

Challenging Chapters of the Bible

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Hebrews 9:11-12

- **11 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.**

Hebrews 9:18-22

- **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.

Hebrews 9:23-24

- **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.**

The OT Sacrificial System

- Got the Jew accustomed to the idea that someone or something could take their place of judgment.
- It also got the Jew accustomed to the idea that sins can be transferred to another.
- This is the heart and soul of the gospel – 2 Cor 5:21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Hebrews 10:1-2

- **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. 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.**

Hebrews 10:1-2

- **The OT sacrificial system was merely a shadowy figure of what was to come – specifically the work of Christ on the cross.**
- **The writer also points out that if the OT sacrifices were truly effective the sinner would not have to keep going back.**
- **As it was the believer had to keep coming back with a new innocent animal to die because he had sinned.**

Hebrews 10:3-6

- **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.”**

Hebrews 10:3-6

- We can hardly say it enough – the animal sacrifices of the OT never took away a sin, not a single one.
- Why? Because God says it is not possible!
- At the baptism of Jesus, John calls Him the Lamb that takes away the sin of the world.

Hebrews 10:8-10

- **8 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.**

Hebrews 10:8-10

- When we connect Psalm 51 where David says, “You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering. 17 The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.
- Does God want sacrifices or not? (only when offered as a thank you offering)
- Psalm 51:18 Look with favor on Zion and help her; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. 19 Then you will be pleased with sacrifices offered in the right spirit— with burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings. Then bulls will again be sacrificed on your altar.”

Hebrews 10:8-10

- **What mattered was the attitude of those making the sacrifices. If the offerings were without repentance, the ritual was a mockery. That's why David wrote, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart—these, O God, You will not despise" (Psalm 51:17). —Haddon W. Robinson**
- **Sacrifices resemble the flowers a husband gives to his wife after a heated argument. The wife doesn't need the flowers. They are valuable to her only if they accurately represent her husband's feelings. If she thinks they are merely a ritual and do not symbolize his regret, the flowers make the divide between them worse.**

Hebrews 10:11-14

- **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.**

Hebrews 10:11-14

- **Christ has perfected once and for all those who are being perfected - Christ has fully sanctified those who are now being sanctified.**
- **What does he mean?**
- **He means that they will become who they are.**

Hebrews 10:11-14

- Heb 13:12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate. NKJV
- 1 Thess 4:3 It is God's will that you should be sanctified NIV
- 1 Cor 6:11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. NIV

Hebrews 10:15-16

- **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.”**
- **I take this to mean that God wills to insert Himself into my life.**
- **He wills to so involve Himself with me that He will live inside me and have dramatic effects on my thinking, my speaking, and my acting.**

Hebrews 10:19-25

- **19** And so, dear brothers and sisters,[f] we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. **20** By his death,[g] Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. **21** And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, **22** let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. **24** Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. **25** And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:26-31

- **26** Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. **27** There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies. **28** For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **29** Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us. **30** For we know the one who said, "I will take revenge. I will pay them back." He also said, "The Lord will judge his own people." **31** It is a terrible thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Questions