



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC Jesus the Perfect Sacrifice

SPEAKER Ps Gary Koh

THEME The book of Hebrews

DATE 14 & 15 October 2023

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

This week's sermon delves deeper into Hebrews 10 where Pastor Gary Koh shares with us on Jesus being the perfect sacrifice because of what He has done on the cross.

Jesus' sacrifice provides a new covenant and takes away our sins once and for all so that our relationship with God can be restored.

In response, we should *go on* closer to the presence of God and *hold on* to God's promises. He also encouraged us to *come on* as we motivate one another as a body of Christ.

JESUS THE PERFECT SACRIFICE

Under the old covenant, God's people had to offer certain sacrifices and offerings unto the Lord for the atonement of sins and for a restored relationship with God. When Christ came under the new covenant, He became the perfect sacrifice and offering. In Him, we no longer need to offer sacrifices unto God. Through Him, we can have a relationship with God.

1) Forms of sacrifices in the old covenant

There were many different forms of sacrifices in the old covenant:

- Daily (Exodus 29:38-39) – Thanksgiving for God's provision and presence, and as an atonement for sins.
- Weekly (Numbers 28:9-10) – To celebrate the Sabbath, as a thanksgiving unto the Lord.
- Monthly (Numbers 28:11-15) – To renew their covenant with God and to seek for blessings for the coming month.
- Yearly (Numbers 28-29) – To ask for forgiveness of their sins and for reconciliation in their relationship with God. It is to remind them of God's love, mercy and hope for the future.

2) Types of sacrifices in the old covenant

There were also many different types of sacrifices in the Old Testament:

- Burnt offering (Leviticus 1:3-17) – To appease God.
- Peace offering (Leviticus 7:11-21) – To restore fellowship with God.
- Sin offering (Leviticus 4:1-5, 13) – To atone for specific transgressions where no restitution was possible and where restitution was possible, God's people will offer up a guilt offering (Leviticus 5:14 – 6:7) instead to the Lord.

However, once Jesus came, under the new covenant, all these sacrifices were no longer needed as His death on the cross took away our sins **once and for all**. Through Jesus, we have a restored relationship with God and God remembers our sins no more. We can trust that our sins are forgiven **once and for all**.

There are three ways in which we can respond to God's grace, love and mercy:

1) Go on (Hebrews 10:19-22)

We ought to **go on** closer to the presence of God. Because of Calvary, we can now have a relationship with God. We are children of God; we are no longer orphans (Romans 8:14-15). God is calling us to restore the relationship of intimacy so that we can be open and vulnerable with Him. We need to go on up to Him to receive and enjoy our relationship with God.

2) Hold on (Hebrews 10:23, Hebrews 10:35-38)

Because of what Christ has done on the cross for us, we can **hold on** to the promises of God when things are difficult and we feel like giving up. Let's **hold on** to the word of God, go to scriptures and meditate on them. God can be trusted. He will take care of us (Philippians 4:19) when we honour Him, **hold on** to Him, and walk in a close relationship with Him.

3) Come on (Hebrews 10:24-25)

We are a body of Christ and we are here for each other. Let us encourage and motivate one another in acts of love and good works. Be innovative in how we edify each other. God created us for encouragement. Let us be like irons, sharpening one another in our journey with Christ.

CONCLUSION

Christ became the perfect priest to enter God's presence and He became the perfect sacrifice under the new covenant. Because of that, it is important for us to go on, hold on and come on as it is all about God and doing His will (Hebrews 10:9-10, 36). Jesus came to do the will of the Father and so we are created to do the works of God. Our life and response is to worship and give God the glory, to obey Him so that His will be done, not ours. Let's seek God on His will for our lives and how we can be a part of His story.

QUESTIONS

1. Share about the biggest sacrifice you have ever made. How did it change your life?

2. Is there an area that God is leading you to *Go on* and boldly enter His presence? What are some of God's promises that you can *Hold On* to as you move in courage and obedience?

3. How is God prompting you to encourage those around you to acts of love and good works? What can you do this coming week to respond faithfully to God's prompting?