

## God's Ultimate Solution for Sin

25 October, 2009

By Rev. Lonny R. Bower

Scripture Reference – Leviticus 4:1-12; 16:29-34; 1 John 5:16, 17; Hebrews 9:11-28; 10:19-25

**Unit Theme:** “The Gospel Fulfills the Law”

**Central Truth:** The death of Jesus Christ fulfilled the sacrificial system and brought us complete salvation.

**Focus:** Discover how Old Testament sacrifices foreshadowed Christ's sacrifice for sin and receive His salvation.

**Key Verse:** Hebrews 9:26

### **Introduction:**

Sin, such a small word for such a huge problem; sickness, disease, heartache, loneliness, fear, death, all a result of this little word – sin. Sin is that which causes one to fall short of God's glory. It separates one from the power and presence of the Almighty God. If there is any hope for man, if there is any chance to stand in the presence of God, to live in His kingdom, sin has to be dealt with. Imagine living in a world where sin does not exist, a world that is absent sin can only mean one thing – it's also absent all the consequences of sin. No more sickness, disease, heartaches, loneliness, no more death. This was God's original plan and will for us and believe it or not still is, but first, before we can attain such a place, sin has to be dealt with. Now, it is absolutely paramount to understand that sin cannot be dealt with by the sinful. It must be handled by one who is sinless. This was God's plan from the beginning, to provide an ultimate solution for man's sin. One must first recognize their dire need, that they indeed are a sinner and without divine intervention they will die, physically and spiritually – eternal death. However, acknowledgement of ones sins is not enough, there must also be an appeal to the Righteous One – a confession of sins and a turning away from such. Then and only then are our sins completely and eternally dealt with and its all done for free! **Romans 6:23...**

### **I. Sacrifices for Sin – Leviticus 4:1-12; 1 John 5:16, 17**

Jeremiah 17:9 says that the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked.... This is why we need a savior, not one that can just save us from our sins, but one that can change our heart so that we no longer sin – more on this later. The law provided a way to cover ones sins whether intentional or unintentional, but one had to follow the righteous requirements of the law. The law was just a foreshadowing of the Excellency to come. The law had to be carried out by priests who were also subject to sin and therefore was incapable of completely cleansing one from their sins (**Hebrews 10:4**). Two important things to note from our passage: First, there is unintentional sin, sin that is not premeditated, but nonetheless must be dealt with accordingly. Second, the anointed (priests) are also capable of sinning. Where the law fell short was in its inability to change ones nature. We do not have time in this lesson to divert too far, but I will

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leave you with a statement that will be sure to set most back on their heels and scripture for further study. First the statement, it is possible to (after receiving Jesus as Savior and Lord) live a sinless life and in fact this is God's desire for us.

- **Further Study:** Romans 6 (we are dead to sin); 2 Corinthians 5:17 (we are new, the old is gone); 1 Peter 4:1-3 (ceased from sin); 1 John 2:1 (that we sin not but "if" key word...); 1 John 5:18 (does not sin)

### Leviticus 16:29-34

Yom Kippur – The Day of Atonement is still observed and celebrated by Orthodox Jews today. What a joy it is to know that the Lord Jesus Christ provided atonement for our sins by His death on Calvary. We can and should celebrate our day of atonement continually, because He has provided a way for us to be cleansed from all unrighteousness and has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west (**Psalm 103:12**). Without His atonement for our sins we would be lost and incapable of living a righteous, sinless life.

#### ➤ **Think about it:**

Have you considered the possibility of living a sinless life?


*"It does not matter how small the sins are provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the Light and out into the Nothing." —C.S. Lewis*

## II. Christ's Complete and Final Sacrifice – Hebrews 9:11-28

The earthly Tabernacle was a representation of the heavenly Tabernacle; this is where the earthly priest would serve. However, it was not this earthly Tabernacle where Jesus would accomplish His priestly duties but the heavenly Tabernacle, not made with hands. Jesus did away with the old, eliminating the earthly office of high priest. He did not do away with the law however, He fulfilled the law. It was God's plan from the beginning to establish the law so that man would see his need for a redeemer (**Romans 7:7-9, 24, 25**). Jesus is the only one who could fulfill the law because He was and is the only man that has ever lived a sinless life – the only one who never needed redeemed. The veil (**Leviticus 4:6**) that the earthly priest would stand before and sprinkle the blood was ripped from top to bottom upon the death of Jesus (**Matthew 27:50, 51**). The veil separated sinful man from the holy God, only the High Priest could enter (boldly) behind the veil into the Holy of Holies and minister in the presence of the Lord (had to be

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without sin or he would die). But when Jesus died and became our High Priest the veil was removed allowing us the great privilege of entering the presence of God. **Hebrews 4:16** says that we can boldly come before the throne of grace to obtain mercy and grace in our time of need. Thanks to the work of Jesus, we don't have to rely on an imperfect sinful high priest any longer, but can look to a spotless, righteous High Priest – Jesus. Because of His work we will ever have access to the Holy of Holies.

➤ **Think about it:**

Is there anything man can do to help in our redemption, why or why not?


*"Any cloth may cover our sores, but the finest silk will not cover our sins." —Henry Smith*

### III. Living in Christ – Hebrews 10:19-25

Have you ever been right about something, I mean absolutely right? Was not your assurance accompanied by boldness to stand up for what you new was right? This is the boldness we now have, to not only enter this new and living way, but live continually for Jesus relating with Paul who said "I am not ashamed of the gospel message of Jesus Christ..." It is this new found boldness that allows us to draw near with a full assurance of faith. That is, we do not doubt that the work Christ accomplished on our behalf is sufficient, we don't have to help Him, and we don't have to add to it. This is where our faith is proven – by our boldness (true heart). If we lack this boldness then our faith is not faith at all and we, by our lack of faith, make insufficient the work of Christ. We must not waiver, but hold fast to the confession of our hope, that one day soon we shall receive our salvation in full.

➤ **Think about it:**

Consider what it really means to draw near with a true heart.


*"It is a destructive addition to add anything to Christ." —Richard Sibbes*

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### Conclusion:

God made away for our sin to be dealt with, and since we are sinners he didn't need our help or advice. The fact is that He established the Old Covenant as a model of the better things to come and without it there would not be a New Covenant. Without a New Covenant we would be lost in our sins and still separated from the presence of God. Even the righteous prior to Christ's death and resurrection were separated from God's glory upon their death. They went to a place that has since been emptied (**Ephesians 4:7-10**) by Jesus – Paradise (Abraham's Bosom). Now we have an eternal assurance as the word of God says to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord (**2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23**). Wherever we are in our walk with God, we can be sure of this that He has made away to not only atone for all of our sins, but keep us from walking again in them. Yet we continually wrestle and have this internal struggle as Paul did (**Romans 7:13-25**) desiring to do one thing, but accomplishing the exact thing we want to avoid. Who shall deliver us? The Lord Jesus, He shall deliver us, if we will look to Him and call out to Him He will reach down and pull us out of the miry clay (**Psalms 40:2**). Therefore, whatever happens we need to determine in our heart of hearts to not look back but press on toward the mark and prize which is in Christ Jesus (**Philippians 3:12-14**). For if we serve Jesus and love God with all of our heart soul and strength as we are commanded to do (**Deuteronomy 6:4**) our best lies ahead not behind!

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This study and others can be found on my website at [www.bowerlife.com](http://www.bowerlife.com) from the home page click on the Full Message link.

### Next Week's Lesson – Be Holy

- I. Commanded to Live Holy – **Leviticus 20:7-8; 1 Peter 1:15-16**
- II. Instructions for Holy Living - **Leviticus 20:1-6, 9-10; Colossians 3:5-11; Titus 2:11, 12**
- III. Motivation for Holy Living – **Deuteronomy 7:6-11; Hebrews 12:14, 18, 22-28**