

The Futility of Animal Sacrifices – Hebrews 10:1-4

Pastor Greg Stiekes

Hebrews 10 climaxes the main theological point of the letter—the superiority of the priesthood and sacrifice of Jesus under the New Covenant in comparison to the priesthood and sacrifices commanded by the Law under the Old Covenant. The author concludes that it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins (10:4). *How does he reason to this conclusion?*

1. What animal sacrifices were supposed to accomplish:
 - a. The worshiper's perfection (1)
 - b. The worshiper's purification (2)
 - c. The worshiper's guiltlessness (2, 3)
 - d. The worshiper's sinlessness (4)

2. Why animal sacrifices could not accomplish these things:
 - a. Animal sacrifices were merely shadows (1).

 - b. Animal sacrifices were ineffective (1-2).

3. What animal sacrifices, in fact, accomplished instead (3):