

“RESCUE: The King Has Died!” - Hebrews 10 (Good Friday 2019)

NLT 2 Tim 1:10 - “..now He has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus, our Savior. *He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the Good News.*

NLT Heb 10: 1-17 - “The old system under the law of Moses *was only a shadow*, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were *never able to provide perfect cleansing* for those who came to worship. If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. But instead, *those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins* year after year. For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. That is why, when Christ came into the world, he said to God, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But *you have given me a body to offer*. You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. Then I said, ‘Look, I have come to do your will, O God—as is written about me in the Scriptures.’ ” ...**10** For God’s will was for us *to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time*. Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. But our High Priest offered himself to God *as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time*. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God’s right hand. There he waits until his enemies are humbled and made a footstool under his feet. For by that one offering *he forever made perfect* those who are being made holy... **17** Then he says, “*I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds.*”

> GOOD FRIDAY is very unique holiday to Christians... At the end of His life, Paul was in PRISON in Rome... he reflected on what JESUS had done for him... how Christ had RESCUED him, and saved him!!

I. The **PRACTICE** of Sacrifice. (v. 1-4)

II. The **PROPHECY** of Sacrifice. (v. 5-7, 10)

III. The **PREEMINENCE** of Jesus' Sacrifice. (v. 11-14, 17)

I. The **PRACTICE** of Sacrifice. (v. 1-4)

“The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship. 2 If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. 3 But

instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. 4 For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins."

4 Reasons Why the OT Sacrifices are **INFERIOR** & **INSUFFICIENT**:

- 1.) **THEY WERE ONLY SYMBOLIC.** - "*..a shadow..*" - Now, a shadow isn't a bad thing. Sometimes a shadow can tell you a lot. But the shadow is not the substance. The writer is stating that the Old Covenant and its Law were not themselves bad or evil, they are only *incomplete* and *insufficient* to bring total cleansing from sin, and to save. The sacrifices of the Old Testament were only a picture of things to come - Jesus Christ!!
 - **Col 2:17 AMP** - "*Such [things] are only the shadow of things that are to come, and they have only a symbolic value. But the reality (the substance, the solid fact of what is foreshadowed, the body of it) belongs to Christ.*"
- 2.) **THEY WERE ONLY TEMPORARY.** - "*..If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped..*" - The repetition of the OT sacrifice shows their inherent weakness. If animal sacrifices had "fixed" the sin problem, then they could have ceased to be offered. But they weren't....year after year after year, they had to slaughter countless sheep, innumerable goats, and multitudes of bulls for the sins of the people.
- 3.) **THEY WERE ONLY REMINDERS.** - "*..instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year...*" - Every repeated sacrifice was a reminder of sins. It brought the consciousness of sins to the people again and again. The animal sacrifices didn't **REMOVE** sin, rather they **REMIND**ED of sin.
- 4.) **THEY WERE REALLY IMPOTENT.** - "*For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.*" - Animal sacrifice under the Old Covenant could cover sin. The Hebrew word for atonement is "*kophar*", which literally means, "*to cover.*" But animal sacrifice could never take away sins.
 - There is an expression that says: "*Sweep it under the rug.*"
- **WHY HAVE ANY SACRIFICES** at all, if they weren't effective!?!?



- **Romans 6:23NLT** - "*..the wages of sin is death.*"
- **Leviticus 17:11NLT** - "*..the life of the body is in its blood. I have given you the blood on the altar to purify you, making you right with the Lord. It is the blood, given in exchange for a life, that makes purification possible.*"

II. The **PROPHECY** of Sacrifice. (v.5-7,10)

"That is why, when Christ came into the world, he said to God, "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But you have given me a body to offer. 6 You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. 7 Then I said, 'Look, I have come to do your will, O God—as is written about me in the Scriptures.' ... God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time."

- *"..when Christ came into the world, He said to God, "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But You have given Me a body to offer." -*
 - **Thru the Psalm 40, Bible Prophecy declared** that the Father would create a human body for Him, primarily that He could then offer a perfect sacrifice under the New Covenant, by offering up **His blood** and **His body!**
 - **Rev 13:8NKJV** - *"..the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."*
 - *"Everyone else came into the world to live; but Jesus came into the world to die." - Sheen*
 - *Strange myths about Jesus' birth... Talking?? Preaching??*

III. The **PREEMINENCE** of Jesus' Sacrifice. (v.11-14)

"Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. 12 But our High Priest offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. 13 There he waits until his enemies are humbled and made a footstool under his feet. 14 For by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy... Then He says, "I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds."

- *"..the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins" -* The priests had to stand continually in their work. Their work continued daily and sacrifices had to be repeatedly offered. The priests could never sit down!
- *"But our High Priest offered Himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand... by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy." -*
The seated posture of Jesus is important. It shows that His work is finished. He doesn't need to stand ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices as priests under the Old Covenant had to do. Jesus still ministers in heaven – He has a ministry of intercession for His people. But that ministry

flows from His completed work, so He can adopt a posture of rest – He sat down at the right hand of God.

- *“When Christ cried out on Calvary, “It is finished!” He meant what He said. All that men have to do now, is simply accept the work of Jesus Christ for them.”- Moody*

- **“He says, “I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds.”** - The new covenant offers complete forgiveness. The forgiveness is so complete that God can say that He doesn’t even remember our sins in light of the new covenant! The Christian must endeavor to do with their sin exactly what God has done: forget about it. As well, this reminds us that the believer is in no way on probation. Before God, past sin has no bearing on God’s present dealing.

- *“The Christ who died on Calvary’s cross, will not have to die again for my new sins, or to offer a fresh sacrifice for any sin I may yet commit. No; but, once for all, gathering up the whole mass of his people’s sins into one colossal burden, He took it upon his shoulders, and flung the whole of it into the tomb wherein once he slept, and there it is buried, never to be raised again, to condemn His beloved people.” - Spurgeon*