

WHO ME? PERFECT?

Hebrews 9:25-10:18

10:14 ***"By 1 sacrifice He has made us perfect forever!"***

Jesus' ministry is better than O.T. system be-cause

He offers a better sacrifice 9:25-10:18

Priests purify the figure 9:23

Jesus purifies the true temple

Priests entered man-made copy 9:24

Jesus entered the *true* sanctuary

Commandments, tabernacle, are shadows of the real thing to come.

Priests offered blood of others 9:25

Jesus offered His own blood

Priests offered many times 9:25-26

Jesus offered only once

Priests' offerings couldn't make us perfect 10:1-2

Jesus' sacrifice made us perfect forever 10:14

Priests' offerings made us remember sin 10:3

Jesus' sacrifice made us forget sin 10:2, 17, 22

Priests couldn't take away sin 10:4

Jesus takes away our sin 9:26; 10:18

It isn't about just "going through motions" of religion!

10:5-8 ***"When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice & offering you didn't desire, but a body you prepared for me; ⁶with burnt offerings & sin offerings you weren't pleased. ⁷Then I said, 'Here I am—it's written about me in the scroll—I've come to do your will, O God.'" ⁸1st he said, "Sacrifices & offerings, burnt offerings & sin offerings you didn't desire, nor were you pleased with them" (although law required them to be made)."***

God finds pleasure in people who offer sacrifice *with a contrite, obedient heart.*

Though God required offerings, to teach us need for shedding blood, to pay price of sin, & point His people toward the Savior,...

Sacrifices were never enough to take away our sin.

Sacrifices are mockery unless the heart's seeking God.

Ritual is meaningless.

Our problem is the heart!

Only Jesus can solve that problem!

In case the contrasts aren't enough,

Heb. adds reasons why Jesus' offering is superior to that of the priests:

(Offered by a sinner)

Jesus was obedient 10:9

"I have come to do your will"

Quote from Ps. 40, based on King Saul's experience.

He disobeyed God by taking animals he'd been told not to take, then used some to make sacrifices.

That's supposed to persuade God that His disobedience is OK!

God wants obedience more than sacrifice.

Uses Hebrew idiom which exaggerates contrasts.

It isn't sacrifice He wants;

it's a heart that's inclined to obey His will.

Ritual doesn't satisfy God; obedience does.

In that Spirit, Jesus fulfills the law.

He's come to obey God's will.

This isn't statement that God doesn't want sacrifices, He required them.

But obedience is more important.

Sacrifices are meaningless unless tied to doing His will.

Jesus came to do His will.

He's obedient, in contrast to sinful priests,

10:9 *"He sets aside the 1st to establish 2nd."*

Donald Grey Barnhouse was walking through battlefields of Belgium after W.W. I. He was struck by falling leaves, which disintegrated in his hands. When he realized it was spring, not fall, he noticed that the leaves had outlived the autumn winds & winter frosts, & were falling on *a wind-free day*. Why?

In spring the sap begins to run, & new buds push from within. New life expels deadness left over from the previous year.

This happens when God writes His will on our hearts:

New life expels deadness.

Renewed hearts pump fresh blood through us

His will to obey pushes aside 1st covenant,
characterized by unwillingness to obey.

Life found in the new replaces the old,
which is characterized by death.

(Priests *never sat down*)

Jesus sat down in God's presence

10-13 *"By that will, we've been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**.¹¹ Day after day every priest stands & performs his religious du-ties; again & again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.¹² But when this priest had offered **for all time one** sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,¹³ Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool."*

He's **seated** at rt hand of Father— waiting for victory to be complete. His work is finished.

(Priests serve to cure problem)

Jesus prevents problem 14-18

"By 1 sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who're being made holy.¹⁵ H.S. also testifies to us about this. 1st he says:¹⁶ "This is the covenant I'll make with them after that time, says the Lord. I'll put my laws in their hearts, & I'll write them on their minds."¹⁷ Then he adds: "Their sins & lawless acts I'll remember no more."¹⁸ & where these have been forgiven, there's no longer sacrifice for sin."

He changed our hearts so we're no longer obligated to sin.

"He writes His laws in our hearts"

He's changed us on the inside—in the heart.

Sum of what God tells us in these contrasts is noted in 10:1 & 10:14:

10:1 [The law] *"**can never make perfect** those who draw near to worship"*

Law can never make us perfect!

10:14 *“By one sacrifice he’s **made perfect forever** those who’re being made holy.*

We’ve been made perfect in Jesus!

That’s the essence of the difference.

How much does this leave US to do?

How much depends on us? What do WE add?

It’s all about Him! He did it all! It is finished!

We’re complete in Him; there’s nothing for us to add!

All God asks US to do is trust Jesus—stop trying to “do it ourselves”
—and trust Him!

In every way **Christ offers more than Judaism.**

There’s nothing to go back to.

Who’d want to go back to bondage of legalism, once God has transformed our heart & set us free?!!

Gal 5:1: *“It’s for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, & do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.*

HOW SHOULD THIS MESSAGE CHANGE OUR LIVES?

Author’s conclusion:

If Jesus accomplished all of this, we can have confidence to come into His presence boldly.

Therefore, let us draw near to Him!

We don’t have to be afraid any more!

We don’t have to struggle with guilt.

He’s taken it all away. He remembers it no more.

God says, ***“By this one sacrifice,***

He has made us perfect forever.”

We can draw near to Him with confidence!”