

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Hebrews 10:1-31**.
- B. The 10th chapter of Hebrews has within it three major thrusts which are all important in showing the superiority of the Xian system over the Law of Moses, its sacrifices, and its priesthood.
- C. Three main points:
 - 1. The contrast of the OT's imperfect sacrifices with the one perfect sacrifice of X.
 - 2. The high priesthood of X belongs to a better order (Melchizedek, and not Aaron).
 - 3. A new view of final judgment due to having faith in X, His priesthood, and His sacrifice.

I. THREE BENEFITS OF THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST.

- A. First, Christ's sacrifice takes away sins (10:1-10).
 - 1. The need for a better sacrifice (10:1-4).

For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never by the same sacrifices year by year, which they offer continually, make perfect those who draw near. **2** Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? **3** But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year by year. **4** For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.
 - 2. The provision of the better sacrifice (10:5-9).

Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "SACRIFICE AND OFFERING THOU HAST NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY THOU HAST PREPARED FOR ME; **6** IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN THOU HAST TAKEN NO PLEASURE. **7** "THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE ROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO THY WILL, O GOD.'" **8** After saying above, "SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN THOU HAST NOT DESIRED, NOR HAST THOU TAKEN PLEASURE in them" (which are offered according to the Law), **9** then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO THY WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second.
 - 3. The effectiveness of the sacrifice (10:10).

By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
- B. Second, Christ's sacrifice need not be repeated (10:11-18).
 - 1. OT priests sacrificed and continued to stand. Christ sacrificed Himself and sat down (10:11-13).

And every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices which can never take away sins; **12** but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, **13** waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.
 - 2. Christians have been made complete by His sacrifice (10:14).

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.
 - 3. The Spirit's testimony to our perfection unlike under the old Law (10:15-18).

And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, **16** "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND UPON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM," He then says, **17** "AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE." **18** Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin.
- C. Third, Christ's sacrifice opens the way to God (10:19-31).
 - 1. The indicative of what X has done (10: 19-21).
 - a. He has shed His blood (10:19).

Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,
 - b. He has inaugurated a new and living way (10:20).

by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,
 - c. He has become the great high priest over the church (10:21).

and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

2. The imperative based on the indicative (10:22-25).
 - a. Let us draw near (10:22).
let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
 - b. Let us hold fast our confession (10:23).
Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful
 - c. Let us consider and not forsake (10:24-25).
and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, **25** not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.
3. Willful sin against the perfect sacrifice means a stricter judgment as compared to the punishment for sin under the Law (10:26-31).
For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, **27** but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment, and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES. **28** Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **29** How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? **30** For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." **31** It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

II. THE NEED FOR FAITH (in Christ and His Sacrifice).

- A. Remember your endurance, sympathy, and joy which was yours when under persecution (10:32-34).
But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, **33** partly, by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. **34** For you showed sympathy to the prisoners, and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and an abiding one.
- B. Be confident, patient, and faithful to preserve you soul (10:35-39).
Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. **36** For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. **37** FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY. **38** BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. **39** But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

CONCLUSION.

- A. "The righteous shall live by faith" which says that we should put our faith in the perfect, forgiving, sacrifice of Christ.
- B. A sacrifice that needs not to be repeated again and again, but one able to make complete.
- C. Faith in the once and for all, forgiving, perfect, only way of salvation sacrifice of Christ is able to preserve one's soul under persecution, and to receive the promises of God which has great reward.