

Let's look at the short verse just before this lesson. Hebrews 10:4 *"It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins."*

Why were the faithful of Israel commanded to bring sacrifices for themselves year after year, if it is not possible for sacrifices to remove guilt? Why does the priest stand performing his religious duties day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, if this can never take away our sin? God had commanded all this to be done in His Law, spoken through Moses. But if God did not take pleasure in these sacrifices, and if they could never be effective in relieving our guilt, then why?

It was the Law. The purpose of the Law is to set our boundaries, and to point out our infractions, where we fall short. Like a mirror, it reflects our image and allows us to see ourselves for who we really are – those who hopelessly fail to live up to the demands of the Law. In need of a Savior. Hopelessly sinners. But really not without hope!

The Messiah of God is about to come. It is the dawn of a new age, one in which God Himself, through Christ, reaches down to make things right. Jesus Christ is here to do the will of God, to become the perfect sacrifice, the once-and-for-all-time atonement for our sin. While the Law was effective in killing us, it is the will of God through Christ Jesus to give us life. Hebrews 10:10 *"And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."*

Let us pray: Dear Father, we thank you that you fulfilled your will for us in the bodily death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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