

## Hebrews 10:1-18, Bible Devotions

### ☐ Monday - A Shadow of Better Things.

Hebrews 10:1

The Old Covenant Law was “only a *shadow* of the good things to come” (Heb. 10:1). The five Old Testament sacrifices, the five holy days, the five pieces of furniture in the Jewish tabernacle were all foreshadows. They were pictures pointing to Christ, “a mere shadow of what [was] to come; but the substance belongs to Christ” (Col. 2:17). What a privilege it is to live under the New Covenant, no longer faced with abstract signs and symbols, but seeing the fulfillment of these foreshadows in Christ. Christian, “blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it” (Mt. 13:16-17).

Read Hebrews 11:13 1 Peter 1:10-12

### ☐ Tuesday - A New Reminder.

Hebrews 10:3

Speaking of the Old Testament animal sacrifices, the writer of Hebrews explains, “But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year by year” (Heb. 10:3). Through the repetitive nature of the Old Testament sacrifices came the constant reminder of sin, but in Christ’s sacrifice the focus is brought to bear on a salvation that is secured “once for all.” At the communion table, Jesus commands, “Do this in remembrance of Me!” (Lk. 22:19) -- the primary focus has shifted from the sinner, who must continually offer sacrifices, to the Savior, who has proclaimed. “It is finished!” (Jn. 19:30).

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

### ☐ Wednesday - Our Sin is Taken Away.

Hebrews 10:4

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden they tried to cover themselves with fig leaves (Gen. 3:7), but “the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them” (Gen. 3:21). This was the first instance of animal sacrifices recorded in the Bible. 2500 years later the levitical animal sacrificial system was inaugurated. But how can animal sacrifices pay for human sin? They cannot. “For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins” (Heb. 10:4, cf. Heb. 10:11). Those sacrifices were only a covering. 1500 years after this we see John the Baptist at the Jordan River and read, “The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (Jn. 1:29). Whereas Old Testament sacrifices only covered sin, Christ’s final sacrifice takes it away.

Read Hebrews 10:17

### ☐ Thursday - “Once for All.”

Hebrews 10:10

The author declares, “We have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all” (Heb. 10:10). The phrase “once for all” (3x in Hebrews: 7:27, 9:12, 10:10) is variously taken to mean: [1] *once for all* historical time (Heb. 9:26; Gal. 4:4-5), [2] *once for all* who believe (Jn. 1:12, 3:16), and [3] *once for all* of the believer’s past, present and future sins (Heb. 10:12, 14). I cannot decide which of these meanings best fit the context, for all three are wonderful truths born out in the rest of Scripture.

Read 1 Peter 3:18

### ☐ Friday - Safe & Secure “For All Time.”

Hebrews 10:14

Can the true child of God ever lose his or her salvation? Never! “For by one offering He [Christ] has perfected *for all time* those who are sanctified” (Heb. 10:14). Did you get that!!! “Perfected for all time,” that is your position in Christ, dear Christian! Now make your daily practice match your position and “walk in a manner worthy of your calling” (Eph. 4:1)

Read Hebrews 7:25