

Hebrews Part Two

Lesson #11, Chapter 10:1-7

Read Hebrews 9:23-10:7 at least once before beginning this lesson. Please take the time to bow your heart before the Lord and ask for His guidance and insight as you study.

“Under the Old Covenant, the priests were busy all day long, from dawn to sunset, slaughtering and sacrificing animals. It is estimated that at Passover as many as three hundred thousand lambs would be slain within a week. The slaughter would be so massive that blood would run out of the Temple ground through specially prepared channels into the Brook Kidron, which seemed to be running with blood.

But no matter how many sacrifices were made, or how often, they were ineffective. They failed in three ways: they could not bring access to God; they could not remove sin; and they were only external.” ~John MacArthur¹

1. What two things are being contrasted in verse 1 of Chapter 10?

2. How does that continue the line of reasoning of Hebrews 9:23-28?

3. What key points about the law does the author reiterate in verse 1? Reread the following verses for confirmation of those same points being made: 7:18-19; 8:5; 9:9, 11.

4. Define *shadow* [Strong’s #4639].
 - a. Define *form* (NIV *reality*; KJV *image* [Strong’s #1504]).

¹John MacArthur, *Hebrews*, (Chicago: Moody Press, 1996, c1983), 246.

5. What is the law not able to do according to verse 1?

6. What logic does the author use to further substantiate this truth in verse 2?

7. Explain how verse 3 help us understand the meaning of the phrase, “worshippers...would no longer have had *consciousness of sins*?” Look up the following verses for help in forming your answer: Heb. 8:12; 9:9, 13-14; 10:22.

“If the offerings had completely and finally absolved them from sin, then would they not have ceased making the annual trek to the tabernacle or temple? The regular recurrence of the sacrifices branded them as ineffectual. Whoever has to take medicine every hour to stay alive can hardly be said to be cured.” ~ *Believer's Bible Commentary*²

8. What definitive statement is made in verse 4?

9. Why was this a necessary reminder for those who were considering a return to Judaism?

10. Stop for a moment and consider again these words, *It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins* and then read the hymn that follows. What does take away your sin? How should that impact your life?

²William MacDonald and Arthur Farstad, *Believer's Bible Commentary: Old and New Testaments*, (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997, c1995), Heb 10:2.

Nothing But the Blood
by Robert Lowry

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus; What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.	For my pardon, this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus; For my cleansing this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.	This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus; This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Oh! precious is the flow That makes me white as snow; No other fount I know, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.	Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus; Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.	Glory! Glory! This I sing— Nothing but the blood of Jesus, All my praise for this I bring— Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

11. Verse 5 reveals that someone was going to come into the world. Who was that?
 - a. Explain how you figured out the answer to the question above from the surrounding context of verse 5.

12. The author of Hebrews is quoting Ps. 40:6-8 to make a key point that we will look into in a moment. Read Ps. 40 and summarize the contents of the psalm. Pay particular attention to the context of Ps. 40:6-8.

13. The author of Hebrews quotes Ps. 40:6 from the LXX or the Septuagint, which is the Greek version of the Old Testament. The Hebrew language version of Ps. 40:6 reads, “My ears you have opened,” while the Greek language version reads “a body you have prepared for Me,” as we have here in our text (Heb. 10:5).
 - a. According to Heb. 10:1-5 the “body” was prepared for what purpose?

- b. What point is the author making in Heb. 10:1-5?

 - c. Why would the author have preferred the LXX translation here?

 - d. Now read Heb. 10:10. How does that add insight into the author's meaning in verse 5?
14. What does Heb. 10:6 reveal?
15. Why aren't those things pleasing to God *in this context* (10:1-6)?
- a. Now look up the following verses to see what else God has to say about why those things aren't pleasing to Him: 1 Sam. 15:22-23; Ps. 50:8-15; 51:16-17; Is. 1:11-17; Amos 5:21-26.
16. If sacrifices and offerings aren't pleasing to the Lord, what is? See verse 7.
17. The author of Hebrews sees Ps. 40:6-8 as predictive of Christ who came to do God's will. Look up the following verses and record what you learn about Christ doing God's will. See Matt. 26:39-42; Jn. 4:34; 5:30; 6:38; 8:42.

18. What did God's will for Christ involve?

19. How did Christ respond to God'?

20. How have you benefitted from Christ understanding God's will for His life?

21. Christ proclaimed, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins (10:4), so Jesus Christ shed His blood to take them away. What response does this debt of love inspire in you as you consider your life and His sacrifice?

My Soul Complete in Jesus Stands
by Grace Hinsdale

My soul complete in Jesus stands!
It fears no more the law's demands;
The smile of God is sweet within,
Where all before was guilt and sin.

My soul at rest in Jesus lives:
Accepts the peace His pardon gives;
Receives the grace His death secured,
And pleads the anguish He endured.

My soul its every foe defies,
And cries—'tis God that justifies!
Who charges God's elect with sin?
Shall Christ, who died their peace to win?

A song of praise my soul shall sing
To our eternal, glorious King!
Shall worship humbly at His feet,
In Whom alone it stands complete.