

~~Better.~~ Better Sacrifice

Hebrews 10:1-10 NKJV: 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. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “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.’ ” 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), then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.” He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

The book of Hebrews has clearly presented proof that with Jesus all things are Better! He is a Better Savior, a Better High Priest, a Better Mediator and through our relationship with Him, we have Better Promises, and a Better Hope, which gives us Better Faith. This week we will see that Jesus was the Better Sacrifice in every single way. Because of this Better Sacrifice, we have been provided a Better Salvation, Better Sanctification, and we can experience Better Security. Jesus literally changed everything for the Better!

1A) What are we told specifically about The Law in Hebrews 10:1?

1B) According to verses 2-4, what can we know about the sacrifices that were being offered and why is this important?

2A) What do verses 5-10 reveal about the reason Jesus came and the Purpose He was to fulfill?

2B) What prophetic message do we find in Psalm 40:6-8?

2C) PERSONAL: How does seeing prophecy fulfilled affect your faith?

3) What confirming message do we find in Colossians 2:17?

Read Hebrews 10:11-14:

4A) Describe the differences between the earthly priests and the sacrifices they offered to Jesus and the sacrifice that He offered.

4B) PERSONAL: Explain how you think these differences reveal that Jesus offers a “better salvation.”

5A) PERSONAL: What does the word “sanctify” or “sanctification” mean to you?

5B) Explain the differences between “positional sanctification and practical sanctification” using the following verses:

2 Corinthians 5:17:

1 Peter 2:9-12:

Read Hebrews 10:15-18:

6A) How do these verses reveal that because of the “better sacrifice” of Jesus that we can have “better security?”

6B) How does Ephesians 1:13-14 describe the security we have and how can we be sure that it is “Better?”

7) PERSONAL: How does Romans 4:7-8 give you encouragement?

ACT: The “once for all” sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross fulfilled all the requirements that could never be fulfilled by all the animals that were continuously offered year after year. The priest’s job was never done, but Jesus clearly stated that “It is finished!” and then He sat down at the Right Hand of God. Such amazing proof that His Sacrifice was “better” in every way. Belief in Jesus and acceptance of the forgiveness He alone offers provides us Salvation that is completely Secure and we can know without any doubts that we are sealed with the Holy Spirit and we cannot lose our Salvation. We are positionally “in Christ” - set apart to be different from the world and to do His Will in spreading the Gospel message to others. We also need to do our best to be practically set apart from the non-believing world so that others will be drawn to Jesus and to the Salvation that He alone provides.

Daily Devotional: It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

- This week let's explore passages that describe the work of sanctification in our lives.

Monday:

John 17:17-19 NIV

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Tuesday:

Acts 26:14-18 NIV

We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' "Then I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' " 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' the Lord replied. 'Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Wednesday:

Romans 15:15-16 NIV

Yet I have written you quite boldly on some points to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Thursday:

1 Corinthians 1:2 NIV

To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

Friday:

1 Corinthians 6:11 NIV

And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Saturday:

1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 NIV

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

Sunday:

1 Peter 1:1-2 NIV

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.

