

**"The Better Sacrifice"**

**Part 5**

**Hebrews 9:12-10:39**

**Introduction:** Tonight as we come back to our study in the book of Hebrews, we are again coming to Hebrews 10, which I believe is one of the greatest chapters in all of God's Word. In this chapter the writer is leading us up a spiritual mountain as He writes about the sacrifice of Jesus Christ to show his readers its superiority over the sacrifices of the Old Covenant. Let us remember that he is writing to Hebrew believers that are contemplating turning back to the Levitical sacrificial system. The Temple is still standing, and the unbelieving Jews are bringing their sacrifices to the Temple. These believing Hebrews are under persecution for their faith in Christ, and therefore they are straddling the fence between Judaism and Christianity.

So in this letter the writer is doing all he can with his pen to pull his readers into a life of complete surrender to Jesus Christ. He desires for them to know and understand that in Christ they are COMPLETE and they are ACCEPTED.

**Colossians 2:10**

<sup>10</sup> *And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*

**Ephesians 1:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> *To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.*

The writer wants to bring them to the place where they can understand that they can do nothing to add to their salvation and that they need to just rest in the FINISHED WORK of Jesus Christ. So in this chapter the writer is walking these believers through the halls of history to show them what the sacrifice of Jesus Christ has done for them that the blood of bulls and goats could never do. Now when the writer reaches the end of the chapter he will bring them before a Truth where they will be forced to make a decision.

**Hebrews 10:38**

<sup>38</sup> *Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*

He will then take them into Hebrews 11 and from the top of the spiritual mountain which he has reached he will point them to the Old Testament saints who lived by faith. These saints will be used to show what faith looks like in action.

**Hebrews 12:1**

*<sup>1</sup>Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,*

So this is where we are headed, but we have not yet reached the summit in chapter 10.

**I. The Will of God  
Part 2**

Last week we stopped on verse 14, but we covered much in a short amount of time, so tonight I want to gather some Truth from last week to bring with us in our study tonight.

**Notice Hebrews 10:9-10**

Here in verse 9 we see the Words of Jesus Christ as He declares to the Father that He has come to do His will. Then we see in verse 10 that it is by the WILL of the Father that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

This word "sanctification" means "to set apart". In the context of which it used here, the writer of Hebrews is speaking of "POSITIONAL SANCTIFICATION". This took place the moment we were saved. When you accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, God POSITIONED/PLACED you into the body of Jesus Christ.

**1 Corinthians 12:13**

*<sup>13</sup>For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*

This is our POSITION in Christ. This NEVER changes.

Sanctification has 3 aspects:

1. **Positional** - This takes place the moment we are saved.
2. **Progressive** - This is currently taking place as we pass through this life. This is the daily process in which we are being "set apart" from the world and conformed into the image of Jesus Christ.

**Romans 8:28-29**

<sup>28</sup> *And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

<sup>29</sup> *For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

3. **Ultimate** - This ultimate sanctification will be finished we leave this world and stand before our Lord.

Now our position in Jesus Christ never changes but our practice often does. There are times as believers we are separated from the sin of this world then there are times when we fall into sin, but even when we fall into sin, our POSITION in Christ never changes. Let me show you an example of this.

**1 Corinthians 1:1-3**

*Paul called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,*

<sup>2</sup> *Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's:*

<sup>3</sup> *Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.*

I have underlined and bolded several phrases here to help you to see that this church that had divisions, immorality, strife, and partiality were still sanctified **IN CHRIST**. Their practice was not what it should have been, but their POSITION never changed. They were FOREVER SET APART IN CHRIST.

**Notice Hebrews 10:11-13**

The writer reminds his readers of what the Old Testament priests and their sacrifices were unable to do, which was take away sins. But in contrast Jesus made the ULTIMATE sacrifice once for sins, and then He sat down. The Levitical priests could never sit down because their work was never done. But Jesus sat down because with His sacrifice of His Own body, He was able to completely take away all of our sins and for that reason there was no other work to do.

**John 19:30**

<sup>30</sup> *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*

From the time Jesus sat down on at the right hand of the Father until now, He has been waiting for the Day when He will establish His Kingdom on this earth.

Now the writer moves on to place an exclamation upon why Jesus can sit down.

**Notice Hebrews 10:14**

The first word of this verse is a connective, and it is giving to the reader the reason why Jesus was able to sit down. The reason is because by the ONE offering of Jesus Christ, He has perfected us forever. The word "PERFECTED" here in this verse means "to bring to completeness". Let me show you another place where the word is used, and this will really shine the light upon the meaning.

**Luke 13:31-32**

<sup>31</sup> *The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him, Get thee out, and depart hence: for Herod will kill thee.*

<sup>32</sup> *And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.*

Jesus told the Pharisees to give a message to Herod and part of the message was that on the third day Jesus would be PERFECTED. This is the very word that is used in Hebrews 10:14. When Jesus says that on the third day He would be perfected, it is in this statement He was referencing His resurrection on the third day. It would be in the resurrection that Jesus would "finish His course" and thus He would be the Savior that God the Father had ordained Him to be.

Now listen to this: When the writer of Hebrews uses the word about us who are saved, it has the same meaning. That means that because of the One offering of Jesus Christ, we are SANCTIFIED/POSITIONED in the body of Christ, and it is in there that we are ALL that God requires for us to be. This is NOT because of what we do but it is because of what Jesus did on our behalf!

Now Hebrews 10:14 is such an important verse in this letter. Let me explain why I say this. There are so many people who will point to certain passages within this letter to attempt

to prove that a person can lose their salvation. Let me show you the passages which are misused.

**Hebrews 2:1-3**

*Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.*

<sup>2</sup> *For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward;*

<sup>3</sup> *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation;*

**Hebrews 6:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> *For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,*

<sup>5</sup> *And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,*

<sup>6</sup> *If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.*

**Hebrews 10:26**

<sup>26</sup> *For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,*

I have heard all three of these passages pulled out of context and used to say that you can lose your salvation when you sin. But then you have Hebrews 10:14 that tells us by one offering He has PERFECTED us **FOREVER**. Just to make this point even clearer, the writer goes on with this thought.

**Notice Hebrews 10:15**

Now we need to notice very closely in this verse that the Holy Ghost is a witness TO us. He does not say He is a witness IN us though He is, but here He is a witness TO us through the Scriptures.

**Notice Hebrews 10:16**

The writer again reaches back to Jeremiah 31, but the Holy Spirit changes one word and it is very significant. Here is what Jeremiah wrote.

**Jeremiah 31:31**

<sup>31</sup> *Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:*

Here is the change.

**Hebrews 10:16a**

<sup>16</sup> *This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord..*

Instead of the Covenant being with Israel, it is said to be with THEM. But who is THEM?

**Notice Hebrews 10:14**

The THEM is all those who are sanctified by the offering of Jesus. Now we are included! The church did not replace Israel, but we are brought into the Covenant by the blood of Christ with Israel. Now let me show you what this means.

**Notice Hebrews 10:17**

Our sins are forgiven and forgotten. Under the Old Covenant there was a remembrance from year to year, but not with the New Covenant. God has forgiven all our sins, and He has removed them FOREVER.

**Conclusion:**

**Notice Hebrews 10:18**

Let me tell you what the writer is saying in this verse. He is telling these Hebrew believers that since their sins were forgiven and forgotten by the blood of Jesus Christ, there was no need to go back to the Levitical sacrificial system because there was no longer a need for a sacrifice. In other words to go back to the Levitical system would make absolutely no sense.

What does all of this mean to us? It means that by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, we are sanctified forever. ALL of our sin has been removed, and it will never again be brought up.

*September 14, 2016*

*Hebrews #72*

**Psalm 103:12**

*<sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*

**Micah 7:19**

*<sup>19</sup> He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*