

Jen Wilkin

Better

A Study of Hebrews • Lesson 8

Hebrews 10 - "A Better Sacrifice"

Hebrews 10:1-4 - This is foundational

The Law cannot make us perfect or take away sins, but it can foreshadow and remind us of sins.

Did the Old Testament sacrificial system remove our guilt and sin? No! It was impossible and futile for that to happen. This was a parable only.

The Lord's Supper was a parable for the New Covenant. "*Do this in remembrance of ME*" This is a better remembrance of a better Covenant.

Hebrews 10:5-9

Psalm 40:6-8 quoted

God takes no pleasure in burnt offerings. He was not pleased to watch animals be killed.

He did away with the first covenant (sacrifices and offerings) to establish God's will. By it Jesus has made the final sacrifice *once and for all*.

Hebrews 10:10

Once for all - repeats this main idea.

God was not pleased at all with burnt offerings. SO why did He command them to be done? Because they were foreshadows and reminders. You may think, was this not excessive? But God knows we are slow learners and need repetition to get it. They were commanded for our sake.

Hebrews 10:9

"*He does away with*" is a strong word in the Greek - to get rid of entirely - think of Jesus on the cross - "*It is FINISHED*"

**What modern day sacrifices and offerings do we wrongly think that God takes pleasure in? It is any act of our obedience that is done in order to garner/earn God's favor or approval. Again - He takes NO pleasure in these.

Hebrews 10:11-18

- The priest stands—no rest for him- as he repeatedly offered many sacrifices

- Jesus sits—full rest at the right hand of the majesty of God after a single sacrifice

At the second coming - His enemies will be a footstool, under His feet.

1 Cor 15:26 - at that time, the second coming = no more death, which is the last enemy to be defeated.

Death has already been defeated but living here on earth we don't yet really feel that. We are in the already but the not yet. We are eagerly awaiting - placing our faith in what is yet unseen.

Jer 31:33 quoted - The Law written on hearts and minds under the New Covenant by the Holy Spirit and a double edge sword, which is the Word of God - *taken in*.

Under the Old Covenant the law was chiseled on stone tablets - *all external*.

"I will remember their sins no more" Can God forget our sins? No - He is omniscient - Not only can He not forget, we wouldn't want that. So, why does the Word say this? It is anthropomorphism - talking about God in human terms so we can better understand a truth. This really means that He does not hold our sins against us. Though our sins are scarlet they will be white as snow. It is even more comforting and beautiful knowing that He knows our sins and holds those while He does not count them against us.

Hebrews 10:18

Where there is forgiveness there is no longer any sacrifice/offering for sin.

Think about the economy of the sacrifice of Christ - the efficacy - just one - after 1500 years of blood of innocent animals spilled - all ended with that one sacrifice.

God cares a great deal about the symbolism of the shedding of blood. Think about all the rules in Leviticus about clean/unclean esp. regarding the time of a woman's period; Blood as it relates to the giving of new life. It is a big deal.

The temple for the Jew was not a peaceful place of flowers and candles. They were not even allowed past the courtyard. It was raw - smelled of blood - a courtyard full of confused and frightened animals - blood everywhere - and then one day, in one hour by one man - It was finished! Are we not stunned by the sacrifice of Christ???

Hebrews 10:19-21

Therefore - we have confidence - not a hunch, or a feeling, or a hope that things work out ok - but confidence - We have a new and living way - Hebrews 10:22-25

Let us:

- Draw Near - the redeemed - (the Levitical law said to stay out) But now the way is opened, hearts cleaned, bodies washed- both external and internal cleansed.
- Hold Fast - anchor holds - He who promised is faithful.
- Consider how to stir one another to love and good works - exhort each other with what to do and what not to do.
- Not neglect meeting together.
- Encourage one another more and more.

Why meet? Have you lost your amazement at the bloodless gathering of the saints? Too clean? We do this to recall and remember. The original audience was in harm's way when they met. It would draw attention to themselves and invited persecution. We don't have this issue.

**We need mutual encouragement. *Christian Perseverance is a community endeavor.* (ESV study Bible) Are you wavering? Lacking strength? How is your connection with other believers? Are you being real with people? What if you were not feeling blessed and you actually told someone? Are you attending "First Mattress Church?" Or "The Church of the Holy Comforter?" (*COVID-19 has us in a very unprecedented place but of course our goal is to be back together as soon as everyone is able! You can follow this "Let Us" by making connections with believers virtually, on the phone, etc.*)

Hebrews 10:26-31 - Warning #4: Don't go on sinning deliberately once you know the truth!

These are all pointing to the sin of unbelief:

- Trampled underfoot (Spurned- ESV Bible)- the Son of God
- Profaned the Blood of the Covenant
- Outraged the Spirit of Grace

Anger is love's appropriate response to injustice. If the Holy Spirit is outraged it is because love has been given and injustice has been returned - then it is right for God to be angry. These things deserve God's justice.

Hebrews 10:32-34 BUT

Think back to the former days - you joyfully accepted persecution because you knew you had something better - a better/abiding possession.

Hebrews 10:35-39 - Therefore don't throw away your confidence, which has great reward.

Habakkuk 2:3-4 quoted

Don't shrink back to what is familiar and to what feels "safe" - that is not you - Enter His Rest - You have faith.

Christian perseverance thrives in a community that stretches faith.

Jesus Only Jesus - feat Bethany Barnard/Shane and Shane

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kszy_2BhkLo

Build Your Kingdom Here - Rend Collective

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcSWpVKKMcs>