



HEBREWS 7 PART 2

The Insufficiency of the Law and the Perfection of Christ

The entire sacrificial system of the Old Testament was designed to scream one message: You cannot save yourself. No matter how many lambs were slaughtered, no matter how many religious festivals were kept, and no matter how strictly the Israelites followed the law of Moses, they still had a massive problem. The blood of bulls and goats could temporarily cover their sin, but it could never remove it. Their consciences remained heavy with guilt, and the law only served to expose their absolute weakness and inability to perfectly obey a holy God.

As Pastor Steve walks us through Hebrews 7:11-28, we see the breathtaking transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant. If the Levitical priesthood had been perfect, there would have been no need for a new Priest. But because the law was "weak and unprofitable" for saving anyone, God sovereignly changed both the priesthood and the law. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, from the tribe of Judah, to be a Priest forever in the order of Melchizedek. Simply reading the Bible cannot save you, human priests cannot absolve your sin, and no amount of religious rule-keeping can transform your heart; only the perfect, unchangeable, endless life of Jesus Christ can save you to the uttermost.

Doctrinal Definition: Absolution is the theological reality that only God, through the perfect sacrifice and ongoing mediation of Jesus Christ, has the supreme authority and power to completely remove the guilt and penalty of a sinner's rebellion, thereby permanently clearing the believer's conscience.

Study Questions:

1. Pastor Steve stated that **no human** priest, pastor, or evangelist can pronounce or provide absolution for your sins because they cannot see your heart. Why is it a dangerous theological error to depend on a human being to declare you forgiven? (OT: 1 Samuel 16:7 | NT: Mark 2:7)
2. The Levitical priests could only cover sin temporarily, meaning the guilt remained. How does the finished work of Christ actively remove your sin, allowing you to live with a fully cleared conscience? (OT: Psalm 103:12 | NT: Hebrews 10:4-10)
3. The entire book of Hebrews is about the superiority of Christ. In your daily life, when you are stressed or anxious, do you practically treat Jesus as superior, or do you treat your bank account, your logic, or your career as your true functional safety-net (savior)? (OT: Psalm 20:7 | NT: Colossians 1:18)
4. Pastor Steve emphasized that Christ's work did not end at the ascension; He continues His vital work as our High Priest in heaven today. How does actively visualizing Jesus interceding for you right now change the way you face your current trials? (OT: Job 16:19 | NT: Hebrews 9:24)
5. Unlike the priests who offered daily sacrifices, Jesus offered Himself "once for all" (Hebrews 7:27). How does the finality of the cross free you from the exhausting cycle of trying to "pay God back" for your mistakes? (OT: Daniel 9:24 | NT: Hebrews 10:14)