



DAILY STUDY

Lesson 27: Jesus Christ, God's Perfect Lamb

Passage: Read Hebrews 9

Verse: Hebrews 9:27

DAY 1 LET'S BEGIN:

1. What was the earthly sanctuary of the first covenant? (Heb. 9:1-2)
2. What was in the holy place of the tabernacle? (9:2)
3. What was behind the second veil? (9:3-4)
4. What was in the ark? (9:4)
5. What were the cherubim of glory overshadowing? (9:5) What do you think that means?
6. What were the priests continually doing in the outer tabernacle? (9:6)
7. What happened in the inner tabernacle? (9:7)

DAY 2 FIND the FACTS:

1. What promise did God give in Genesis 3:15?
2. What did God make for Adam and Even in Genesis 3:21?
3. What does Genesis 4:4 say about Abel's offering? (Heb. 11:4)
4. What does Hebrews 9:9 say about gifts and sacrifices?
5. What high priest is named in Hebrews 9:11?
6. What holy place did Christ enter? (Heb. 9:24, 12)
7. What did Jesus take as a sacrifice into the holy place? (9:12)
8. What had Jesus obtained according to Hebrews 9:12?
9. What is eternal redemption? (9:12)
10. What was the condition of Christ when He offered Himself? (9:14)

DAY 3 THINK it THROUGH:

1. What comparison or contrast is Hebrews 9:15 making about the first covenant and the new covenant?
2. What makes a covenant valid according to Hebrews 9:16-17, and what do think that means?

PASSAGE SUMMARY

Lesson 27

Jesus Christ, God's Perfect Lamb

*In Genesis 3 God made the first sacrifice in order to provide a covering for man because of his **sin**. At that time God made a promise to them that the seed of a woman would bruise the serpent's head. Throughout the Old Testament we can see the development of the sacrificial system. In Genesis 4 God accepted the blood sacrifice of the lamb that Abel brought.*

In 1 Samuel 15 God was not pleased with the disobedience of Saul. Saul had said that he had kept the animals for the purpose of making sacrifices. However, he had directly disobeyed God's instruction not to take any of that spoil. But still the sacrifices continued. God explained through Samuel that He would rather have obedience than sacrifices. For that disobedience Saul lost the throne for the remainder of his generations.

*Many thousands of lambs lost their lives for the sake of the temporary sacrifices which were never sufficient. Then in the New Testament John the Baptist introduced Jesus as, "the **Lamb** of God which taketh away the sin of the world." (Jn. 1:29)*

Hebrews 9 and 10 give us a picture of what was happening. First it explains the function of the sacrifices in the Old Testament. Chapter 9 begins by describing the tabernacle and the placement of its furniture. It describes the furnishings outside the veil. And it describes the Holy of Holies behind the second veil where the cherubim were

*overshadowing the mercy seat. Offerings were continually made in the outer tabernacle. However, only the high priest entered the inner veil **one** time a year. There he offered a blood sacrifice for himself and all the people on the day of atonement. This sacrifice could not be made by the people. In fact, that day the people rested while the high priest worked.*

*Neither the sacrifices nor the gifts of the people could make the worshiper have a clean conscience. However, when Christ came, He was **perfect**. He could offer Himself as the sacrifice as well as being the priest who made the offering. And He did not just enter a tabernacle made with hands, He entered heaven itself to appear in the presence of God the Father with His own shed **blood**. Nor did Christ have to make His sacrifice continually. Once was enough.*

*The **law** could not make any person free from sin. It could only point out sin. However, Christ could free us from sin. God did not want to have sacrifices because He had no pleasure in those things. Are you pure and spotless? Are you continually making sacrifices for your sin? How are you ignoring or trying to cover your own sin? Have you been freed from your sin?*



QUESTIONS: What is a sacrifice?
What have you learned about God and yourself from this passage?

PASSAGE THOUGHTS

Lesson 27 Jesus Christ, God's Perfect Lamb

The Old Testament pointed forward to Jesus' life and death here on earth. In December we looked at the miraculous virgin birth of Jesus Christ in view of His position as the Lamb of God. He was born of the Holy Spirit without sin. Now we will look at the end of His life here on earth in relation to the sacrificial system introduced in the Old Testament.

As early as Genesis 3 we see that God made the first sacrifice in order to provide a covering for Adam and Eve who had sinned against Him. In Genesis 4 God accepted Abel's sacrifice of the firstlings of his flock. In Genesis 8 Noah made an acceptable burnt offering sacrifice from the clean animals after he emerged from the ark. Abraham offered a number of sacrifices, and God even asked him to make an offering of his promised son, Isaac. Abraham immediately set out to carry out God's instruction. However, as the knife came down, God showed Abraham that He had already provided a substitute. It was waiting while Abraham had the opportunity to respond in his willingness to open his hands completely before God. God counted it to his account as righteousness (Gn. 21-22).

However, none of these people was perfect. Each of them sinned against God in some way, and the sacrifices had to continue. In Exodus we see the sacrifice of the unblemished Passover lamb (Ex. 12-13). At that time all the first-born were killed if the blood was not on the door posts when the LORD struck all the first-born in the land of Egypt. God told the people to carry out the Passover feast each year as a reminder of what God had done when He removed them from slavery in Egypt.

God removed the nation of Israel from Egypt, but that whole generation died in the wilderness because of their unbelief in viewing the promised land (Nm. 13-14). The giants were larger than God. The next generation entered the promised land, but they did not drive out the occupants completely as God had directed (Jud. 1:21 - 2:3). The sacrifices continued.

In Leviticus we see a complete outline of the Laws and the sacrificial system. However, the Laws could not save anyone. They could only

point out man's sin and condemn him. As the Old Testament closed, Israel was scattered and sinful. They had been dispersed because of their lack of turning from idolatry and to God. At the very end of the Old Testament we see that God would send one who would restore the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers so that God would not smite the land with a curse (Mal. 4:5-6). As the New Testament opens we see the birth of God's only Son, Jesus Christ. We see that even then only a few people knew who He was (Mt. 1-2). In Matthew 3 John the Baptist baptized Jesus Christ. And the voice of God said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." (Mt. 3:17) God had not been able to say this about anyone else.

After three years of ministry Jesus was still the perfect Son of God (Mt. 4). However, John had already introduced Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." As Jesus entered Jerusalem on the back of a colt, He went directly to the temple and exposed the corruption of the sacrificial system (Mt. 21). At that time there was a veil between the people and even the priests, separating everyone from the presence of God in the Holy of Holies. Jesus entered Jerusalem at the time of the Passover celebration when hundreds of lambs were being sacrificed. However, Jesus Himself would soon give Himself once for all as the perfect, complete and final sacrifice needed (Heb. 9-10).

In Matthew 5:17 Jesus said that He did not come to do away with the Law and Prophets, He came to fulfill them completely. Every promise would be met fully. The people were ready to crown Jesus, king, but Jesus was ready to die as a Lamb. Only this Lamb was completely pure and spotless. Only He could deliver us from the power of sin and death to bring us to His eternal kingdom.

Who is Jesus Christ to you? How do you offer sacrifices instead of loyal obedience and service?

PRAYER: *Father, thank you for sending Your only Son for me.*
