ONCE FOR ALL

**DATE: 5/28/2014 Wed.**

**TEXT: Hebrews 10:1-18; Psalm 40; Exodus 21**

**INTRODUCTION**

**Song: Once for all** – Free from the law, O happy condition, Jesus hath bled, and there is remission; Cursed by the law and bruised by the fall, Grace hath redeemed us once for all. Once for all, O sinner receive it, Once for all, O brother, believe it; Cling to the cross, the burden will fall, Christ hath redeemed us once for all.

In closing out **chapter 9**, we were able to see some contrasts between the Old and the New Covenants

One of these was in the area of Sacrifices

The Book of Hebrews helps us to understand the value of the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ and why in Him we have a complete salvation

**Hebrews 10** will make this even clearer

It will help us see just How Great the Sacrifice of Christ is

Jesus cried on the cross - ***“It is finished”***

This chapter gives us the meaning of this statement

In **Hebrews 10** we see the Finished work of Christ

A Sacrifice that will take away sin and make the comer thereunto Perfect

It has taken away the Penalty of Sin

It is now delivering us from the Power of Sin

And one day, ultimately, will remove all Presence of Sin

This chapter will emphasizes the Perfect Sacrifice of Jesus Christ …

In contrast with the Imperfect sacrifices that is offered under the Old Covenant …

The Priesthood of Christ— belongs to …

- A Better Order: Melchisedec’s, not Aaron’s

- Functions on the basis of a Better Covenant: spiritual, not carnal

- Is housed in a Better Sanctuary: heavenly, not earthly

All because it is founded on a Better Sacrifice …

… The person of Jesus Christ Himself … and Not the blood of bulls and goats

We will note 2 things in these lessons that will help us to see the greatness of our Lord’s Sacrifice for our sins

Let’s pray and then think on this thought –

***“Once For All”***

***~~~Prayer~~~***

The Sacrifice of Christ …

**I. “SOLVES THE SIN PROBLEM” – vs. 1-10**

The Sacrifice of Christ solves the Sin problem in the Believer’s Life

Sin is man’s Greatest Problem

Man is unable to Solve his own Greatest Need

The Law only brought us to an understanding of our sinful condition, but was never able to rid us of it

**Romans 3:19, 20 – *“Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God” “Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin”***

We are Not sinners because we sin, but we sin because we are sinners

Our nature has to be changed, if we are to enter into the presence of a Holy God

**A. The ‘Problem’ – vs. 1-4**

Why were the Old Covenant sacrifices inferior?

Why was there a need for a Better Sacrifice?

Answer: Because the greatest need of man was not met

**1.** The Sacrifices of the Old Covenant were a Shadow

A Shadow of good things to come

**v.1a – *“For the law having a shadow of good things to come...”***

Reminding us that the Tabernacle, the Aaronic priesthood, with all of its offerings and ceremonies, served as a figure of Christ and His Sacrifice

**v.1b – *“... and not the very image of the things,”***

A shadow can reveal an outline or a representation

But a shadow has no substance

You can look at a shadow and get some idea of what it represents

But the shadow is no substitute for the real thing

The shadow of the old covenant represented that which was to come

Therefore, being only a representation, it …

**v.1c – *“...******can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect”***

The very nature of the law made it incapable of bringing sinners to spiritual perfection

The old system Did create an awareness of sin, the need for a priestly mediator, and the blood offering of an innocent substitute

… But would never satisfy God

Thus, Christ’s Sacrifice, consequently, is the ***“very image”*** which produced the shadow

Again the Problem was that …

**2.** The Sacrifices of the Old Covenant created a reminder of sin year after year,

But never ridding the comer of its Guilt

**vs. 2, 3 – *“For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins” “But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year”***

The word *“****ceased****”* means *to come to an end*

If the Priests and the law could have made anyone perfect, then the sacrifices would have ceased

However, the *“****conscience of sins remained”***

The guilt was still there because the sin had only been covered, not taken away

Again the Problem was that…

**3.** The Sacrifices of the Old Covenant were not able to deal with sin

**v.4 – *“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins”***

The writer reiterates the importance of *taking away* sin as opposed to *covering* sin

The *“****blood of bulls and of goats”*** could only cover sin

Therefore the sin and guilt remained

Therefore, Jesus’ Sacrifice is Better, because

His Sacrifice takes sin away

**John 1:29 –** *“****The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world”***

When the sinner comes to Christ, his sin is Finally, Fully and Forever removed

The Problem was that their act was external and the inner man was not made Perfect because sin had not been dealt with

**The ‘Problem’**

Next, when it comes to Solving the Sin Problem, we have

**B. The ‘Provision’ – vs. 5-9**

**v.5 – *“Wherefore when He cometh into the world, He saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared Me:”***

This is a quote from **Psalm 40:6-8** …

God has Provided for man a Sacrifice that will truly take away sin

***“but a body hast thou prepared Me:”***

The Sacrifices that man brought were Unable to do so

Let’s look at the ***“Sacrifice and offerings”***from God’s

view

The words ***“sacrifice and offering”*** are of course speaking of the Old Testament sacrifices

**1. v. 5b - *“Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not”***

**v.6 – *“In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure”***

It’s all brought together in …

**v.8 – *“… Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;”***

God did not desire the ***Sacrifice and offerings …*** ***offered by the law***

When it wasn’t done with the right motive

**Amos 5:21, 22 …**

**Genesis 8:20, 21 …**

It wasn’t the animal sacrifice that God desired,

But rather an offering of someone’s heart and faith

**2. v. 5c - *“But a body hast Thou prepared Me”***

Notice **Psalm 40:6 – *“mine ears hast thou opened”***

Why the difference?

**Exodus 21:1-6** will help us better understand this

This passage describes the actions of a master whose servant did not want to be set free

The master bore a hole through the ear lobe of the servant, which was a sign that the servant preferred to remain with his master

This gives us the understanding that our Lord was a willing servant

In **Psalm 40:6** we also find ***“opened ears”***

Note that ***“ears”*** is plural, where in **Ex. 21:6** it was singular

This denotes a readiness to hear and obey wholly the will of God

Isaiah prophesied of this …

**Isaiah 50:4-6 – *“The Lord GOD hath given Me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned” “The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back” “I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting”***

God gave His Son a prepared body that the Son might serve God and fulfill His will on earth

**3. vs. 7, 9 – *“Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God”***

***“Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second”***

Jesus came to do the Father’s will, willingly, without reservation

The Father had pleasure in the sacrifice of Christ because it solved the sin problem and satisfied the heart of God (propitiation)

**Isaiah 53:11, 12 – *“He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall My righteous servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities” “Therefore will I divide Him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors”***

The words of Abraham are brought to mind

***“My son, God will provide Himself a Lamb for a … offering”***

God has; and that Lamb is Jesus Christ

**John 1:29, 36 – *“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world”*** *“****And looking upon Jesus as He walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!”***

The 3rd thought here, when it comes to Solving the Sin Problem, we find …

**C. The ‘Perfection’ – v.10**

- We have seen the **‘Problem**’

Why a Better Sacrifice was needed

- We have seen the **‘Provision’**

God has Provided for that Better Sacrifice

- Now we come to the **‘Perfection’**

This was brought about because of the Better Sacrifice

That Better Sacrifice was Jesus Christ

***“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all”***

**1.** It is ***“By”*** and ***“through”*** His ***“will”*** or *willingness*

…That we have a Sacrifice that can take away the believer’s sin debt

**2.** It is ***“By”*** and ***“through”*** His ***“offering”***

The offering of His ***“body”*** that the believer is ***“sanctified”,*** set apart or made holy in Christ Jesus

**3.** It is ***“By”*** and ***“through”*** this Sacrifice that we are made ***“perfect”*** or complete because it reads ***“once of all”***

The Priesthood of Christ is Better than that of Aaron’s

Because it has a Better Sacrifice

… That will take away ***“once for all”*** the Sin Problem for all who will believe

**THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST “SOLVES THE SIN PROBLEM”**

The Sacrifice of Christ …

**II. WAS “ONCE FOR ALL” – vs. 11-18**

The Sacrifice of Christ was *a once for all* Sacrifice that never has to be repeated

I’d like to spend a little more time on that thought

***“Once for All”***

Again I remind you that the entire Book of Hebrews has been one of Contrasts

The contrast in these verses show the Unfinished work of the Jewish high priests and the Finished redemptive work of Christ

Once For all …

**A.** **He Finished His Sacrificial Work – vs. 11-13**

**1.** The legal system had many priests

**v.11 -** ***“every priest”***

But the new covenant needed only one

**v.12 -** ***“this man”***

**2.** The priests always stood in their service

**v. 11 - *“standeth”***

But Christ sat after He offered Himself

**v.12** ***- “sat down”***

There were no chairs in the Tabernacle / Temple

The Priest posture indicated a Continuing ministry

The seating of the Saviour, on the other hand, indicates the Completion of His task

**1:3, 13 – *“when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high”***

***“But to which of the angels said He at any time, Sit on My right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool?”***

**3.** The work of the priests went on ***“daily”* – v.11**

Even on the sabbaths, day after day, never ceasing

But Christ completed His work in one day

**v.12 – *“one sacrifice for sins for ever”***

Namely the hours of His crucifixion

**4. v. 11 - *“Sacrifices”* *“oftentimes”*** many, 10,000’s

**v. 12 – *“Sacrifice”,* *“once for all”*** – singular, one

**5.** The priests perceived no ultimate triumph from their ministry

But Christ fully expected that His death and resurrection would establish the kingdom of God on earth

**v.13 – *“From henceforth expecting till His enemies be made His footstool”***

Christ viewed His own crucifixion as the victory over Satan and sin

**I Corinthians 15:24-28 …**

**Once for All He Finished His Sacrificial Work**

Once for All …

**B. He Perfected the Believer – v.14**

***“For by one offering He hath Perfected for ever them that are sanctified”***

Through the cross, Christ ***“perfected”*** every believer

Each believer has Positional Perfection in Christ,

As far as God is concerned the believer is as Perfect today as he will be in eternity

Although he must advance toward maturity in his daily practice

God supplied in the death of Christ all that men need to have a Perfect Position before Him

The title for believers is literally ***“them that are sanctified”***

It denote both …

- Practical sanctification, growing in grace

- Positional sanctification, our position in Christ

Once for all …

**C. He Fulfilled the Scriptures – vs. 15-18**

He’s Fulfilled the Scriptures in Pardoning our sin

**1. v.15, 16a – *“Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that He had said before,” “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord...”***

The Writer again quotes **Jeremiah 31:33, 34** to seal his argument

Jeremiah clearly prophesied that the day would come when God would make a new covenant with His people

**2. v.16b – *“…I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;”***

The law of God, that was once written on stones and impossible to obey,

Now has becomes a matter of the heart

Our relationship with God is a heart relationship

The new covenant has to do with the heart

Christianity is an inner transformation

**3. v.17 – *“And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more”***

Here is one of the blessed benefits of salvation

This doesn't mean that God has amnesia, or that He is absent minded

For God is omniscient, He knows everything

But He has chosen to forget the sin of the Believer

**Colossians 2:13, 14 – *“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses;” “Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross;”***

**Micah 7:18, 19 – *“Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy” “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”***

**Psalm 103:10-12 – *“He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities” …***

***“For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him” “As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us”***

It is for certain that the Believer’s sin is gone

**Ephesians 1:7 – *“In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace”***

The Precious, Powerful, Pure and Pardoning blood of Christ does not merely cover our sin, but it takes it totally out of the way!

There’s Power in the Blood!

**4. v.18 – *“Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin”***

Under the New Covenant there was only one sacrifice

Praise God, we do not need any further offering for Sin

Those who have trusted Christ for their salvation have been totally forgiven and declared to be righteous in Christ

Nothing needs to be added so far as the Sacrifice

Salvation through Jesus Christ is perfect, and eternal

**THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST “SOLVES THE SIN PROBLEM”**

**THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST “WAS ONCE FOR ALL”**