

POWER HOUR

5/31/2026

Lesson Text:
Hebrews 10:1-10

Related Scriptures:
Psalms 40:6-8; 50:7-15;
Isaiah 1:9-20; John 5:19, 30 &
Hebrews 7:23-8:13

“CHRIST’S SACRIFICE ONCE FOR
ALL”

NLT TRANSLATION

Golden Text: For God’s will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time. Hebrews 10:10 NLT

Time: A.D. 60 and 69

Place: unknown

Hebrews 10:1-10 NLT

¹ The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship. ² If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. ³ But instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. ⁴ For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. ⁵ That is why, when Christ came into the world, he said to God, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But you have given me a body to offer. ⁶ You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. ⁷ Then I said, ‘Look, I have come to do your will, O God—as is written about me in the Scriptures.’” ⁸ First, Christ said, “You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were you pleased with them” (though they are required by the law of Moses). ⁹ Then he said, “Look, I have come to do your will.” He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect. ¹⁰ For God’s will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time.

INTRODUCTION

All people return to sin over and over. The Old Testament sacrifices were required regularly since all people fell short repeatedly. That is not the case with Christ's sacrifice, which was perfect, and it occurred once for all. He took the punishment of our sins on Himself and made us holy.

In the lessons, we see how God's wrath was perfectly satisfied through Christ's death on the cross, and nothing needs to be added to it. We are justified by faith apart from the law (Romans 3:21-25). While in Adam all die, in Christ all are made alive (Romans 5:12-19).

Jesus the Messiah's once-for-all sacrifice means that the work of atonement is complete; the age of animal sacrifices is over.

1. The failing of the law (Hebrews 10:1-4). This passage continues the train of thought from chapters 7 through 9, which examined the priesthood, the requirement of blood to atone for sins, and the Old Testament sacrificial system. The law was a shadow that pointed to Christ.

The Old Testament sacrificial system was a guardian. It was meant to cause the people to think about their constant need for God's mercy, and it pointed ahead to something greater (Galatians 3:24-25). Those under the law would not have understood exactly what was coming, but they should have realized that faith was what mattered, not their external adherence to the law as an attempt to earn righteousness (Romans 4:1-8; Galatians 3:17).

In Psalm 51:16-17, David revealed that sacrificing animals would not atone for his sin. It was never enough to externally follow the law. Instead, a change of heart and a desire for true holiness were needed.

2. The fulfilling of the law (Hebrews 10:5-10). Having shown the shortcomings of the sacrificial system, the author of Hebrews went on to demonstrate the perfections of Christ by quoting the Greek translation of Psalms 40:6-8. The author split that passage into two portions. The first dealt with the sacrificial system, and the second with the obedience of Christ.

As a fulfillment of Psalm 40, Christ set aside the old sacrificial system through His perfect obedience. Christ, who was obedient even in His death (Philippians 2:8),

undertook the curse of the law for us to make us holy (Galatians 3:13-14). Christ lived a perfect life and died a perfect death in order to make us holy. That is the same requirement we see in the Old Testament-to be holy as God is holy (Leviticus 21:8). The standards of coming to God have not changed, for God has not changed. What has changed is that God has revealed salvation in Christ. Having been set free, Christians do not need to follow the law to be saved.

PRACTICAL POINTS

We should not put our hope in our ability to keep the law (Hebrews 10:1).

If we have been cleansed by Christ, we need not feel guilty over our forgiven sins (vs. 2).

We cannot save ourselves through gifts or sacrifices (vss. 3-4)

When we read the Old Testament, we should look to find Jesus (vss. 5-7).

We are under a new covenant! Do not try to return to the old covenant (vss. 8-9).

Jesus saves once and for all. Let us rejoice (vs.10)!

CONCLUSION

The author of Hebrews wrote about the surpassing perfection of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. The Old Testament sacrificial system was always meant to pass away, and Christ's sacrifice ushered in a new covenant to bring us near to God. In Him, we no longer face the guilt of our sins before the wrath of God.

Is there anything in your past causing you to carry the burden of guilt? If it is a sin for which you have repented, then rejoice! You no longer need to carry that burden because Jesus carried it on the cross. There is no condemnation for those in Christ (Romans 8:1)! If it is a sin for which you have not repented, then do so now! No matter how dark the sin, there is grace enough in Christ's perfect blood to cover it.

QUESTION(S)

1. How is the law viewed in these verses?
2. What reveals the limitations of Old Testament sacrifices?
3. What does it mean that Christians have been perfected?

Next week, The lesson covers Moses' prayer for mercy for God's people

“The Lord’s patience with His People“

Numbers 14:11-24.

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