

GROWTH GROUPS

February 12, 2012

Hebrews 10:1-18

Understanding -

This passage continues to unpack the understanding that old covenant laws and sacrifices were signs that pointed to the great sacrifice of Christ in the new covenant. It points to the annual necessity of the old covenant sacrifices verses the once, for all sacrifice of Christ as evidence that faith in Christ is much greater than faith in the law.

1. Verse 1 describes the old covenant laws and sacrifices as a “shadow” of the things to come. What does this image convey about the relationship between the old covenant sacrifices and the sacrifice of Christ? Consider both positive and negative thoughts.
2. The old covenant sacrificial system was never meant to be a permanent system, but only a sign of the perfect sacrifice to come as Psalm 40:6-8 states. (referred to in v.5-7) In spite of this, the believers who received the “letter to the Hebrews” were tempted to forsake faith in the perfect sacrifice, Jesus, to take back the old covenant sacrificial system. In what ways do we forsake the perfect sacrifice by taking hold of “sacrifices and laws” that are ultimately powerless.
3. Verse 14 says that by the “one sacrifice” God has made us perfect (past tense) while at the same time continuing to make us holy (present tense.) What does this mean? How are we to live based on this truth?