

"More than a guilty conscience separates humanity from God" (Michaels, R. J. (2009). Commentary on Hebrews.

- God had to **"make perfect"** those who had sinned.
 - The definition of **"perfect"** comes from God who created human beings.
 - Until God's people were made **"perfect"** God could not have a lasting relationship with them.
- God's wrath against sin had to be satisfied (Rom 3:25; 1 John 2:2; 4:10).
- God's requirement for justice also had to be satisfied. Jesus provided a better kind of sacrifice (Hebrews 9:23).

Old Covenant Sacrifices Had to Be Repeated

"the law has but a shadow of the good things to come".

- When we see a shadow, we know to look for the object that cast that shadow. If the Old Covenant Law was a "shadow," then the Heavenly reality that cast the shadow is of greater importance. The shadow has no real substance. But the object that casts the shadow does. The writer of Hebrews is drawing a parallel between the earthly shadows and the Heavenly reality that caused those shadows to exist. God is the source of all reality.
- The Old Testament Law, the Temple, and the sacrifices were shadows that indicating something greater had caused them

"the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year"

- If God had not wanted things to change then He would have commanded that people continue to offer sacrifices at the Temple. However, all along, God had a plan to replace the old way of sacrifices.
- The fact that the Old Covenant sacrifices had to be repeated indicates that something was incomplete, or unfinished in the way God drew His people to Himself that only removed sin temporarily.
- The Old Covenant Law required repetition. Endless repetition.
- God had a plan that would end that repetition. Christ's death on the cross satisfied what God required for the forgiveness of sin for believers, once and for all.

Jesus Came to Do the Father's Will

in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure

- Even though God had commanded that people make sacrifices to Him to deliver them from their guilt for sin, it wasn't working right.
- If a person offered their sacrifice, and their heart wasn't repentant, the sacrifice did nothing.
- The sacrifices only worked to forgive sin if the person offering the sacrifice was truly repenting for their sin.

Behold, I have come to do your will, O God

- God had desired a harmony between Himself and the will of His people. It never happened. God had a better plan, but He waited to reveal it to His people when the time was right.
- The repetitious sacrifices were intended to teach the people a lesson.
- God's people were never able to have hearts that truly repented and turned away from sin. Because of this, Jesus left Heaven and came to earth, so that while on earth He might do the will of God the Father who sent Him (see also John 4:32; 5:30; 6:38&39; 8:29).
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Perfect Before Almighty God

Behold, I have come to do your will

- The sacrifices of the Old Covenant were a preview of better things that would come later.
- Jesus left Heaven, and came to Earth, so that He could become a sacrifice for humanity's sins.

Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins

- Unlike the Old Covenant sacrifices which were endlessly repeated, Jesus Christ offered Himself, His own blood, as the sacrifice. Once was all that was needed.

he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified

- Unlike the Old Covenant sacrifices not only did Jesus' sacrifice "**purify our conscience**" (Hebrews 9:14), but Jesus' sacrifice also made believers perfect before God. At the present moment, believers are in the process of being made more and more pure.
- At the end of chapter 9 we focused on how Jesus' sacrifice makes our conscience pure because we are forgiven. Here we are focusing on how Jesus' sacrifice made us right with God.

he sat down at the right hand of God

- Jesus sits on a throne, side by side, with God the Father, as ruler of all creation.
- Once His mission to save the world was complete, Jesus Christ returned to Heaven.

Newborn Hearts and Minds

I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds

- In the New Covenant the Word of God, or the Bible, belongs to every believer.
- Every believer can read it, and meditate on its meaning, letting its truth penetrate deeply into the hearts and minds.
- The Word of God brings new life to hearts and minds of believers as they let it guide and direct them in all they say and do.

I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more

- Jesus' sacrifice left nothing that needed to be done.
- The process of forgiveness was completed in that single action.

there is no longer any offering for sin

- Those who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior must always remember that there is nothing left for them to do in order for their sins to be forgiven.
- The work of forgiveness is fully finished.
- Believers must press onward and obey God in all they do.

Imagine a man who built a house and later learned that the materials used for the foundation were of poor quality. As a result, he needed to make a very expensive renovation to the house that involved jacking up the entire house above the foundation, and then building a new foundation. Only after the new foundation was complete, and the concrete was properly cured, could the house be put back so that it rested on the solid, and secure foundation.

The problem with the foundation of the Old Testament Law was not what God had done. The problem was believers lacked sincerity when they offered their sacrifices.

God's plan didn't change, but the building materials used to put God's plan into effect did change.

God didn't change, but the human being offering the sacrifice was different.

Jesus makes everyone who believes in Him into a new kind of human being. He was a perfect human being. He was the perfect sacrifice that was offered once and for all. Those who believe in him are made perfect through Him and what He did for them.

This perfection is somewhat mysterious to us now. It is a moral perfection. At this point in time every believer still struggles with sin, so understanding this perfection is difficult. But Jesus understands exactly what it is. He is in control of the process that will change us so that we become more and more like Him.

God is writing His law into our hearts. He writing His word into our minds. What does this mean? He is drawing us together with Him so that we are becoming more and more like Him.

Are you ready to move forward with your relationship to Jesus Christ? Take that step now!

Christ's Sacrifice Once for All (Hebrews 10:1–18)

S	T	L	C	T	S	R	D	N	T	M	S	For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to
I	H	T	F	S	C	D	E	S	M	A	A	come instead of the true form of these realities, it can
N	I	A	W	A	Y	E	I	G	C	K	I	never , by the same sacrifices that are continually offered
G	N	K	D	O	B	R	F	R	N	E	D	every year, make perfect those who draw near.
L	G	E	E	O	H	E	I	R	B	O	U	Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered ,
E	S	N	S	C	W	F	T	H	E	N	L	since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would
M	A	I	I	O	I	F	C	Y	H	P	L	no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these
O	M	G	R	C	B	O	N	R	O	N	W	sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is
C	E	F	E	R	U	S	A	E	L	P	M	impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away
W	B	O	D	Y	R	D	S	V	D	T	U	sins. Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he
K	H	O	M	E	N	E	R	E	H	T	W	said , “ Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired , but
U	O	E	K	A	T	E	C	N	O	C	V	a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and
G	S	N	N	V	N	N	E	M	I	T	O	sin offerings you have taken no pleasure . 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.’ ” **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), **then** he added, “**Behold, I have come** to do your will.” He does **away** with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have **been sanctified** through the **offering** of the **body** of Jesus **Christ once** for all. And **every** priest stands daily at his service, **offering** repeatedly the **same sacrifices**, which can **never take away** sins. But **when Christ** had **offered** for all **time** a **single sacrifice** for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that **time** until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a **single offering** he has **perfected** for all **time** those who are being **sanctified**. And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, “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,” **then** he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” Where **there** is forgiveness of these, **there** is no **longer** any **offering** for sin. ([ESV](#)) Exported from [Logos Bible Software](#)