



Hamster on a Wheel

By Derek Kiser on August 10, 2021

TODAY'S READING: Hebrews 10

When I was a kid, I had a lot of animals. If it is a domestic animal, there is a good chance I had one at one point. I had several hamsters. They had wheels or little balls you could put them in for exercise. They would go round and round over and over and not seem to get bored. Imagine if that was your life -- the same thing every day over and over.

The idea of the sacrificial system was like that. There were sacrifices for all sins. The high priest would even sacrifice for the sins that people had done in ignorance. Can you fathom the number of sins that go on in your mind? Do we know how sinful our hearts really are? What about the frustration of realizing you had sinned over and over in an area that you had not even considered a sin. We have not even talked about the sins we all have that we are aware of and struggle with. Imagine that world without the Holy Spirit living inside of you daily. You should build your house as close to the temple as possible so you can make many trips daily to sacrifice for your sins because they are many. While this is discouraging, there is a point and there is a solution.

How are we not sinners on a wheel of continual sin, sacrifice, sin, sacrifice? Jesus. Hebrews 10 talks about how Jesus has made us perfect through fulfilling the perfect sacrifice. Hebrews 10:4 says, *"For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins."* That system, as Hebrews 10 tells us, was to point us to a better system -- a more perfect sacrifice. Hebrews 10:12 says, *"But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God."* Christ died as a perfect sacrifice for all time for all sins and then He was raised from the dead. Hebrews 10:19 states, *"Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus."* Jesus got mankind off the wheel of sin, sacrifice, sin, sacrifice on the cross. John 19:30 records Jesus' last words on the cross, in Greek *"Tetelestai"* in English *"It is finished."* Our sins were paid in full. The ultimate sacrifice was done -- Jesus had died for our sins and would rise from the grave a few days later. Sin was paid in full, we do not have to sacrifice for our sins because the ultimate sacrifice has come, our sin debt was paid on our behalf. That is cause for celebration and excitement, but also for a deep love for what God has done for us.

PRAYER: God, help me rest in the sacrifice of Christ knowing He has paid for my sin. God, help me have an overflow of joy because of what Christ has done. Help me tell others of Christ's sacrifice.

TOMORROW'S READING: Hebrews 11

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