

# Hebrews

Hebrews 10:1-10 – To Do God's Will

May 31, 2009

I. **Hebrews 10:1-10** . . . For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, **make perfect** (*appears 9 times – 3 times refer to Christ's perfection, 5 time to our being perfected*) those who draw near. [2] Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? [3] But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins year by year. [4] For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats (*animal blood*) to take away sins (*human sins – why? Because the wages of sin is death*). [5] Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, (*Psalms 40:6-8*) "Sacrifice and offering You have not desired, but a body You have prepared for me; [6] in whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have taken no pleasure. [7] "Then I said, 'Behold, **I have come** (in the scroll of the book it is written of me) **to do Your will, O God.**' " [8] After saying above, "Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have not desired, nor have You taken pleasure in them" (which are offered according to the Law), [9] then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will." He takes away the first in order to establish the second. [10] **By this will we have been sanctified** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (*It is because Christ did the will of God that we have been sanctified – that is, redeemed from the penalty, power, and practice of sin and set apart from this world to be the possession of God.*)

II. Prayer

III. To Do God's Will

A. **Hebrews 10:5-7** . . . Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "Sacrifice and offering You have not desired, but a body You have prepared for me; [6] in whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have taken no pleasure. [7] "Then I said, 'Behold, I have come (in the scroll of the book it is written of me) to do Your will, O God.' "

1. **Psalms 40:6-8** . . . Sacrifice and meal offering You have not desired; My ears You have opened; Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required. [7] Then I said, "Behold, I come; In the

scroll of the book it is written of me. [8] I **delight** to do Your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart."

2. If sacrifice and offerings don't delight God, what is it He wants from us? He wants cheerful, willing, and deliberate obedience – just as Jesus gave Him obedience.
  - a. But when we sin – and surely we sin a lot – doesn't God want us to confess our sin and make things right with Him and whoever else we have sinned against? Yes! But that is what He wants when we don't give Him what He wants, first and foremost.
  - b. **Consider parents.** Parents want obedience, first and foremost. Now when obedience is not given, parents truly appreciate it if the child shows proper brokenness and humility over his sin along with an eagerness to get back to doing what is right. In fact, such a response on the part of the child gives the parents hope the child will grow up to become an obedient son or daughter.
    - (1) However, parents do not, above all else, long for a proper response from the child who has sinned.
    - (2) What parents long for, above all else is obedience – that is, doing the will of the parents. So it is with God.
3. Consider these scriptures concerning what God wants!
  - a. **I Samuel 15:22-23** . . . Samuel said, "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice**, and to heed than the fat of rams. [23] "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king."
  - b. **Hosea 6:6** . . . For I delight in **loyalty** (*faithfulness, allegiance, dedication, cooperation – is a manifestation of love*) rather than sacrifice, and in the knowledge of God (*knowledge that shows itself by how we live*) rather than burnt offerings.
  - c. **Micah 6:6-8** . . . With what shall I come to the LORD and bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, with yearling calves? [7] Does the LORD take delight in thousands of rams, in ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? [8] He has told you, O man, what

is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

- d. **Psalms 51:16-17** . . . For You do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; You are not pleased with burnt offering. [17] The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. *(after having sinned, what delights God is the right attitude toward Him, ourselves, and our sin)*

- 4. What is it God wants from us? He wants cheerful, deliberate, delighted obedience in doing His will – just as Jesus gave Him obedience in doing His will.

B. Delight to do God's will.

- 1. You might be wondering why simple obedience is not enough? Why is it so important to do God's will willingly, deliberately and cheerfully?
- 2. When we obey God from fear of punishment or hope of reward, we admit by our motives that we still treasure certain sins; that we still love some forms of unrighteousness; that we still believe there is room in the Christian life for a bit of rebellion against God – and therefore it isn't God's will or our love for God which holds our behavior in check, but rather our self-interest.
- 3. Now don't get me wrong here. Disciplined obedience to God's will for almost any reason is better than rebellion against God.
- 4. Yet our goal, our earnest desire as Christians ought to be to be like Jesus in this matter of doing the will of God. Jesus did not do God's will grudgingly or of necessity. He did not do God's will as if forced or as one under the authoritative constraint of God. **Jesus' submission to the will of God was as much the doing of Jesus' will as God's will. Why? Because it was Jesus' will to do the will of God.** In fact, Jesus delighted in doing God's will. And we show ourselves lovers of God and transformed or sanctified people when we delight to do God's will.

C. How does doing the will of God sanctify us? Consider –

- 1. Without question, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ redeems us (*frees us*) from the penalty, the power, and the practice of sin. Yet what Christ has done for us in his death and resurrection does not keep us from sinning once we are born again.

2. So what does keep us from sinning again and again after being born again? Doing the will of God. Living according to God's Word. In other words, we experience daily deliverance from temptation and live a sanctified, godly life when we do the will of God.
  3. Of course, when we fail, that is, when we rebel against God and usurp His authority by going our own way (*flesh, world, devil*), we are right to seek forgiveness by confessing our sin.
    - a. And when we confess, we know forgiveness can be given because of the blood that was shed (Jesus' blood).
    - b. Yet though the blood of Christ cleanses us, it does not keep us cleansed. We remain in a cleansed condition by willingly, deliberately and cheerfully doing the will of God.
- D. How can we get to the place where our will is to do God's will, where we delight in doing God's will, where we have the kind of thinking and attitudes that help us want to do God's will? Here are some suggestions:
1. Pray wisely and often enough to show God you mean business. **Psalms 143:10** . . . Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground.
  2. Seek those things that renew your mind and run away from the things that turn your mind back toward rebellion and disobedience.
  3. Nurture the following mindset and attitudes:
    - a. Want God's will done everywhere and in all things – including your own life.
    - b. Nurture the desire and commitment to do God's will as much as you know to do it.
    - c. Nurture that belief that in doing God's will you are loving Him as He ought to be loved – and that the opposite leads to despising Him and rebelling against Him and exalting self.
    - d. Agree with all God requires of you and agree with the manner in which He says they are to be done. Nurture the belief that God should use His own discretion in ordering and ruling and allowing what He will in the affairs of everyday life and in the course of history.
    - e. Nurture confidence in the wisdom, justice, and love of God so that it seem natural to willingly submit to God's control of all events relating to yourself, family, friends, and interests.
    - f. Be willing to deny yourself and take up your cross – daily!

- (1) To deny yourself is to say no to anything that leads to usurping God's will.
  - (2) To take up your cross daily is to be willing to suffer for the sake of doing God's will.
- g. Make Jesus your example.
  - (1) **John 4:34** . . . Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work.
  - (2) **John 6:38** . . . For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

E. What is the will of God?

- 1. Generally, we find the answer to that in the Word of God.
- 2. Specifically, some, but not all, hear from God in some way or another concerning a specific call to a specific task that God wants done. This call does not free us from the general will of God, it simply adds another piece of God's will to the whole of it.

F. The benefits of doing God's will

- 1. Doing the will of God is the only way to gain mankind's and our own highest good and greatest joy.
- 2. Doing the will of God opens our eyes, ears, mind, and heart to discern what is from God and what is from ungodly sources, and what God is saying. It makes the Bible come alive. **John 7:17** . . . If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself.
- 3. Doing the will of God confirms our standing with God whereas resisting God's will puts us on shaky ground. **Matthew 7:21** . . . Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter.
- 4. Doing God's will is an important part of evangelism, for it proves to the world that we are convinced, that God's will is good, acceptable and perfect. **Romans 12:2** . . . And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

## IV. Conclusion