

# The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Hebrews

## *The Superior Covenant (Continued)*

### *Hebrews 10:1-39*

- I. PERFECT IN SACRIFICE (Hebrews 10:1-13)
  - A. The Shortcoming of the Shadow (Hebrews 10:1-4)
    1. The shadow identified (Hebrews 10:1)
      - a. The law having a **shadow** of good things TO COME
      - b. Not the very **image** of the things
      - c. Note: The contrast between the shadow and the image unveils some great truths about God's dealings with man. In fact, if you consider the picture as a whole, it unlocks God's dealings with man: past, present, and future.
        - (1) The shadow—the law
          - a) The restrictions—two dimensional
            - i) The commandments
              - (a) Pertaining to murder (Exodus 21:12-14)
              - (b) Pertaining to adultery (Exodus 20:14; Leviticus 20:10)
              - (c) Pertaining to divorce (Deuteronomy 24:1-4)
              - (d) Pertaining to swearing (Leviticus 19:12; Numbers 30:2-16)
              - (e) Pertaining to vengeance (Exodus 21:22-27)
              - (f) Pertaining to others (Leviticus 19:18; Exodus 17:14-16; Deuteronomy 25:17)
            - ii) The sacrifices
              - (a) Could not put away sins (Isaiah 1:11; Hosea 6:6; Hebrews 9:8-10; Hebrews 10:1-4, 11)
              - (b) Had to be done every year (Hebrews 10:3, 11)
          - b) The purpose
            - i) As a shadow, it was temporary (1 Chronicles 29:15; Job 8:9; Job 14:2; Psalm 102:11; Psalm 109:23; Psalm 144:4).
            - ii) It pointed to something else (Colossians 2:17; Hebrews 8:4-5; Hebrews 10:1).
            - iii) It sought to reveal sin in its total sinfulness (Romans 3:20; Romans 5:12-14; Romans 7:7, 12).
            - iv) It sought to condemn the sinner (Romans 3:19; Romans 4:15; Galatians 3:10, 21-22).
            - v) It sought to prepare the heart of the Israelites for the faith of Christ (Galatians 3:23-26).



- (2) The image—the Man Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 4:4; Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3)
  - a) The restrictions
    - i) His flesh
      - (a) He got hungry (Luke 4:2; Matthew 21:18).
      - (b) He thirsted (John 19:28).
      - (c) He needed sleep (Mark 4:38).
      - (d) He suffered pain (Acts 3:18).
      - (e) He understood temptation (Hebrews 2:18).
    - ii) His glory (John 17:5)
    - iii) His repute (Philippians 2:5-7)
    - iv) His riches (2 Corinthians 8:9; Mark 13:32)
  - b) The superiority—three dimensional
    - i) The commandments
      - (a) Pertaining to murder (Matthew 5:21-22)
      - (b) Pertaining to adultery (Matthew 5:27-28)
      - (c) Pertaining to divorce (Matthew 5:31-32)
      - (d) Pertaining to swearing (Matthew 5:33-37)
      - (e) Pertaining to vengeance (Matthew 5:38-39)
      - (f) Pertaining to others (Matthew 5:43-47)
    - ii) The sacrifice
      - (a) Conquered the sin problem (Hebrews 9:12; Hebrews 10:10)
      - (b) Done once for all (Hebrews 9:26; Hebrews 10:12)
  - c) The purpose
    - i) An image gives us a representation of something we cannot see as such Jesus Christ came to:
      - (a) Show us the Father (John 14:7, 9; John 15:24)
      - (b) Reconcile men to the Father whom they cannot see (Colossians 1:15)
    - ii) Humble Himself to become a faithful High Priest
      - (a) God versus Images
        - (i) God condemned images (Leviticus 26:1; Deuteronomy 4:23, 25; Romans 1:23)
        - (ii) He hates images (Deuteronomy 16:22)
      - (b) Christ hates sin, yet took on Himself the likeness of sinful flesh and bore our sins in His own body.
- (3) The sun—the King of kings
  - a) The restrictions—none
    - i) He alone will be the source of light for the whole world (Isaiah 2:3).
    - ii) As the Sun has both healing and harmful effects dependent upon what it shines upon, so will Jesus Christ rescue His own and judge the wicked.
    - iii) The world shall see Christ in all of His strength and glory as the noonday sun.
  - b) The purpose—healing in His wings (Malachi 4:2)



2. The shortcoming stated (Hebrews 10:1)
  - a. The dogmatic terms of the shortcoming
    - (1) COULD NOT (Hebrews 9:9)
    - (2) CAN NEVER (Hebrews 10:1)
    - (3) IT IS NOT POSSIBLE (Hebrews 10:4)
    - (4) CAN NEVER (Hebrews 10:11)
  - b. The areas of shortcoming
    - (1) Its shortcoming in **substance**—“those sacrifices”
    - (2) Its shortcoming in **endurance**—“they offered year by year”
    - (3) Its shortcoming in **results**—“make the comers thereunto perfect” (see Hebrews 7:19)
3. The shortcoming outcome (Hebrews 10:2-3)
  - a. The continual offerings (Hebrews 10:2)
    - (1) If the offerings had been able to perfect the ones bringing the offerings
    - (2) Then would they not have ceased to be offered?
  - b. The conscience of sins (Hebrews 10:2)
    - (1) Worshippers ONCE purged
    - (2) Should have had no more conscience of sins (see Hebrews 9:9)
  - c. The remembrance made (Hebrews 10:3)
    - (1) In those sacrifices
    - (2) There is a remembrance made of sins every year (Hebrews 9:7).
4. The shortcoming explained (Hebrews 10:4; see Isaiah 1:11)
  - a. The impossibility stated—“it is not possible”
  - b. The inadequacy stated—“the blood of bulls and of goats”
  - c. The failure stated—“take away sins”
  - d. Note: This is one of the multitude of reasons to reject the notion that men could ever be saved for any works.
    - (1) The Law provided two ways for man to approach God through his own works:
      - a) By initial obedience to the commandments (Exodus 24:1-8; Leviticus 18:5; Deuteronomy 27:26)
      - b) By the making of sacrifices (Leviticus 1:1-4; Leviticus 4:27-35)
    - (2) Obedience to the commandments could not save man because no man could keep the commandments (Ecclesiastes 7:20; Romans 3:12-14, 19-20; Romans 8:3; Galatians 2:16; Galatians 3:10-12, 21-22; Hebrews 7:18-19). Note: Even during Christ’s earthly ministry the people did not keep the Law (John 7:19).
    - (3) The sacrifices could not save man, because the blood of animals could not put away sin (Psalm 51:16; Isaiah 1:11; Hosea 6:6; Hebrews 9:8-10; Hebrews 10:1-4, 11).
    - (4) The Jews missed the law of righteousness because they sought it by works rather than by faith (Romans 9:30-33).
    - (5) Jesus had to die for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament (Hebrews 9:15).

B. The Substance (Hebrews 10:5-13)

1. A prepared body (Hebrews 10:5-6)
  - a. The source quoted (Psalm 40:6-8)

Psalm 40:6-8	Hebrews 10:5-7
6 Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.	5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and <i>sacrifices</i> for sin thou hast had no pleasure.
7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book <i>it is</i> written of me, 8 I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law <i>is</i> within my heart.	7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

- b. The failure of the sacrifices (Hebrews 10:5-6)
  - (1) Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not (Hebrews 10:5)
  - (2) In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure (Hebrews 10:6)
- c. The servitude of the Son (Hebrews 10:5)
  - (1) The foundational truth
    - a) The Hebrew servant (Exodus 21:6; Deuteronomy 15:12-18)
      - i) His liberty (Deuteronomy 15:12; Jeremiah 34:13-17)
      - ii) His love (Deuteronomy 15:16)
      - iii) His likeness (Deuteronomy 15:17); physical change indicating permanent change of status
      - iv) His lowliness (Deuteronomy 15:17); a “servant for ever”
    - b) The heavenly servant
      - i) The opening of the ears (Psalm 40:6-8)
      - ii) The preparing of a body (Hebrews 10:5-7)
      - iii) God’s chosen servant (Matthew 12:17-21)
    - c) The humble servant (Matthew 20:28)
      - i) His liberty (Psalm 40:6—“not required”)
      - ii) His love (John 14:31)
      - iii) His likeness—a body prepared (Hebrews 10:5; Romans 8:3; Luke 2:6-7)
      - iv) His lowliness—the opening of the ear (Isaiah 50:5-6; Philippians 2:5-8; John 6:38)
  - (2) The declaration made
    - a) A body hast thou prepared me (Hebrews 10:5).
    - b) Something about the incarnation of Christ changed His nature from that point forward (1 Timothy 2:5).



2. A willing servant (Hebrews 10:7-9)
  - a. The insufficiency of the law (Hebrews 10:8)
    - (1) Sacrifice and offerings thou wouldest not
    - (2) Neither hadst pleasure therein
    - (3) Which are offered by the law
  - b. The establishing of the second (Hebrews 10:9)
    - (1) He taketh away the first—the law
    - (2) That He may establish the second—Christ
  - c. The obedience of the Son (Hebrews 10:7, 9)
    - (1) I come to do thy will (Hebrews 10:7; see Isaiah 50:5).
    - (2) I come to do thy will (Hebrews 10:9).
3. An accepted sacrifice (Hebrews 10:10-13)
  - a. The completeness of the sacrifice (Hebrews 10:10)
    - (1) The will of the sacrifice—“By the which will”
    - (2) The sanctification of the sacrifice
      - a) The people of sanctification—“we”
      - b) The means of sanctification—“through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ”
      - c) The finality of sanctification—“once for all”
  - b. The completeness of the work (Hebrews 10:11-12)
    - (1) The law of Moses (Hebrews 10:11)
      - a) Every priest STANDETH
      - b) Daily ministering and offering oftentimes
      - c) The same sacrifices
      - d) Which can never take away sins
    - (2) Christ (Hebrews 10:12)
      - a) He offered ONE sacrifice for sins FOR EVER
      - b) He SAT down on the right hand of God
  - c. The forward look (Hebrews 10:13)
    - (1) The beginning of the look—“From henceforth”
    - (2) The hope of the look—“expecting”
    - (3) The fulfillment of the look—“till his enemies be made his footstool”

## II. PERFECT IN SANCTIFICATION (Hebrews 10:14-25)

### A. Bringing Forgiveness (Hebrews 10:14-18)

1. By the offering of one man (Hebrews 10:14)
  - a. By ONE offering
  - b. Perfected FOR EVER
  - c. Them that are sanctified
2. By the witness of the Holy Ghost (Hebrews 10:15)
3. By the complete remission of sins (Hebrews 10:16-18)
  - a. The commandments in the hearts (Hebrews 10:16)
  - b. The forgetting of sins and iniquities (Hebrews 10:17)
  - c. The need for no new offerings (Hebrews 10:18)