

## ~ Christmas Message ~

A Body You Have Prepared for Me

Hebrews 10:5-10

Christmas is a time when we remember Jesus' birth. When our Lord became a Man and was born of a virgin so that we could have an opportunity to believe in Him and have Everlasting Life. Jesus is our God Man, fully God and fully Man who came to this earth, died, and rose again as a Man so we could be saved from our sins. And He is still a Man and He will be coming back as a Man, as King of kings and Lord of lords. The text we are going to be looking at today reminds us of this fact, **Hebrews 10:5-10**.

Paul is quoting Psalm 40:6-8 specifically from the Septuagint. Which is key to understanding this text because the Hebrew translation misses the entire point Paul is making. That Jesus came as a man to be the final sacrifice for sin. David wrote this 1,000 years before Jesus was born. And it was Jesus, who is The Word, speaking through David when David wrote Psalm 40. And it was through David that the Messiah would be born in human nature, **Matthew 22:42-46**.

Notice this first phrase in verse 5... **when He came into the world He said...** This is Paul, in his Apostolic authority telling us that this is a Messianic Psalm. Jesus came into the world legally through the womb of a woman. But not through the seed of fallen man, but from the Seed of God, being born of a virgin... fully God and fully Man, kinsman to Adam and legally able to be our Kinsman Redeemer and sacrifice for sin. This was the plan of Redemption even before the foundation of the world, **1 Peter 1:18-21**. And remember, Amos said that God does nothing unless He first reveals it to His Prophets, Amos 3:7. Therefore, the Prophets are full of prophecies foretelling of the First Coming of Jesus into the world of which Isaiah is replete. A few examples are, **Isaiah 1:9; 7:14; 9:6; 49:5-6; 48:16**.

Jesus is the One who was sent from heaven as Savior of the world and He came legally through the womb of a woman, **1 John 5:6-8**. Born of water and blood, born of a virgin, born under the Law as God's witness to Eternal Life. And He came to redeem those who were condemned under the Law, which is everyone... so that all who believe in Him might receive the adoption as sons, Gal 4:4-5.

Notice how Paul describes the purpose of His coming... to do the Father's will, **Hebrews 10:5-7...** It was the Father's will that Jesus would come to this earth and die for our sins; to die as the vicarious substitutionary sacrifice for sin so that we could be reconciled to God, **2 Cor 5:18-19, 21**. Notice this "working in Christ" was the Father preparing the body that His Word would indwell. A human body, yet without sin to be the spotless Lamb of God. Therefore, Jesus willingly offered Himself as the final sacrifice; emptying Himself of His Divine privilege to become the Lamb of God, **Philippians 2:5-8...** the Kenosis of God.

It had to be the spotless Lamb of God that would satisfy God's wrath for our sin. The blood of bulls and goats could do nothing to satisfy sin. This is why David says that sacrifices and offerings were never the Father's desire, Hebrews 10:5... because notice what Paul says in verse 4... Hebrews 10:4- **For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins**. When David is confessing his sin in Psalm 51, he says the same thing, Psalm 51:16-17. God wants our heart not our deeds.

So if sacrifices and offerings aren't what God wants, then why does the Law demand a sacrifice for sin? Because these were a type to foreshadow "The Sacrifice" that would fulfill all the Law entirely. The Law demanded death for sin, the wages of sin is death, Romans 6:23, this was the Righteous payment for sin. The Law required a Righteous payment for sin. The Law says that **without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin**, Hebrews 9:22. But the blood of bulls and goats couldn't satisfy this payment, and our blood surely wouldn't satisfy... only the perfect and precious blood of Jesus was able to pay for this sin and satisfy God's wrath toward sin, 1 Peter 1:19; Isaiah 53:10.

So God wrote this in His Law for the sole purpose for Jesus to fulfill it. This is why Jesus says, **the volume**, (κεφαλῆς- comes from κεφαλή head, capital, topmost pedestal) **of the book is written of Me**, Hebrews 10:7. Everything in the Bible is about our Redemption in Jesus Christ for His glory. Paul says in Colossians the

sacrifices of bulls and goats are a shadow of things to come but **the substance is Christ**, Col 2:17. The word substance here is σῶμα– body. The body of Christ is the substance of the Law. This is why David says... “A body you have prepared for Me to do Your will,” ...to fulfill Your Law. The Law was a shadow of the good things to come. It was our tutor to bring us to Christ, Gal 3:24; **Hebrews 10:1, 8-10**. It is the body of Jesus, which the Father prepared for Him, this is the final sacrifice for sin. And notice Jesus did this willingly out of His deep love for us.

From verses 11-23, Paul describes the process of our salvation now that Jesus has come to this world, died, paid the price for sin, and risen from the dead. When the sacrifice was complete and the wrath of God had been poured out on Jesus as punishment for our sins, Jesus cried out, Tetelestai, it is finished, John 19:30, the veil was torn in two, and through His resurrection, as our High Priest, the Way was made into the throne of Grace to all who believe, Hebrews 10:11-14. And those who repent and put their trust in Jesus will receive remission of sin, Hebrews 10:15-18.

It is the flesh of Jesus, fully God and fully Man, our High Priest and Kinsman Redeemer that has redeemed us unto Everlasting Life in Him, **Hebrews 10:19-23**. It was this body, a baby born in a manger, born into this world, a body that the Father prepared in which God was made flesh as our Savior for the purpose to redeem us from sin and give us Everlasting Life in Him.

So with this understanding... what is our response? We trust in Him! We hold fast to Him as our Savior. We repent, turn from our sins, and turn upon Him and hold fast to His promises. Notice what Paul says in **Hebrews 10:23**. Jesus came into this world as a baby lying in a manger, born of a virgin, fully God and fully Man, and through His death and resurrection, He came to give us Everlasting Life in Him. Therefore, hold fast to Him, **Hebrews 9:28**.