

Which Way to Perfection?

Hebrews 10:1-4

Let's put Hebrews 10 in the overall context:

1. God's standard and purpose for us is perfection – Matthew 5:48 - *Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.*
2. Mankind is sinful – Hebrews 9:7.
3. In order to be perfect, we need sins forgiven and removed, and that can only happen through shedding of blood – Hebrews 9:22.
4. But, it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin – Hebrews 10:4.
5. Thus, under the old covenant sin was not removed nor was the conscience cleared – Hebrews 10:2-3, so why would anyone want to go back to that system.

Today, we look at Hebrews 10:1-4, The Failures of The Old Testament Sacrifices.

I They Were Only A Shadow – Hebrews 10:1

A. The sacrifice of animals went on all day, every day.

B. The good things to come.

C. They were not the “very form.”

II They Could Not Bring Access To God – Hebrews 10:1b

A. The great cry of Old Testament saints was to be in the presence of God.

B. But they had no way of getting these.

C. They were offered year after year.

D. Why did God establish the Old Covenant?

III They Could Not Remove Sin – Hebrews 10:2-3

A. If they could, they would have ceased.

B. If they could, the conscience would have been cleared.

C. In fact, they bring a remembrance of sin – verse 3.

D. Note word “reminder.”

IV They Were Only External – Hebrews 10:4

A. They did not get to the heart of the problem.

B. Christ’s blood does cleanse internally.