

The New Covenant Is In Hebrews 10:10-18

INTRO:

The mind learns by endless repetition. At least that is what my professor's in college and seminary told me. I know what you are thinking. When we read our text in Hebrews 10:10-18, we have covered this before. The writer to the Hebrews repeats himself when it comes to this part of his book.

When we see this apparent repetition we need to first understand that it is vitally important we get this truth. It is very important to God, and it should be important to us.

Second, we need to remember the historical context. When the writer is composing this epistle, the Temple is still there and the sacrifices demanded by the Old Covenant are still being offered. If you are a good Jew who has embraced the Lord Jesus as your Messiah and Savior, what are you going to do when you sin? Is it alright to believe in Jesus and still offer a sacrifice to pay for your sin? Let us listen to the writer and then answer the question.

I. The Old Covenant Is Completed (v. 10-14)

II. The Difference The New Covenant Makes (v. 15-18)

I. The Old Covenant Is Completed (v. 10-14)

“And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.” (Hebrews 10:11–14)

A. The word, ***“and,”*** in **verse 11** ties this statement to verse 10. How did the writer end his discussion in verse 10?

“By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”

The writer announces the New Covenant had begun. No repeated sacrifices that could just postpone God's judgment and never take it entirely away. Now the Lord Jesus has come, offered Himself and put away our sin once for all.

B. How do we know this is true? How do we know that the Old Covenant is done away and the New Covenant is begun? We know because of the difference between the Old Covenant priests and the New Covenant Priest.

1. Every Old Covenant priests stood constantly offering sacrifices that cannot remove sin. There were no chairs in the Tabernacle/Temple because the sacrifices were never complete. Can anyone estimate how many blood sacrifices the Old Covenant priests

offered over the years? For all of those sacrifices, how many sins were removed? Not a single one.

2. Then the writer turns our attention to the Lord Jesus Christ in **verses 12-14**.

“But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.”

Our writer made three points.

1. He sat down. His work was finished. The sacrifice was done and cannot be repeated.
2. He sat down in the seat of highest honor and authority at the right hand of God the Father. God who is the judge is satisfied with our Lord’s sacrifice.
3. He has won the victory. His enemies will be vanquished because He has died and His sacrifice removed all the sins of His people. Do you remember this question and answer in **Romans 8:33-34**?

“Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”

II. The Difference The New Covenant Makes (v. 15-18)

A. Now we understand the reality of our sins being removed and taken away forever, what difference does that make? The writer showed us by quoting Jeremiah’s prophecy of the New Covenant. **(vs.15-18)**

“But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, ‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,’ then He adds, ‘Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.’ Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.”

B. This makes a difference because in this Jeremiah’s Prophecy of the New Covenant is fulfilled. The writer did not dream up the truth he expounded for us. God the Holy Spirit predicted it through His divinely attested prophet Jeremiah.

C. This makes a difference because the New Covenant will make our relationship to God an internal thing.

“I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,”

It is no longer a coming to God through an external ceremony, but through coming through the living Christ in our hearts.

D. It makes a difference because our sins are completely gone.

“Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”

E. Finally, it makes a difference in how we act in response to when we sin. (v.18)

“Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin.”

Remember our Jewish believer in the introduction and the question we asked? Is it alright to believe in Jesus and still offer a sacrifice to pay for your sin? To offer a sacrifice to pay for our sin is to say that Christ’s sacrifice was insufficient.

When we New Covenant believers sin, how do we respond? We cannot make it up to God.

We cannot do anything: penance, self-denial, or punishment to earn forgiveness. All we can do is follow John’s prescription in **1 John 1:9**.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”