Hebrews Lesson 15

**Hebrews 10:1-18 (NIV)**
1  The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming--not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.
2  If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.
3  But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins,
4  because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
5  Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me;
6  with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased.
7  Then I said, 'Here I am--it is written about me in the scroll-- I have come to do your will, O God.'"
8  First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them" (although the law required them to be made).
9  Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second.
10  And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
11  Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and 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,
14  because by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.
15  The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:
16  "This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."
17  Then he adds: "Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more."
18  And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin.

**Chapter 10**

[10:1-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A1-10) An exposition of [Ps 40:6-8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+40%3A6-8) (see notes there). **Psalm 40:6 (NASB)**
6  Sacrifice and meal offering You have not desired; My ears You have opened; Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required.

[10:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A1) The law. Together with the Levitical priesthood to which it was closely linked under the Mosaic system (see note on [7:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A11)). only a shadow. The sacrifices prescribed by the law prefigured Christ's ultimate sacrifice. Thus they were repeated year after year, the very repetition bearing testimony that the perfect, sin-removing sacrifice had not yet been offered. make perfect. See [v. 14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A14) and note.

[10:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A4) impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. An animal cannot possibly be a completely adequate substitute for a human being, who is made in God's image.

[10:5-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A5-6) The different terms used for Levitical sacrifices represent four of the five types of offerings prescribed by the Mosaic Law ([Lev 1-7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+1-7)), namely, fellowship, grain, burnt and sin ([see chart, p. 153](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=3913&sec=00001838#otsac)).

[10:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A5) when Christ came into the world, he said. The words of this psalm of David ([40:6-8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+40%3A6-8)) express Christ's obedient submission to the Father in coming to earth. The Mosaic sacrifices are replaced by submissive obedience to the will of God ([v. 7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A7)).

[10:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A6) you were not pleased. See [1Sa 15:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+15%3A22); [Ps 40:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+40%3A6) and notes.

[10:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A7) to do your will. The will of the Father was the Son's consuming concern (see [Lk 22:42](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+22%3A42); [Jn 4:34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+4%3A34) and note).

[10:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A9) He sets aside the first to establish the second. His perfect sacrifice, offered in complete submission to God's will, supersedes and therefore replaces all previous sacrifices as the means by which sinners are made holy.

[10:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A10),[14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A14) made holy. Cleansed from all sin (forgiven and purified) and consecrated to God's service (see note on [1Co 1:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Co+1%3A2)).

[10:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A10) once for all. Contrast [v. 1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A1) (see note there; see also [v. 12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A12); [7:27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A27) and note).

[10:11-12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A11-12) A contrast between standing and sitting. The Levitical priest always stood, because his work was never finished (see [7:27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A27) and note).

[10:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A12) for all time. See [7:27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A27) and note. sat down at the right hand of God. See [1:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A13) and note.

[10:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A13) Having offered, as priest, the all-sufficient sacrifice, Jesus now sits enthroned as king, looking forward to the ultimate triumph over all that opposes his rule (see [1:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A3) and note on [1:2-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A2-3); cf. [Rev 5:6-14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+5%3A6-14) and note on [5:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+5%3A6); cf. also [Rev 7:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+7%3A10),[17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+7%3A17); [11:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+11%3A15); [19:11-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+19%3A11-21); [20:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+20%3A4)).

[10:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A14) made perfect. The one "made perfect" ([5:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+5%3A9); see [7:28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A28) and note; see also [2:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+2%3A10)) has "made" sinners "perfect" in regard to God's will for their holiness.

[10:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A15) Holy Spirit. See [3:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+3%3A7) and note.

[10:16-18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A16-18) The two quotations included here are from [Jer 31:31-34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+31%3A31-34) (already cited in [8:8-12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A8-12)). The new covenant guarantees that sins will be completely forgiven ([v. 17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A17)), with the result that no additional sacrifice for sins is needed ([v. 18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A18)).

**NIV Study Bible.**

**Open it**

1. What is one thing you would buy at a very high price if paying that price meant you never had to pay for it again?
 **Cars, housing, health insurance**

2. What are some ways people try to deal with bad habits?
 **Bad habits? I don’t have any? Ignore them, blame others, etc**

**Explore it**

3. How is the Law compared to the new covenant brought by Christ? ([10:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A1))
 **Not what is needed for true salvation**

4. In what way was the Law of Moses glaringly inadequate? ([10:1-2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A1-2))
 **It was outside cleaning only, not cleaning your consciousness of sins**

5. What function did the annual sacrifices serve? Why? ([10:3-4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A3-4))
 **They remind us of our sins and disobedience**

6. How successful were animal sacrifices under the old covenant? ([10:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A4))
 **They were not good enough**

7. Why wasn’t God pleased with the sacrifices and offerings of the old covenant? ([10:5-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A5-6))
 **No, but he knew we needed to learn**

8. What was the attitude of Christ when He came into the world? ([10:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A7))
 **He had come into the world to do God’s will not his own**

9. What evidence of the futility and emptiness of the old covenant did the author cite? ([10:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A8))
 **God took no pleasure in them**

10. If God neither desired nor was pleased with old covenant sacrifices, why did the Israelites make them? ([10:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A8))
 **They were trying to follow the law God had given them, but they could not**

11. What role does a believer play in earning God’s approval? ([10:9-14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A9-14))
 **Other than believing in Christ nothing else will do**

12. What did Christ’s single act of dying accomplish for those who would trust in Him? ([10:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A14))
 **He perfected for all time those who ae sanctified**

13. How did the new covenant change the way God motivates His people to live for Him? ([10:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A16))
 **God has written His laws in our hearts and our minds so we may follow them**

14. What effect did the sacrifice of Christ have on the way God views our sins? ([10:17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A17))
 **God will see our sins and our lawless deeds forgotten, all of our sins have been forgiven and forgotten**

**Get it**

15. How does being cleansed of sin by Christ change us?
 **We can now join with God in Heaven**

16. In what sense have we "been made holy" ([10:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A10)) while at the same time "are being made holy" ([10:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+10%3A14))?
 **We are now children of God, learning and working his wonders in this world, we become closer to him through our studies and our actions until we meet him in Heaven**

**Apply it**

17. In what specific areas of your life today do you need to follow the example of Christ in saying, "I have come to do your will, O God"?
 **Every time I lead a lesson**

18. What can you do this week to show trust in Christ’s provision for forgiveness?
 **Accept what is so easy to do, but takes a long time to learn about**