*Monday, June 2, 2014*

**Once Upon a Time**

Leviticus 16:32-34 And the priest, whom he shall anoint, and whom he shall consecrate to minister in the priest's office in his father's stead, shall make the atonement, and shall put on the linen clothes, even the holy garments: 33 And he shall make atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests, and for all the people of the congregation. 34 And this shall be an everlasting statute unto you, to make atonement for the children of Israel for all their sins once a year. And he did as the LORD commanded Moses. (KJV)

Back in the day Our Lord assigned priests to attend to the earthly sanctuary and to bring sacrifices and offerings for the sins of the congregation once a year. Today for some odd reason we still have organizations with people who call themselves priests and like on Halloween dress up in costumes of make believe people, and just like with Halloween they represent dead things. As we go along this week we will point out who God has appointed as the High Priest once and for all so that we don’t have to wait a year to go before the throne of God.

Hebrews 9:6-8 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God. 7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people: 8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing: (KJV)

Remember, our Lord said that He was the way, the truth, and the life, and that no man could go unto the Father but by Him. Now that the way has been made for us, why would anyone want to settle for less? Why are so many people still caught up in dead works and rituals which have nothing to do with salvation and actually draw one farther away instead of closer to our Father?

Hebrews 9:9-11 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; 10 Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers’ washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. 11 But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; (KJV)

Now that we are and have been in a time of reformation for at least two thousand years or so, why are so many today still wasting time with carnal ordinances that have nothing to do with salvation? It seems like the minute someone decides to dedicate their lives to the Lord a bunch of so called Christians comes along and tell them they need to get slam dunked in water. Really, what’s next, offering up animal sacrifices, or how about bringing circumcision back into play? Whoops, where is everyone going?

Hebrews 9:9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; (KJV)

That word figure refers to a parable; a comparison, where you take what happened in the outward realm and discern what is now taking place in the spiritual one; something that the Church is lacking in, spiritual discernment.

God bless dearly loved and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.