify it even further, Jesus' offering is compared to a man's death, just as a man dies once and is judged, Jesus was offered once to take away sin and the second time He appears it will be for our salvation and not to take away sin. Therefore, Jesus does not come under the appearance of bread and wine. There is no representing of Christ's offering on the cross. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was all sufficient because Jesus satisfied God's wrath for our sin on the cross.

Colossians 1:22 reads, "Yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshy body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach."

Just before Jesus died on the cross, He said, "It is finished." Do you believe Him? I did and still do.

Gary Westgerdes

Celina, Ohio

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