

Jesus, the Perfect Sacrifice



Week Nine

inTro



Read This Week's Passage:
Hebrews 9, 10

THE MOTIF OF THE CROSS

The idea that a man found guilty and executed on a cross should be worshiped as God was offensive to the ancient mind. Sparse reference to the cross in Roman literature shows their aversion to the idea. For the Jews, the law declared that a man hung on a tree was cursed by God (Deut. 21:23).

Thus, the first motifs that we find in the Christian paintings of the catacombs were the peacock (supposedly symbolizing immortality), a dove, the athlete's victory palm, and the fish. Later, other themes appeared: Noah's ark, Abraham sacrificing the ram instead of Isaac, Daniel in the lions' den, Jonah being spit out by the fish, a shepherd carrying a lamb, or depictions of miracles like the healing of the paralytic and the raising of Lazarus. These were symbols of salvation, victory, and care. The cross, on the other hand, conveyed a sense of defeat and shame. Yet, it was the cross that became the emblem of Christianity. In fact, Paul simply called the gospel "the word of the cross" (1 Cor. 1:18, ESV).

This week we will look at the cross as it appears in the book of Hebrews.



inScribe

Write out Hebrews 9 from the translation of your choice. If you're pressed for time, write out Hebrews 9:23–28 and 10:14. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map it.



Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you



Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?



Memorize your favorite verse in Hebrews 9. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

How can we see here why the law is so central to the gospel message?

How do each of these different sacrifices make Jesus' sacrifice resonate personally with you?



Read more at www.inverseible.org/heb09-3



After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?



What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What would you face if you had to face the just punishment for your sins?

How should that truth help you understand what Christ has done for you?



Read more at
www.inverseible.org/heb09-4

inSpect



What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

- Genesis 15:6-21
- Jeremiah 34:8-22
- Ephesians 3:14-19
- Daniel 7:9-14; 8:13, 14
- Leviticus 16:29-34
- Romans 3:21-26
- John 12:47, 48; 3:18-21
- 1 John 4:17-19

—————>

What other verses come to mind in connection with the Judgment?

Review your memorized verse from Hebrews 9.



Where do you see Jesus in
Hebrews 9?



What is He saying to you through
these texts?

How would you explain what
Jesus is doing in the heavenly
sanctuary now and why is this
work necessary before His second
coming?

How do you see Jesus differently
or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to
seeing Jesus in this way?



Read more at
www.inverseible.org/heb09-6



Review the memory verse.
How does it apply to your
life this week?



After this week's study of
the passage, what are real
applications to your life?

What are applications that can be
made in other public spheres of
your life?

A large grid of small dots for writing notes.



Read more inSight from the
Spirit of Prophecy at
www.inverseible.org/heb09-7



inquire

Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.



What did Paul mean by glorying in the cross and what might that look like in our life?

How should the system of sacrifices be considered in the light of Jesus' sacrifice and the assertion of Scripture that the cross has put an end to it (Dan. 9:27; Heb. 10:18)? What is the role of sacrifice in the life of the believer?

What did Jesus mean when He said that we need to take our cross and follow Him (Matt. 16:24)?

What did the apostle Paul mean when he said that we should offer our bodies as "a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God" (Rom. 12:1, ESV)?

How can we better experience the Cross-given benefits in Christ?

Why is the two-phase ministry of Jesus so important for you today?