

## A STUDY OF HEBREWS

### *The New Covenant Sacrifice- Chapter 10:1-18*

#### I. Review of Chapters 1-9

##### A. Jesus Christ is the greatest and final Prophet and enthroned Son of God.

1. Therefore we must pay closest attention to His Gospel... (1:1-2:18)

##### B. Jesus Christ is infinitely greater than Moses and gives eternal, not just temporal, rest.

1. Therefore we must persevere in faith lest we fall like those in the wilderness... (3:1-4:13)

##### C. Jesus Christ is our Great High Priest who sympathizes with us in our suffering and temptation.

1. Therefore we who have profound needs must fly to God's throne of grace... (4:14-5:10)

##### D. [A short detour due to the dullness of hearers (5:11-6-20)]

1. Warning against apostasy (6:1-12)
2. Assurance of God's promise (6:13-20)

##### E. The mysterious Melchizedek, the OT priest-king, is a foreshadow, or 'type', of the coming Christ.

1. Therefore flee to the eternal, oath-sealed, Melchizedekian sinless human sacrifice for sin (7:1-28)

##### F. Jesus Christ's heavenly priestly ministry mediates a more glorious new covenant (8:1-13).

##### G. A clear conscience, access to God, and true forgiveness comes only through Christ's blood (9:9-28)

#### II. Review Questions

##### A. Sister St. Mary's Tadpole Bowl Series (Sponsored by 'Grow-a-Frog')

1. Who wrote the book of Hebrews?
2. What is the main theme of Hebrews?
3. To whom was Hebrews written?
4. Name four things inferior to Christ from Hebrews

##### B. The Arby's Roast Beef Sandwich Bowl (Sponsored by 'Hungry Man' Frozen Dinners)

1. What is 'typology'? How is it found in Hebrews?
2. What does Melchizedek and Ps 110 teach us about Christ?
3. What was inferior about the OT priestly system?
4. How is God's word "self-attesting"?

##### C. Bowl Championship Series (Sponsored by 'Assoc. of Millionaires Against a Playoff System')

1. What is the New Covenant according to Jeremiah?
2. Interpret the symbolism of the tabernacle structure.
3. How does blood relate to God's covenants?
4. Explain Heb 9:24 in your own words.

#### II. Text: Hebrews 10:1-18 – The New Covenant Sacrifice

*For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.<sup>2</sup> Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?<sup>3</sup> But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.<sup>4</sup> For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,*

*"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body have you prepared for me;*

*<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.*

*<sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,  
as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'"*

*"In 10:1-18 the author of Hebrews moves to the climax of his treatment of Christ's superior, new-covenant offering for sins (8:3-10:18)." - George H. Guthrie, Comm. on the NT Use of the OT, 975.*

[Ps 40:7-8]

*<sup>8</sup> When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law),<sup>9</sup> then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second.<sup>10</sup> And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

*<sup>11</sup> And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.<sup>12</sup> But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,<sup>13</sup> waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.<sup>14</sup> For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.*

*<sup>15</sup> And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying,<sup>16</sup> "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,"<sup>17</sup> then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."<sup>18</sup> Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. (Heb 10:1-18)*

1. The author describes the Old Testament priesthood/tabernacle (8:5) and now the law as “shadows” (v. 1). Why is the term “shadow” particularly useful when relating the Old Testament to the New? What is a shadow?
2. How did OT sacrifices serve as a “reminder of sins every year”? In what sense were they “remembered”? Are we called to “remember” our sins (trick question!)?

*“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” (1 John 1:8)*

*“Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!” (Ps 25:7)*

*“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant... For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” (Jer 31:31,34)*

*“He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.” (Mic 7:19)*

3. Who spoke the original words quoted in Heb 10:5-7 (Ps 40:6-8)? What did the original speaker mean by them?
4. How does the author of Hebrews interpret these verses? Who is speaking to whom? When? What are the conclusions the author of Hebrews makes from this quote about the Old Covenant system?

*“For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.” (John 6:38)*

*“Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.” (John 4:34)*

5. How is Jesus’ declaration in Heb 10:7 (Ps 40:8) a model for God’s call upon our lives? Why did He give us “a body”? For what reason (one among many!) did He save us from sin and judgment?

*“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.” (Eph 5:25-27)*

*“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Eph 2:10)*

*“[He] gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.” (Titus 2:14)*

*“And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup> he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him...” (Col 1:21-22)*

6. How should this purpose (one among many!) of the cross affect you in temptation? In times of despair over sin?

*“Whatever came upon our natures by [the devil’s] first temptation, whatever receives strength in our persons by his daily suggestions, Christ died to destroy it all... That we might be freed from the power of our sins, and purified from all our defiling lusts, was his design... And this, by virtue of his death,... shall be accomplished.” - John Owen, On Mortification, 136-37.*

*“[Sons] do not hesitate to offer [their fathers] incomplete and half-done and even defective works, trusting that their obedience and readiness of mind will be accepted by their fathers, even though they have not quite achieved what their fathers intended.” - John Calvin, Institutes, 3.19.5.*