

Sovereign Grace Church
“A Willing Sacrifice” outline
January 29, 2017

Hebrews 10: 1-10

The author of Hebrews has been focusing upon the surpassing perfection of the sacrifice of Christ in contrast to the Old Testament sacrificial system. The Old Testament system was perfect, given God's intentions for it. But those intentions did not include the full redemption of those bringing the sacrifices. Rather, the system was intended to be a reminder of the seriousness of sin and the need for a coming fully redemptive sacrifice.

Such a sacrifice had to not only be bodily, but also reflective and freely chosen! No animal could possibly fulfill this requirement. Thus the need for a human capable of such a mind-set. However, since the Fall humans are infected with sin which makes their best efforts an unfolding of their most basic desire of self-preservation/love. A truly redemptive sacrifice had to be not only reflective and freely chosen but also one motivated by an unqualified love for the Father over their own being! Such a condition required the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.

1. The Law of the Sacrifice 1-4

- OT Law a Shadow of the Good to Come Col. 1: 15

- Limitation of OT Law Rom. 7:14-17

- Purpose of OT Law Gal. 3: 19,21-22

- Confusion Rectified v. 4

2. God's Desire in Sacrifice 5-10

- Psalm 40: 6-8 (vv. 5-7)

- God's Desire vv. 8-9 Psm 51:16-17; Micah 6: 6-8

- **Incarnation Necessary v. 5** Isa 42:1; Jn 14:31; Jn 14:15
- **The Will perfects the Sacrifice. v. 10** Heb. 12:14

3. Relevance to Us
Rom 8:1; 12: 1-2; Matt. 6: 33

Questions for Conversation and Reflection

- 1. In your own words explain why Jesus' sacrifice is better than the sacrifices of the Old Covenant administration. How was the intention of the Old Covenant sacrifices different than that of Jesus'? If the Old Covenant sacrifices were not saving, then how were our Old Testament brethren saved?**
- 2. What motivates your efforts at obedience to God? *to get into Heaven? to escape Hell? to honor your family or friends? to make your life easier? to be a good example to your children or peers?* Or because you love God?! Do you love God? How can it be that the first step in loving God is admitting that we don't?! What does Deuteronomy 4: 29 have to do with loving God?**
- 3. Regeneration graciously gives us a new heart. But is it a perfect heart? How does Romans 7 indicate that our hearts need continued transformation into Christ-likeness? What are ways Scripture indicates that we are to cooperate with the Holy Spirit in transforming our minds and wills? *Why is it inadequate to desire to be like Christ and not do anything to bring it about? Why is it inadequate to try to be like Christ without God's gracious Spirit alive within us?***