

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE NOTES

WOMEN IN THE WORD

Fellowship Bible Church

Our Position in Christ Revealed

Lesson 11 - The Tabernacle

April 30, 2019

The Law

God's holy standard was communicated and written down on tablets of stone for everyone to see. Without God's grace, everyone was condemned by the law.

It is the same for us today. God's holy standards are good. But we need God's grace every day because we are imperfect people. And that is why God gave us Jesus.

The Mosaic Law was given specifically to the nation of Israel (Exodus 19; Leviticus 26:46;) *Romans 9:4 They are the people of Israel, chosen to be God's adopted children. God revealed his glory to them. He made covenants with them and gave them his law. He gave them the privilege of worshiping him and receiving his wonderful promises.*

The Mosaic law was made up of three parts:

1. the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20)
2. the ordinances (Exodus 20:22 - 40)
3. the worship system, which included the priesthood, the tabernacle, the offerings, and the festivals (Leviticus 1—7; 23).

The purpose of the Mosaic Law was to accomplish the following:

1. Reveal the holy character of the eternal God to the nation of Israel. *Leviticus 19:2 Give the following instructions to the entire community of Israel. You must be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy. (Leviticus 20:7–8).*

2. Set apart the nation of Israel as distinct from all the other nations. *Exodus 19:5 Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own*

special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.

3. Reveal the sinfulness of man *Galatians 3:19. Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised. God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people.*

Although the Law was good and holy, it did not provide salvation for the nation of Israel. *Romans 7:12 But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good. “No one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin” Romans 3:20 For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. (Acts 13:38–39)*

4. Provide forgiveness through the sacrifice/offerings (Leviticus 1—7) for the people who had faith in the Lord in the nation of Israel. You see faith in the sacrificial system caused action - the bringing of lambs to be sacrificed for sin.

5. Provide a way of worship for the community of faith through the yearly feasts (Leviticus 23).

6. Provide God's direction for the physical and spiritual health of the nation (Exodus 21—23; Deuteronomy 6:4–19; Psalm 119:97–104).

The purpose of the Mosaic Law raises these questions: “Are you trusting in yourself to keep all the Commandments all the time (which you can't do)?” OR “Have you made the choice to accept Jesus as your Savior, realizing that He has fulfilled all the commandments perfectly for you, even paying your penalty for breaking them?”

The Tabernacle

The tabernacle which contained the glory of God, wrapped in animal skins was a type of the coming Savior, Jesus/God Himself; deity, wrapped in human flesh.

The tabernacle and the sacrificial system was the provision for the Israelite's failure to keep the law perfectly. Jesus is our provision for failure to keep the law perfectly. But Jesus' sacrifice was once for all, not over and over again.

The tabernacle was a symbol of God's presence among the Israelites. God's provision of the indwelling Holy Spirit in us, is a reminder of His presence with us. Even His name Emmanuel means "God with us". (Matt 1:22-23)

This tabernacle was God's idea, not Moses' idea. (Ex 25:40) God was making a way for the Israelites to have relationship with Him and demonstrate their dependence upon Him. Jesus is our tabernacle. He is the WAY for our relationship with God. *Hebrews 5:5 & 10 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He (God) who said to Him: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You."*
10 called by God as High Priest "according to the order of Melchizedek,"

The tabernacle was placed in the very center of the camp. It was central in their community and intended to be central in their personal lives. *Exodus 25:8-9 Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them. You must build this Tabernacle and its furnishings exactly according to the pattern I will show you.*

Likewise Jesus is central to the Gospel message and should always be central in our teaching in the church. *John 1:14 So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.*
Hebrews 10:1 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.

Our Position because of Christ

Unlike the Israelites who had to keep returning to the tabernacle to be pardoned of their sin, Jesus took care of our sin in one act, and it was a permanent fix. But we cannot live our Christian lives as if Christ's only job was to save us from hell, and then set it aside. Christ's sacrifice gave us a position with God that we could not earn by all the good living we could muster. And that position will never change.

Hebrews 9:11-27 So Christ has now become the High Priest over all the good things that have come. He has entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven, which was not made by human hands and is not part of this created world.

12 With his own blood—not the blood of goats and calves—he entered the Most Holy Place once for all time and secured our redemption forever.

13 Under the old system, the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a young cow could cleanse people's bodies from ceremonial impurity. 14 Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. 15 That is why he is the one who mediates a new covenant between God and people, so that all who are called can receive the eternal inheritance God has promised them. For Christ died to set them free from the penalty of the sins they had committed under that first covenant.

16 Now when someone leaves a will, it is necessary to prove that the person who made it is dead. 17 The will goes into effect only after the person's death. While the person who made it is still alive, the will cannot be put into effect. 18 That is why even the first covenant was put into effect with the blood of an animal. 19 For after Moses had read each of God's commandments to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, and sprinkled both the book of God's law and all the people, using hyssop branches and scarlet wool. 20 Then he said, "This blood confirms the covenant God has made with you." 21 And in the same way, he sprinkled blood on the Tabernacle and on everything used for worship. 22 In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.

23 That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far better sacrifices than the blood of animals.

24 For Christ did not enter into a holy place made with human hands, which was only a copy of the true one in heaven. He entered into heaven itself to appear now before God on our behalf. 25 And he did not enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the high priest here on earth who enters the Most Holy Place year after year with the blood of an animal. 26 If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice. 27 And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, 28 so also Christ died once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 10:1-18 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. 5 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.’”

First, Christ said, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were you pleased with them” (though they are required by the law of Moses).

9 Then he said, “Look, I have come to do your will.” He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect. 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.

11 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.

15 And the Holy Spirit also testifies that this is so. For he says,

16 “This is the new covenant I will make with my people on that day, says the LORD:

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.”

17 Then he says,

“I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds.”

18 And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.

Jesus is:

- the tabernacle
- the door
- the sacrifice (lamb)
- the Word (truth)
- the high priest
- the bread
- the light
- the intercessor
- the perfect law keeper

Because Christ is all of these things, we are therefore justified, set apart, made holy, loved, redeemed, righteous, heirs, children and raised to new life.