

## Lesson 11: Hebrews 10: 1-25

The tenth chapter of Hebrews emphasizes the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ, in contrast with the imperfect sacrifices that were offered under the Old Covenant. Our Lord's superior priesthood belongs to a better order—Melchizedek's and not Aaron's. It functions on the basis of a better covenant—the New Covenant—and in a better sanctuary, in heaven. But all of this depends on the better sacrifice, which is the theme of this chapter.

### Day 1

1 Pray!

2. Read all of **Hebrews 10**. Mark all the key words for the book that you have been marking. Mark "blood" like you did in **chapter 9**.

Also mark *sacrifices/offerings* the same way. Mark *believe/faith* the same way.

3. On another sheet of paper make 2 lists. What do you learn about sacrifices/offerings and believe/faith.

What is the theme of **Hebrews 10: 1-18**?

4. As you close out your work for today, consider the following true story.

A teenage boy, whose mother was away on a visit, found himself with time on his hands. He decided to read a book from the family library. His mother was a devout Christian, so the boy knew there would be a sermon at the beginning and an application at the end of the book, but there would also be some interesting stories in between.

While reading the book, he came across the phrase "the finished work of Christ." It struck him with unusual power. "The finished work of Christ."

"Why does the author use this expression?" he asked himself. "Why not say the atoning or the propitiatory work of Christ?" (He knew all the biblical terms. He just did not know the Savior!). Then the words, "It is finished," flashed into his mind, and he realized afresh that the work of salvation was accomplished.

"If the whole work was finished and the whole debt paid, what is there left for me to do?" He knew the answer and fell to his knees to receive the Savior and full forgiveness of sins. **That is how J. Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission, was saved.** (Wiersbe)

When you bowed the knee to Jesus Christ, what really hit you about Jesus Christ and His finished work... for you. (If you were saved as a child, perhaps it was something that really hit home later in your walk. We'll take time to share in class!

5. Take a few moments now to thank our Lord for bringing you into His family!

## Day 2

1. Pray!
2. Read **Hebrews 10: 1-4**.
3. According to **verse 1**, why could the Old Covenant (the law), never make those who approach God perfect?
  - a. Look up the words “shadow” and “image”.
  - b. Look up the **following verses**:

Col. 2: 17

Heb. 8: 5

c. In your own words, what does it mean the law was a shadow of things to come (by the New Covenant)?

4. In **verse 2**, what is the important question asked?
5. Read **verses 1-4** again. What is his argument to show it is not possible for the “blood of bulls and goats” to take away sins? What did the OT sacrifices of the blood of bulls and goats do and not do?
6. Animal sacrifices could never completely deal with human guilt. God did promise forgiveness to believing worshipers. See **Lev. 4: 20, 26, 31, 35**.
  - a. But this was judicial forgiveness. Question: could it remove the guilt of people’s hearts?
  - b. The annual Day of Atonement did not accomplish “remission of sin” but only gave what? **Verse 3**
7. There was a desperate need for a better sacrifice because the blood of bulls and of goats could not take away sins. It could cover sin and postpone judgment; but it could never effect a once and for all what? (Answer: begins with an “R”)

Only Jesus, the Perfect Sacrifice of the New Covenant, takes sins away! Can I hear an Amen!!

### Day 3

1 Pray.

2. Read **Hebrews 10: 5-9**.

3. **Verse 5**, starts... “Therefore”... in light of what he had said in **verse 4**. What did He say?

What was God’s plan according to **verses 5 & 10**.

Sacrifice refers to any of the animal sacrifices.

Offering covers the meal offerings and the drink offerings.

The burnt offering and sin offering are mentioned in **Heb. 10: 5 & 8**. The trespass offering would be covered in the word sacrifice. **Each of these offerings typified the sacrifice of Christ and revealed some aspect of His work on the cross.**

For extra credit... see **Lev. 1-7**... if you have time.

3. In these verses, the author quotes **Psalms 40: 6-8** to establish that the Old Testament offerings were not what God ultimately desired. They pointed to the only sacrifice that can take away sin... the offering Jesus gave.

Read also **1 Samuel 15: 22** (you might read the whole chapter to get the context) and reflect on what God values most. Jot down your thoughts.

4. In **Hebrews 10: 9**, what does the author mean when he says “He takes away the first that He may establish the second”? First and second what? How does this relate to **chapter 9**?

### Day 4

1. Pray!

2. Read **Hebrews 10: 10-15**. Today you need to put on your thinking caps!
3. Compare what you learned about blood in this chapter with what you learned in **Hebrews 9**.
  - a. Does **chapter 10** reinforce old information or add new information?
  - b. Why do you think the author spends so much time referring to blood sacrifices?
4. What sanctifies us? See **verses 9-10**.
5. How are we made holy? See also **verse 14**.
6. In **verse 10** the Greek word translated “have been sanctified” is in the perfect tense, which implies a completed action in the past that continues to have results in the present. By whose will have we been sanctified?
7. In **verse 14**, “has perfected” is also in the perfect tense, but “are sanctified” is a present participle. This implies that those who right now are being sanctified were perfected in the past.

What does this tell you about Christ’s sacrifice nearly 2000 years ago and about our sanctification now?

How does this fit with “once for all”? Take time to think this through!

## Day 5

1. Pray!
2. Read **Hebrews 10: 16-25**.
3. **Hebrews 10: 16-17** quotes **Jeremiah 31: 33-34**. We’ve seen these verses quoted before. What is the author of Hebrews trying to do here? Didn’t he already make this point in chapter 8? Read Hebrews 10: 18 before you answer!

4. Read **verses 19-20**. How do we have confidence to enter the holy place?

What holy place?

What is the new way?

How is it a living way?

5. List the exhortations (the “let us” phrases) in **verses 19-25**. What are we urged to do?

6. How do **verses 24-25** depend upon **verses 21-23**?

7. Compare **Hebrews 10:24** to **Hebrews 3: 13**.

What are some purposes for assembling together?

Do you do that in your assemblies?