



THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

Understanding Why God Instituted this System
[Continuing the Study from the Book of Hebrews]
By Prophet Ken Dewey

A study of the Sacrificial System is most needed today because many are "trapped somewhere between the two covenants" of the Old Testament and the New Testament. These people are not understanding the FULLNESS of the Work of Jesus' on his Cross, because they do not understand the Sacrificial System of the Old Covenant, nor the difference between the two Covenants. Many today are thinking that the New is a Continuation of the Old, and that the Old is still present with us today.

Many do not fully understand the TYPE and the SHADOW of the Old Covenant Sacrificial System, and if they did understand; they would fully embrace the Eternal and Lasting Work of Jesus Christ for Sin. Instead, many men are laboring to enter perfection, which is only found in the Eternal Sacrifice of Jesus Christ, offered once and for all for ALL MEN WHO WILL BELIEVE AND RECEIVE HIM.... JESUS!

The Book of Hebrews does convey the very essential message of forgiveness from Sin and explains fully the difference between the old and the new. The mastery of it is essential to understanding what exactly Jesus Christ did when he came and died for the sins of the World, on his Cross.

The Beginning Text:

Hebrews 9:

1 Then verily the first covenant had also ordinances of divine service, and a worldly sanctuary.

2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

3 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all;

4 Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;

5 And over it the cherubims of glory shadowing the mercyseat; of which we cannot now speak particularly.

6 Now when these things were thus ordained, the priests went always into the first tabernacle, accomplishing the service of God.

7 But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:

8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

9 Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

10 Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

The above verses speak about a Glorious Tabernacle filled with many things and furniture, complete with a Vail and behind the Vail a Most Holy Place wherein was the Mercy Seat, and the dwelling place of God's Spirit. In many ways this beautiful place and furnishings speak, and most of all each thing here was a Type and Shadow of something even more glorious which was to come. This place is referred to a FIGURE for the time then present [while it was still standing], but in all its beauty it could never make men perfect.

MANY NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM that was instituted by God, after He called the People to come up out of Egypt by Moses and the Giving of the Law. There is much understanding to be gained by study of this system, for instance.

WHY did God institute it, and for what purpose? Why then was it referred to as only Temporary until the time coming of the "Reformation"?

To understand the answers to these questions one need consider first that it was because of the Law and the impossibility for men to keep it perfectly [which would cause them only to be continually condemned under the severity of the Law], that God did make a way for the Old Testament People to find forgiveness of sin. Without some way to escape the penalty of breaking the Laws of God, men would suffer. The "Purpose" behind why God did make the Sacrificial System available was to give men a way to escape the wrath of the Law.

God did not leave the People [who did come out of Egypt bondage and go into the desert with Moses] with no hope, or no forgiveness.

God commanded Moses with a system for men then to be made acceptable to God, and to live a life of forgiveness from sin. This System was "Planned from the very foundation of the Earth", and through this system men could be only Temporarily Forgiven and Justified from their disobedience and sin. The Scriptures talk of the coming of a Messiah who would SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS. This coming one would come as A SACRIFICE, which would fulfill the Type and Shadows of the Sacrificial System. This One was referred to as THE LAMB [without blemish and spot], SLAIN from the foundation of the World.

See the verse here:

1 Peter 1:

“19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: [20] Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.”

The Sacrificial System can only be fully understood by considering that God intended it to FORSHADOW A COMING ONE who would meet all the types of the sacrifices. Jesus Christ of course did fulfill all that typology. Once one knows God's Purpose for the Sacrificial System, it is easy then to

understand the fullness of His reasoning. The giving of this system then was THE WAY the Lord would SAVE MEN. The fact of God making a way for men to be saved then *Proves without a doubt that God did NEVER GIVE THE LAW TO SAVE MEN, but the way was by Sacrifices according to his commands.

Many today still do not fully understand that the Law was not given to Save men, but it was given to reveal to men Sin itself. In the following verses found in Romans 5, we understand that the Law was given

ROMANS 5:

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Many do need to know this fact, because they believe one must KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS to be Saved, thus going about to do a work that is DONE ALREADY in the giving of Jesus Christ as THE ONE AND FOREVER SACRIFICE to take away all sin. Men who are bent on keeping the Law,

saying if one breaks this Law of God they will not be saved. If they were Saved, they will lose their salvation, simply because they broke the Law of God.

The Sacrificial System was then instituted by God to be a FORESHADOW of the One coming: The Lamb of God [a special prepared one to be the supreme sacrifice for sin] to fill the Sacrificial System of Salvation. God then knew men could not keep the Law and that it was also Holy, and beyond their ability to keep as sinners, so God made a way for men to be saved and that way was through the Sacrifices.

The Sacrificial System then given to Moses to give to the People of Israel, was PROVISION FOR AND A WAY TO BE COVERED FROM the penalty of Sin.

Literally the Law was given to CONDEMN MEN. The full Judgment for sin was not IMPUTED [or put on one's record] until the coming of the Law. There can be no judgment for sin until a Law is Given!

Once men understand then the Purpose and Results of God Giving the Sacrificial System, then they will begin to fully see the PURPOSE AND RESULTS of the Death of Jesus Christ upon his Cross [the ultimate sacrifice for sinful men].

Under the Law of Moses If one obeyed from his heart and brought his sacrifice to the tabernacle or temple (later on) then his sin would be COVERED AND FORGIVEN. The Law of Moses called for many ways to find forgiveness for sins, such as:

- 1, If a wealthy person of rank such as a Priest, or the whole Nation of Israel sought forgiveness an Unblemished Bull was to be brought to the sacrifice altar and slain, and the blood offered.
2. If a Ruler sought forgiveness an Unblemished Male Goat was to be brought and sacrificed with its blood.
3. If a Common Man sought forgiveness, he could bring an Unblemished Female goat or a Lamb to be sacrificed with its blood.
4. If a Poor Common Man sought forgiveness, he could bring Two Turtle Doves, or Two Young Pigeons, to be sacrificed with their blood.
5. If an Extremely Poor Man sought forgiveness, he could bring A Tenth of an Ephah [equal to about 3 pints] of Fine Flour, without oil of incense, to be offered for the sin.

In reading this you will notice that God did make it possible for EVERY MAN to find a Sacrifice Offering.

The Offerings were, of course, brought to the Tabernacle [later Temple] and to the Aaronic Priest who served there in the Tabernacle. The animals were KILLED, and their BLOOD DRAINED OUT. The Priest then took his finger and dipped it in the Blood and sprinkled it around the Altar, and the remainder of the Blood would be poured at the foundation of the Altar. A portion of the Flesh would be then offered on the Altar and Burned in the Fire, and some remaining meat could be eaten by certain ones, depending upon the type of sacrifice being offered.

The Sacrificial offering COULD NEVER FULLY TAKE AWAY THE SIN ENTIRELY UNDER THE OLD COVENANT, but it could only TEMPORARILLY COVER THEIR SIN. When a person sinned more,

[another Sacrifice had to be offered], and thus a continual stream of men coming with Sacrifices was necessary.

As far as the Nation of Israel, A YEARLY SACRIFICE had to be offered by the Aaronic Priest, who would cleanse himself and take a proper sacrifice behind the Vail in the Temple and make a YEARLY SACRIFICE for all the Nation. This Sacrificial Act had to be repeated "Every Year" and would only part way forgive the sins of the Nation.

Much more could be said about this Sacrificial System, but one only need read the Book of Leviticus [and portions of the Hebrews] to find all teachings of the System.

Now I will list some verses that show how the Sacrificial System was fulfilled by Jesus Christ, BUT His Sacrifice was NOT TEMPORARY, and did NEVER need to be repeated ONCE IT WAS MADE. Jesus Christ did offer himself to DIE PHYSICALLY [to be put to death], and He did SHED HIS OWN BLOOD, for the remission of ALL MEN [all sinners in the world]. HIS SACRIFICE WAS NEVER TO BE REPEATED, but it was given ONCE AND FOR ALL. The Scriptures say that Jesus SAT DOWN AND SAY: IT IS FINISHED. All the work was done once and FOREVER!

Jesus' Sacrifice was MUCH BETTER than the Old Testament TYPE AND SHADOWS. He did his work once, and that was sufficient for all men forever. This is the MAJOR TEACHING OF THE BOOK OF HEBREWS, and one need to fully understand the VASTNESS AND IMPORTANCE of Jesus' Sacrifice for Sinners.

It should be pointed out, that Jesus' Blood was GOD'S BLOOD, because of who Jesus is, [the Son of God.] It is also to be understood that Jesus, though he was born A HUMAN MAN by Virgin Birth... proves that he is God [for he had no earthly father, and his DNA and BLOOD TYPE came from His Father God. So, the Blood would be much more effectual by far than any blood of animals. For these reasons JESUS SHED HIS BLOOD ONCE AND IT ACCOMPLISHED AN ETERNAL WORK. Jesus Blood IS A BETTER SACRIFICE for sure!

Read it here:

HEBREWS 9:

²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

²³ It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

²⁴ For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

²⁵ Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others.

26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

THE SACRIFICES UNDER THE LAW OF MOSES COULD NEVER MAKE ANY MAN PERFECT!

Sadly, the Old Covenant Sacrificial system could not fully bring men to perfection, for they would never be able to fully have their sins paid for completely. The blood of bulls and goats and lambs etc., could never ever make one Perfect.

BUT THE BODY AND THE BLOOD OF THE PERFECT LAMB OF GOD DID TAKE AWAY ALL SIN AND BRING MEN TO PERFECTION. God can and will do ALL THE WORK FOREVER, by Jesus' Sacrifice, and that work will never have to be repeated.

Read it here:

HEBREWS 10:

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 sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

12 BUT THIS MAN, AFTER HE HAD OFFERED "ONE SACRIFICE FOR SIN FORE EVER, SAT DOWN ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD;

13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

14 For BY ONE OFFERING he hath PERFECTED FOR EVER them that are sanctified [set apart and saved by Grace in his blood].

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR ALL TO SEE THE “ETERNAL AND FOREVER” WORK OF JESUS’ SACRIFICE!

When men teach that men can be lost after trusting in the Work of Jesus Christ and his Death, Burial and Resurrection for Sin, they do **INJUSTICE TO THE TEACHING OF THE SCRIPTURES**. Men were never saved by any offering, or sacrifice, of themselves or works, **OR EVEN SOME PRIEST**, but Men are saved by **JESUS CHRIST** when they Believe and Receive His **PERFECT WORK FOR THEM AND THEIR SIN**. Jesus would have to **DIE AGAIN**, and He would have to continually **SHED HIS BLOOD**, if his **ONE TIME SACRIFICE** was insufficient.

Note: All Scriptures used was taken from the King James Version

