

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

One Lamb and One Sacrifice

If all the animal sacrifices that were offered and all that should have been offered under the law, the blood of those sacrifices would have flowed like a giant river. Yet for all those animal sacrifices, not one sin was atoned for by their sacrifice: Heb. 10:1 "For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. 2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. 3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Thus, the blood of all the animal sacrifices never atoned for one sin, but brought sin to remembrance and told the people of a need for a perfect redeemer. Jesus is that perfect Lamb of God. Jesus is declared throughout the New Testament to be "The Lamb of God" who through his one offering would take away the sins of the elect world:

1. John 1:29 "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

2. Rev 21:9 "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."

3. Rev 21:27 "And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

4. Rev 5:8 "And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints."

5. Rev 5:12 "Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing."

6. Rev 5:13 "And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever."

7. Rev 7:9, 10 "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."

The above verses show us that it is through the sacrificial atonement of that one "Lamb of God" that the elect are redeemed from their sins. It is by one sacrifice that they are redeemed and perfected:

1. Heb 10:12 "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

2. Heb 10:14 "For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."

The sacrifices of God's people as well as animal sacrifices though they have and had their place do not atone for sin, nor have any part in the atonement for sin. Only by the one sacrifice of the Lamb of God are our sins atoned for. Furthermore, they are atoned for forever.

Through this one atoning sacrifice all of the elect are brought into unity with God: Eph. 2:14 "For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of

twain one new man, so making peace; 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby."