

# The Book of Hebrews

## Hebrews 10:1-4

### **Living In Reality** *Hebrews 10:1*

It is the work of Jesus Christ alone that saves and transforms believers. Trusting in anything else to get right with God or cope with life is to live in a fantasy land that will ultimately the wrath of God. Some things I sinfully trust or hope in are financial security, health, smooth family relationships, acceptance. *Colossians 2:16, Matthew 11:28-30*

### **Reminded of Mercy Not Guilt** *Hebrews 10:2-4, 11*

The Day of Atonement was an annual *Reminder* of sin not a *Removal* of sin. Only the once for all perfect sacrifice of Christ removes our sin and allows us to bask in the unconditional and overflowing love of God. The Sacrifice of Christ transforms a reminder of guilt (The Day of Atonement) into a reminder of grace (The Lord's Supper). *1 John 1:8-9, Ephesians 3:16-21*

### **Let's Talk About Blood** *Hebrews 10:4*

If we could get some of Christ's blood under a microscope it would look no different than yours and mine. Blood in this instance is shorthand for life that is given violently and sacrificially. The reason Christ's blood (life sacrifice) is better than the blood (life sacrifice) of bulls and goats has nothing to do with the physical characteristics of His blood. *Hebrews 2:10-18, Ephesians 1:7*

## Hebrews 10:5-10<sup>1</sup>

### **Technically, the Author of Hebrews is Wrong (But He's Really Right!)** *Hebrews 10:5*

Psalm 40 is a Psalm of David. Christ himself did not "say" this when he came into the world or ever. But the authors of the NT make it clear that David is a type of Christ. David is picture King of the picture people of God while Christ is the real King of the real people of God. Therefore, in the NT, the words of David are often said to be about Christ or actually placed on the Savior's lips. *Acts 4:25-27, John 15:25*

### **Reason to Rejoice and Live "Full Throttle" for Christ** *Hebrews 10:8-10*

He set aside the first (OT sacrifices and offerings—the OC) to establish the second (the will of God—our salvation—which is the New Covenant). It was the Father's will to sacrifice His Son for us, and it was Christ's desire to obey His Father.

- Consider the depth of the Father's love for us. *Luke 12:32, Romans 8:32*
- Consider the depth of Christ's Love For us.
- Consider the example left for us. *Philippians 2:1-11, 1 Peter 2:18-24*

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<sup>1</sup> **Technical Note # 1** Hebrews 10:5 b "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire." (See Hebrew 10:8 as well) Did God want sacrifices or not? In Psalm 40 David is not saying that God did not desire the sacrifices and offerings that He commanded. Rather, he is saying that God does not desire sacrifices and offerings without a corresponding love for God and desire to obey Him in all other areas of life. This is a consistent theme in Scripture See *1 Samuel 15:22, Isaiah 1:10-17, Amos 5:21-26, Matthew 23:23-24*

**Technical Note #2** If you read Psalm 40:6 you will find that your version does not match up to the author of Hebrews quotation of the verse. Here is the difference:

Hebrew Old Testament (Masoretic Text): "But you have pierced (dug, opened) my ears" (See Isaiah 50:5)

Greek Old Testament (Septuagint): "But you have prepared a body for me" (Used by the author of Hebrews in 10:5)

My Explanation: It seems best to conclude that the translators of the Hebrew Old Testament into Greek (the authors of the Septuagint) simply translated an idiom "dug out/opened my ears" which means caused me to hear and desire to obey into their own idiom "you have prepared a body for me." The author of Hebrews used the Septuagint to quote from. Both versions mean the same thing.