

Winter 2024 Exegesis Exam

Ministry Context

Hebrews 10:1-14

You are leading a Lenten study series on Christian theories of atonement. For one of your sessions, you decide to explore Hebrews 10:1-14.

Section I: Language, Historical Situation, and Scriptural and Theological Context

Language of the Text

Write an essay response to the following exegetical question. This response must *focus on the biblical text*. Discussion of the ministry context is not expected in Section I.

First Required Response

In your research on Hebrews 10:1-14, you discover in verse 1 that some manuscripts read *δύναται* while others read *δύνανται*.

Discuss the manuscripts that support each variant reading.

Based on this discussion, select what you conclude to be the best reading and justify your choice.

Explain how your findings inform your interpretation of Hebrews 10:1-14.

Limit your response to 600 words.

Historical Situation

Write an essay response to the following exegetical question. This response must *focus on the biblical text*. Discussion of the ministry context is not expected in Section I.

Second Required Response

Describe the sacrificial practices for the atonement for sin in Second Temple Judaism.

Explain how your findings inform your interpretation of Hebrews 10:1-14.

Limit your response to 600 words.

Scriptural and Theological Context

Write an essay response to the following exegetical question. This response must *focus on the biblical text*. Discussion of the ministry context is not expected in Section I.

Third Required Response

Identify and discuss the three differences between the Septuagint version of Psalm 39:7-9 (Hebrew equivalent 40:6-8) and the way this psalm is cited in Hebrews 10:1-14.

Explain how your findings inform your interpretation of Hebrews 10:1-14.

Limit your response to 600 words.

Scriptural and Theological Context

Write an essay response to the following exegetical question. This response must *focus on the biblical text*. Discussion of the ministry context is not expected in Section I.

Fourth Required Response

The Heidelberg Catechism describes Christ's sacrifice as follows:

That during his whole life on earth,
but especially at the end,
Christ sustained
 in body and soul
 the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race.
This he did in order that,
 by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice,
 he might deliver us, body and soul,
 from eternal condemnation,
 and gain for us
 God's grace,
 righteousness,
 and eternal life. (4.037)

Discuss the statements about Christ's sacrifice in Hebrews 10:1-14 in relation to this section of the Heidelberg Catechism.

Limit your response to 600 words.

Section II: Careful and Critical Interpretation

Write an essay presenting your interpretation of *Hebrews 10:1-14* based on your full exegetical study of the passage (not just material presented in Section I). Support your interpretation by a careful and critical analysis of the text that reflects the use of scholarly resources. *Limit your essay to 1,200 words.*

This essay must *focus on the biblical text* and provide a basis for your application in Section III: Application. Discussion of the ministry context is not expected in Section II.

Section III:

Application

Provide an outline or summary of themes for your Bible study that addresses the required ministry context:

You are leading a Lenten study series on Christian theories of atonement. For one of your sessions, you decide to explore Hebrews 10:1-14.

Your work must be based on your careful and critical interpretation of the biblical text presented in Section II. *Limit your work to 600 words.*

Your response to Section III *must* address the ministry context.

Works Cited

In the text box below, provide a list of all resources cited in your exam responses. Do not include in this list any Internet link that includes any form of a personal name relating to your digital file storage (e.g., https://my.sharepoint.com/:p:/g/personal/jess_demo/...).