

Hebrews Lesson 41

Chapter 10

19 May 2025

Vs 1 “For the law having a shadow of good things to come...”

- “Having” is present tense. So, the law still stands today as biblical truth.
 - The application of truth will be redirected in light of later revelations.
 - The “**good things**” have come, but the **shadow** still remains as truth.

“And not the very image of the things...”

- The things which are now revealed to us were not revealed in the days of the Law, but the shadow is still there.
 - Example: Isaiah 53 is the shadow concerning the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We can look back and see the shadow and know what it represents. Those under the Law could not because they did not have the very image.

“...can never...make the comers thereunto perfect.”

- Then the purpose of the Old Testament sacrifices was not to perfect the offerors. Those sacrifices and offerings could never save a person.

Vs 2 “For then would they not have ceased to be offered?”

- If a person could reach spiritual perfection by offering sacrifices, they would cease to offer them. They wouldn’t need them anymore.
- The purpose of the offerings was to maintain a national relationship between Israel and God on this Earth.

“...worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.”

- Old Testament sacrifices did not take care of a man’s conscience. He knew he was still guilty and condemned.

Vs 3 “In those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.”

- The fact that the Israelites had to continue bringing sacrifices revealed that they were still sinners whose sins were not taken away by their sacrifice.

Vs 4 “For *it is not possible* that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.”

- If it is not possible, that means it never was possible for animal sacrifices to save you.
 - An animal doesn’t have the same nature as the sinner.
 - An animal is not of sufficient value to make satisfaction for rejecting God.
 - Animals cannot consent to die for the sinner. It is not a true sacrifice.
 - What did the offerings do?
 - Showed a person’s faith in God.
 - Showed appreciation of God (thank offerings).
 - Showed contrition (regret, sorrow) as a sinner (sin offerings).
 - Showed gratitude and indebtedness (feast of first fruits, etc.).
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OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES REVEALING THAT SACRIFICES DID NOT SAVE ANYONE

1 Samuel 15:13-24 Here are people worshipping the true God by offering sacrifices prescribed by God in the Law. God told them they are as guilty as a witch and an idolator.

Isaiah 1:10-20 God's people were offering a multitude of sacrifices, but God called them Sodom and Gomorrah. God was so full of their vain offerings that He didn't want them.

- God told them, "Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings...cease to do evil, etc."
 - That was required before He would accept their sacrifices.
- Their reward for doing right and then bringing the sacrifices was not eternal salvation. It was the pleasure of eating the good of the land.
- The punishment for not keeping the Law was not eternal damnation in hell. They would not enjoy the good of the land and they would die.

Jeremiah 6:18-20 God clearly states here that the offerings of the disobedient offeror were not acceptable.

- Sacrifices and offerings cannot make a person acceptable or clean.

Jeremiah 7:21-23 It is important that a person be obedient and walk in God's ways if they want to bring Him an offering. Otherwise, the offering is meaningless.

Amos 5:22-27 God hates the offerings of a rebellious idolatrous people. The offerings do not make a person right with God. A person must be right with God before God will accept their offerings.

Hosea 6:4-6 God is more interested in your heart condition than He is sacrifices and burnt offerings.

Micah 6:6-8 God is not pleased with many great offerings if you are not just, merciful, and humble.

Malachi 2:13-14 You can cry tears on the altar and bring offerings to God, but He'll not care anything about that until you start treating your wife right.

- In Matthew 5:24 Jesus said if you bring a gift to the altar and remember that you have a quarrel with your brother, leave the gift and fix the problem with your brother first.

- In the Old Testament, a right relationship with God should have resulted in a right relationship with others.
- In the New Testament, your relationship with Christ should result in a right relationship with others.