

LESSON 13: HEBREWS 10:1-18 ONCE FOR ALL, DRAW NEAR

I. Introduction

Hebrews 9 introduces Jesus as the great High Priest who ministers in the true heavenly sanctuary rather than an earthly copy. His priesthood is superior because He entered the Most Holy Place with His own blood, securing eternal redemption rather than temporary ceremonial cleansing. Unlike the repeated sacrifices of the old covenant, Christ's offering accomplishes lasting forgiveness and restores full access to God.

Hebrews 10:1–18 builds on this foundation by explaining that the Old Testament law and sacrificial system were never intended to permanently remove sin. They functioned as a shadow, pointing forward to the greater reality fulfilled in Christ. Though divinely instituted, these sacrifices lacked the power to bring lasting forgiveness or inward transformation. Their continual repetition served as a reminder of sin, revealing both the limitations of the old covenant and humanity's need for a final and sufficient sacrifice.

The sacrifices of bulls and goats could address ceremonial requirements but could not cleanse the conscience or fully restore fellowship with God. As a result, worshipers remained aware of sin year after year. In contrast, Jesus came in perfect obedience to the will of God and offered His own body as the ultimate sacrifice. His offering was once for all. It was neither symbolic nor temporary but fully accomplishing what the law could only anticipate.

Through this single act, Christ has forever perfected those who are being sanctified, bringing complete cleansing and spiritual maturity. Unlike priests who stood daily offering repeated sacrifices, Christ completed His work and sat down, signifying that redemption has been fully secured.

Hebrews 10:16–18 affirms that Christ's sacrifice establishes the New Covenant, confirmed by the Holy Spirit. God promises to write His laws on the hearts and minds of His people and to remember their sins no more. Christ's sacrifice is final, sufficient, and eternal, granting believers full forgiveness, cleansed consciences, and lasting access to God.

II. Study the Scriptures: Read the Hebrews 10:1-18 Passage

Note your thoughts as you read:

Write down any questions that come to mind as you read:

III. Think Through the Following Questions:

1. What does it mean that the law was a “shadow” and not the reality?
2. Why were repeated sacrifices unable to draw worshipers into full freedom?
3. What does Jesus’ obedience in verses 5–10 reveal about God’s priorities?
4. What is the significance of Jesus “sitting down” after His sacrifice?
5. What does “perfected forever” mean for your relationship with God?
6. How does knowing your sins are “remembered no more” affect your daily walk?
7. Why do believers today still struggle to fully rest in Christ’s finished work?

IV. Lessons Learned: Are there any new things you learned from this passage today?

V. Application: How Do You think this will impact your thinking and/or actions going forward?