

## Once for All - The Superiority of Jesus Christ

February 10, 2013

Hebrews 10:11-14

### I. The Past Ineffectiveness of the Old Covenant (10:11)

1. What do the phrases, “day after day” and “again and again,” say about the ineffectiveness of the old covenant sacrifices? (10:11)
2. What did God promise that the old covenant sacrifices would do? (cf. Lev. 4:20, 26, 31, 35; 5:13, 18; 6:7)
3. Why does God not desire sacrifices and offerings? (10:8) Why does Hebrews say that the old covenant sacrifices could never take away sins? (10:11)
4. According to Paul, the only way in which God can be justified in forgiving sins is because of the work of his Son as the ultimate sacrifice of atonement (Rom. 3:25-26). How could God forgive the sins of the Israelites in the old covenant outside of the work of Jesus Christ?
5. Can God just forgive sin however He wants to? Can God forgive sin without needing the atoning work of His Son? What are the consequences of saying that God can forgive sins without the necessity of Christ’s atoning work on the cross?
6. How do we then correlate Hebrews and Leviticus?

The only way in which the sacrifices of the Levitical era provided forgiveness of sins was because Christ’s atonement was applied to them. God foresaw the legal ramifications of his Son’s work on the cross and applied them to those Israelites who obeyed in faith. In and of themselves, the old covenant sacrifices had no legal authority or basis to forgive sins (Heb. 10:11). What do you think?

### II. The Present Finality of the Work of Jesus (10:12, 14)

1. Read Hebrews 10:11-12. Identify the points of contrast between the old covenant priests and Jesus.
2. The author says that by one sacrifice Jesus has made us “perfect forever.” What does this mean? (cf. Heb. 10:1; 11:40; 12:23)
3. The last phrase mentions “those who are being made holy” (Heb. 10:14). This verbal idea occurs elsewhere throughout the book. Read Hebrews 10:10, 29 and 13:12. Are people being “made holy / sanctified” instantaneously or progressively? How might this influence the way we read this phrase in 10:14?

### III. The Future Victory of Jesus (10:13)

1. How does this verse relate to Ps. 110:1 and 1 Corinthians 15:25-26?
2. In what ways does this motivate us in the present?

### IV. Application

1. Why does Hebrews 10:11-14 offer great comfort and peace?
2. What does Hebrews 10:11-14 teach us about what is not needed for us to be made perfect forever?
3. While the first century Hebrew Christians would have been tempted to return to worship at the temple, what is the temptation for us as twenty-first century Christians?