Hebrews 10:1-25 Christ's Sacrifice – Old Covenant Sacrifice

Weakness of Old Covenant Sacrifices

¹ For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.

Superiority of New Sacrifice of Christ

5 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come--In the volume of the book it is written of Me--To do Your will, O God.' "

- 8 Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the law), 9 then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. 14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified. 15 But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, 16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," 17 then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." 18 Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.

Resulting Confidence in Sacrifice of Christ

19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Recommended Response for the Saints.

²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Weakness of Old Covenant Sacrifices [Hebrews 10:1-4]

- The law of sacrifice was only a shadow of the perfect Sacrifice to come.
 - ❖ Therefore since the sacrifices of the Old Covenant were to point us to Christ the Perfect Sacrifice, they were not able to make perfect those who offered them.
 - ♦ If the Old Covenant sacrifices were sufficient they would not have ceased to be offered.

 [Hebrews 10:2]

(This indicates that the Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Roman army under Titus in 70 AD which put an end to animal sacrifice before this book was written).

- ♦ If the Sacrifices had made the worshipers perfect, they would not have known sins.
- ♦ The old sacrifices were an annual reminder of sins, because it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Superiority of New Sacrifice of Christ [Hebrews 10:5-18]

♦ When He (Jesus, God the Word) came into the world, He said to God the Father:

"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire,

But a body You have prepared for Me.

In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin

You had no pleasure.

Then I said, 'Behold, I have come--

In the volume of the book it is written of Me--

To do Your will, O God.' " [Hebrews 10:5-7, Psalm 40:6-8, Amos 5:21-23]

- ♦ God has no pleasure in sacrifices and offerings for sins, they are the penalty for sins committed according to the law. [Hebrews 10:8]
- ♦ God desires that we do not sin by humble living in righteousness, doing justice, and loving mercy so we will not be penalized and need to offer sacrifices. [Exodus 20:20, Psalm 119:11, Amos 5:24, Mica 6:8, 1 John 2:1, 3:6, 9, 5:18]
- ♦ Jesus came to do perfectly the Will of God to the point of death on the cross, the perfect Sacrifice by which He took away the Old law of sacrifice and established the New Covenant, by which we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. [Hebrews 10:9-10]
- ❖ Levitical Priests, according to the Law, minister daily repeatedly offering the same animal sacrifices which can never take away sins. This is because animal sacrifices were only symbolic of the perfect sacrifice to come. [Hebrews 10:11]
- ♦ But Jesus, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, where He is waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. [Hebrews 10:12-13]
- ♦ By the perfect Sacrifice of Himself, God the Word in the body of Jesus, has perfected forever those who are being sanctified. [Hebrews 10:14]
- ♦ The Holy Spirit also witnesses to us, for He had said before,

"This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." [Hebrews 10:15-17]

♦ Where forgiveness has been provided, there is no longer a need of an offering for sin.
[Hebrews 10:18]

Resulting Confidence in Sacrifice of Christ [Hebrews 10:19-23]

The Confidence in the sufficiency of the sacrifice of Christ (Messiah) gives us boldness to enter the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus. [Hebrews 10:19]

- ♦ Christ provided a new and living way which He consecrated for us through the veil, that is His flesh. (It is to be remembered, at the time of the death of Jesus on the cross, the veil of the Temple was ripped apart from top to bottom, indicating that by His death God had opened the way for all to enter the Most Holy Place). [Hebrews 10:20, Matthew 27:50-51, Mark 15:37-38, Luke 23:45-46]
- ♦ With Jesus our High Priest over the House of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith in the promise of God. [Hebrews 10:21-22]
- ♦ Our hearts must be true, our conscience purified by the blood of Christ, our bodies washed with the pure water of the Word of God. [Hebrews 10:22, Ephesians 5:25-26]
- ♦ We are encouraged to cling unwaveringly to the confession of our hope, knowing that He Who promised Salvation through faith in Christ is faithful. [Hebrews 10:23, Romans 3:21-31, 5:1-2, Galatians 3:13-14, Ephesians 2:8, Philippians 3:8-9]

Recommended Response for the Saints. [Hebrews 10:24-25]

- ♥ We are encouraged to consider one another with the purpose of inspiring love and good works.
 - ♦ We are encouraged to continue to assemble ourselves together for the sake of encouraging one another.
 - ♦ This will be more and more needed as the day approaches for the return of Christ for His Church and the day of Judgment, because of increasing resistance against end time believers. [2 Timothy 3:1-7, 4:3-4, 2 Peter 3:1-4, Daniel 11:35, Matthew 24:5, 9-11, 24]