

**“THE ROLL OF THE BOOK”****Introduction**

1. A Messianic Psalm
2. David is the shadow; Christ the substance
3. A mystical union between Christ and us

**1. THE WAY WE ARE TO THINK OF RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES**

- 1) v.6-8: Christ is addressing the Father here
- 2) The O.T. sacrifices – how to view them:
  - i) “not desired” by God absolutely;
  - ii) but only relatively
- 3) In what regard “not desired”; yet, for all that, ordained by God till Christ came.
- 4) The O.T. sacrifices:
  - i) their origin in Genesis 3
  - ii) their appointment after Moses
  - iii) their abolition – after Calvary
- 5) The mistake of carnal Jews shown by the prophets:  
Isaiah 1:11-14; Amos 5:21-22; Psalm 51:16-17  
**APPLICATION**:
  1. O.T. ordinances relatively necessary
  2. O.T. sacraments also**APPLICATION**: Beware of leaning on them too much

**2. WHAT ORDINANCES CANNOT DO CHRIST HAS DONE**

- 1) “Then said I” (= Christ): Christ undertakes to do all that ordinances could not do.

- 2) “Lo, I come”: Zeal, willing obedience to God’s will moved our Saviour to do all that must be done to save the world.
- 3) “Ears opened”: either
  - i) to be obedient to every demand of God
  - ii) “pierced” as the ear of a willing servant (Exodus 21:5)  
**OBSERVE**: Christ’s obedience in life and death is the ransom.
- 4) Christ willingly did any and every action necessary for our eternal salvation.
- 5) “Thy law...heart”: Christ is the one and only man to fulfil the Law to perfection. His life and death are both essential for eternal salvation.  
**APPLICATION**: Ponder Christ’s cry, “It is finished!”

**3. THE ORIGIN OF ALL SALVATION AND GRACE**

- 1) Christ here informs us of the origin of this saving purpose of God: “volume of the book...”
  - i) the eternal Covenant of Redemption between the Father and the Son,
  - ii) the revelation of it in the Bible, beginning with Genesis 3:15 and on.
- 2) This is confirmed elsewhere in scripture:
  - i) Hebrews 13:2: “blood...everlasting covenant”
  - ii) 1 Peter 1:19-20: “Foreordained before the foundation of the world”
  - iii) Titus 1:2: “promised before the world began”  
**OBSERVE**: God ordained man’s remedy before it was made necessary by the Fall.

**CONCLUSION**

1. Do not make too much of ordinances and sacraments but of Christ.  
**ILLUSTRATION**: a wedding ring

2. Yet, do not despise God's ordinances but use them with an eye to Christ.

**PSALM**

**40: 1 – 4**

**40: 6 – 9**

**40: 10- 11**