

Hebrews L18 – Lessons 10-17 Study Summary

Lesson 10 – Hebrews 7:1-17 Who is Melchizedek?

- Q1 – Melchizedek was King of Salem (Jerusalem) and served as Priest of the Most High God. The Jews described him as without genealogy, explained as knowing nothing about his background and credentials to serve as High Priest. Known also as King of Righteousness and King of Peace.
- Q3 – The concept of “tithing” begins with Abraham giving 10% of victory spoils to Melchizedek after saving Lot’s family. New Testament teachings in Corinthians are that tithes should be planned gifts determined on the first day of each week, given willingly, generously and cheerfully --- not given reluctantly (forced to) or being treated like paying a bill.
- Q7, 8 – By virtue of an indestructible life, Jesus is a High Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Lesson 11 – Hebrews 7:18-28 A Better Covenant

- Q2 – The Old Covenant (Testament) of animal sacrifices was weak and useless, unable to make people perfect or clear their consciences. God’s Law identifies sin, but doesn’t cure it. When we fail to keep it 100% perfectly, we fall under a curse and are guilty of all. The Law justifies no one.
- Q3 – Jesus introduced a “better” hope, one offering salvation and right standing with God. We no longer live in fear, but confidence, and enter God’s presence through the way Jesus opened for us.
- Q6-8 – Jesus, who lives forever to intercede for us, provides “complete” salvation. Unlike human priests who live and die, Jesus lives forever. His once-for-all-time sacrifice was Himself, dying for our sin.

Lesson 12 – Hebrews 8:1-13 Jesus is Priest Over the New Covenant

- Q1 – Moses served us as a builder of God’s house on earth (the Tabernacle). He followed explicit instructions from God to imitate the heavenly Tabernacle, where Jesus is the “Son” of the house.
- Q5 – The Old Covenant (Testament) handed down through Moses was not without fault (v. 7). From God’s perspective, the problem was God’s People (Jews) did not keep His covenant.
- Q6 – In Jeremiah 31:31-34, God informed His People that He intended to introduce a “new” covenant. They would no longer have to teach one another God’s ways because the new covenant would be written on the hearts of all believers. In the new covenant, God transforms people’s hearts and minds through the Holy Spirit. They become “born again” into His family as His children.
- Q7 – Jesus fulfilled the Old Covenant (Testament) requirements. It is now obsolete. Jesus’ death on the cross and resurrection launched the New Covenant.

Lesson 13 – Hebrews 9:1-14 Jesus is the Mediator of the New Covenant (Part 1)

- Q1 – The Tabernacle tent in the wilderness was 15’ wide and 45’ long, divided into 2 rooms: the Holy Place (2/3rds) and the Holy of Holies (1/3rd). The Holy Place contained the Golden Lampstand and the Bread of the Presence. The Holy of Holies held the Ark of the Covenant (golden chest), within which was the Golden Urn of Manna, Aaron’s budded staff, and the 10 Commandment stone tablets. Only Levitical priests could enter the Holy Place, and only the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies, and that just one time a year (Day of Atonement).
- Q4 – The mercy seat, or altar, was the conversation (or meeting) place between God and Moses. It is the forerunner of today’s altars in churches where people come to “meet” God in personal prayer. It is also referred to as the Mercy Seat.
- Q5 – The shortcoming of the Old Covenant tabernacle was that it could not perfect the “conscience” of those bringing offerings. Blood from animal sacrifices only covered their sins.
- Q6, 7 – Jesus entered into the Holy Place (in Heaven) once for all time by His own blood, securing for us an eternal redemption, and purifying our conscience from dead works (actions on our part to earn our salvation in God’s eyes). We depend and rely solely on Jesus for being fully saved.

Lesson 14 – Hebrews 9:15-28 Jesus is the Mediator of the New Covenant (Part 2)

- Q1 – Jesus is called the “Mediator” of the new covenant. He has solved the problem between people and God (i.e., separation because of sin). We regard this as reconciliation. According to 1 Timothy 2:5, Jesus is the ONE (and only) Mediator between God and mankind.
- Q4 – God teaches us that “the life of the flesh is in the blood” (Leviticus). In the Old Covenant, animal blood purified the tent tabernacle, but did not clear the consciences of the sinners. Hebrews 9:22 says “there is no forgiveness [from God] without the shedding of blood.”
- Q5 – Jesus sacrificed Himself once for all time. While this happened at Golgotha (Calvary) outside Jerusalem, it was also happening in the heavenly (real, permanent) tabernacle above.
- Q6, 7 – It is appointed for man to die once, and, after that, comes judgment. Jesus’s second return (advent) will not be to save the world from sin, but to save those who eagerly await Him. Non-believers will face judgment; believers’ good works will be tested by fire in regards to rewards.

Lesson 15 – Hebrews 10:1-18 Jesus, the Once-For-All Sacrifice

- Q1 – Galatians teaches us that God’s Law was added because of men’s transgressions. It was meant to serve as a guide/tutor until Christ’s arrival, and justification by faith in Jesus became possible.
- Q2-4 – Animal sacrifices can NEVER make believers perfect; they cleanse the outside, but leave the inner person (conscience) unchanged. Jesus’ sacrifice can cleanse our consciences.
- Q5 – Even in the Old Testament, God revealed that animal sacrifices were not what He wanted. Instead, He wanted His people to listen to Him and obey fully, come with broken and contrite hearts (humility), and show steadfastness in their love for Him while also growing in knowledge.
- Q9 – Jesus’ once-for-all-time Self-sacrifice on the cross perfected us (i.e., cleared our consciences and reconciled us to God). Forgiven for all time, there is no longer any need for sacrifices at all.

Lesson 16 – Hebrews 10:19-25 Confidence in God Has a Great Reward

- Q3 – Jesus characterized Pharisees as full of greed, self-indulgence, hypocrisy and lawlessness. They were outwardly (ceremonially) clean, but inwardly unclean. Their hypocrisy deceived people, but not God. He called them “white-washed tombs.”
- Q4 – Because Jesus has opened direct access to God through His flesh, we are commanded to: 1) draw near to God with genuine, faith-filled hearts; 2) hold fast to our testimonies of hope and faith without wavering; 3) exhort one another to good works; 4) not neglect or forsake the weekly practice of church worshipping; and 5) encourage our Christian church family whenever we can.
- Q5 – Clean consciences come as God works with us through His Word (the Bible) and Holy Spirit. We cannot let our emotions (hearts) overrule our reason (minds).
- Q7 – We need to “constantly consider” how to spur on our fellow Christians to put faith into life actions.
- Q8, 9 – Many people “habitually” skip church worship services. They defy God’s command to set aside one worship day out of the seven day cycle. In church we hear and have God’s Word explained, praise Him together, contribute in service to the Body of Christ, humbly learn to value all others above ourselves, and encourage one another. God’s Judgment Day is moving ever closer...!

Lesson 17 – Hebrews 10:26-39 A Fearful Thing...Shrinking Back

- Q1-3 – Christians who *deliberately* “practice sinning” should not expect to go to heaven. In truth, they rightfully can only expect to face God’s judgment. Many scriptures confirm this truth. Christians are to be “dead to sin”, not using their salvation as a means to continue a life of sin. It offends God to do this, “trampling underfoot the Son of God” and “outraging the Holy Spirit.
- Q6-8 – Christians face different difficulties in life based on where they live. As God comforts us in our afflictions, we have obligations to help others. God embraces those who endure their severe afflictions by living and clinging to their faith. But He withdraws His pleasure from those who “shrink back” (quit the faith), resulting in eternal lives that are destroyed at the Judgment.