

**A BABY WAS SENT TO DO WHAT WAS AND IS  
IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO DO ...**



**AND YOU KNOW THAT JESUS CAME TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS, AND THERE IS NO SIN IN HIM.**

*(1 JOHN 3:5 NLT)*

**LOOK! THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD!**

*(JOHN 1:29B NLT)*

## I. It was and is impossible for any religion or any religious action to finish the work of salvation—i.e. to take away our sins, 10:1-4.

- (Hebrews 10:1 ESV) For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, **it can never**, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, **make perfect** those who draw near.
- A) The law merely pointed to the reality of the "good things to come" in Christ, 10:1a.
- B) Neither the law—nor any other human religious system—could ever finish the work of salvation, 10:1b.
  - (Hebrews 10:1b ESV) It [the law] can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, **make perfect** those who draw near.

- C) The law and every religious system apart from the gospel of grace places on its adherents **the heavy burden of working for what only Christ could do AND what he has already finished doing.**
- D) The law—nor any other human religious system—cannot cleanse the worshipers of the consciousness of lingering, tarrying sin.
  - (Hebrews 10:2 ESV) Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?
- E) The law—and every other human religious system—can only remind the worshipers of sin.
  - (Hebrews 10:3 ESV) But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.
- F) It is **impossible** for the law—or any other human religious system—to take away sins.

### THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST: ΤΕΛΕΩ

God the Father sent God the Son to finish [ΤΕΛΕΩ] his eternal work of salvation. The Son was sent to do what no one or no religious system on Earth could ever do—**take away our sins.**

The Greek word for "**make perfect**" is **τελειόω** and means to complete, i.e. (literally) accomplish, consecrate, finish, fulfill, make perfect. The idea is to make perfect, to carry through completely; to bring to an end; to add what is yet wanting in order to render a thing full to be found perfect.

- (Hebrews 10:1 ESV) For since the law ... **can never ... make perfect those who draw near.**

Very interestingly it is the same word used by Jesus in John 19:30—**Τετέλεσται.**

- (John 19:30 ESV) When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "**It is finished.**" and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

In John 19:30 Christ announced the last necessary act he performed to **finish** the Father's will toward our salvation. God's justice was satisfied, and God is now

free to take away our sins forever based upon our belief in what Christ accomplished.

- (John 4:34 NIV) "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to **finish** his work.
- (John 5:36 NIV) I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to **finish**—the very works that I am doing—testify that the Father has sent me.
- (John 17:4 NIV) I have brought you glory on earth by **finishing** the work you gave me to do.
- (Hebrews 7:18-19 ESV) For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness 19 (for the law made **nothing perfect**); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.
- (Hebrews 9:9b ESV) According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that **cannot perfect** the conscience of the worshiper.

- (Hebrews 10:4 ESV) **For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.**

**Impossible** here [ἀδύνατος] means impossible—not capable of occurring or being accomplished or dealt with; not possible; without strength, impotent, powerless, weakly, disabled; unable to be done, impossible.

Because human religious systems can never finish the work of taking away sins but can only remind the worshipers of sin that remains, they enslave the worshiper in a never-ending cycle of increasing guilt as the adherents are driven to work harder and harder at what is impossible for them to accomplish and thus increase the guilt even more.

And not only is their guilt increased beyond measure but their religious self-effort moves them further and further away from belief in the finished work of Christ alone where they would find relief and rescue from their guilt.

## II. The Father had prepared the necessary sacrifice in the body of Jesus Christ to take away our sins, 10:5-10.

- (Hebrews 10:5–10 ESV) Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, **but a body have you prepared for me**; 6 in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. 7 Then I said, ‘Behold, **I have come to do your will, O God**, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’” 8 When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law), 9 then he added, “**Behold, I have come to do your will.**” He does away with the first in order to establish the second. 10 **And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**
- A) **The Father prepared the necessary body for the Son by which he would take away the sins of the world, cf. John 1:29.**
- (John 1:29 ESV) The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- B) **The Son submitted to the Father’s will.**
- C) **To be the proper sacrifice to take away our sin the Son had to become one of us, cf. 2:14.**
- (Hebrews 2:14 ESV) Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil.
- D) **The body prepared for Christ to come into the world was the body of an infant boy.**
- Kistemaker/Hendriksen ... “When Christ came into the world” is actually a Semitic way of saying “when Christ was born.” Especially in the Gospel of John, the phrase refers to Christ’s coming in human form to his people. [Kistemaker, S. J., & Hendriksen, W. (1953–2001). *Exposition of Hebrews* (Vol. 15, p. 274). Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.]
- (John 16:28 ESV) I came from the Father and **have come into the world**, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.
  - (John 1:9 ESV) The true light, which gives light to everyone, **was coming into the world.**
  - (John 6:14 ESV) When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to **come into the world!**”
- E) **The Father prepared the body through the Holy Spirit.**
- (Matthew 1:18 ESV) Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way ... she was **found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.**
  - (Matthew 1:20b ESV) ... do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for **that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.**
- F) **The infant Jesus came into a world under the dominion of the devil.**
- (Ephesians 2:2 ESV) In which you once walked, following the course of this world, **following the prince of the power of the air**, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience.
- G) **God—the Son of God as an infant boy—came into an ungodly world.**

The following verses speak of the second coming of Christ but give us an accurate

perceptive of our world from the moment Adam and Eve rebelled and turned from God to ungodliness to the present time.

What Jude describes is the **ungodly** inhabitants of this world who commit **ungodly** deeds in an **ungodly** way and speak harsh things toward our Lord as **ungodly** sinners.

- (Jude 14–16 ESV) It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his holy ones, 15 to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him.” 16 These are grumblers, malcontents, following their own sinful desires; they are loud-mouthed boasters, showing favoritism to gain advantage.

**H) The infant Jesus came into a world that hated him.**

- (John 15:18 ESV) If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.

**I) The infant Jesus entered a world in which every single person who has been born has been born an enemy of God.**

- (Romans 5:10 ESV) For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

**III. Christ obeyed the Father’s will and completed the Father’s work to take away our sins forever, 10:11-14.**

- (Hebrews 10:11–14 ESV) And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right

hand of God, 13 waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. 14 **For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.**

**A) Christ did what no religious system could ever do—take away our sins.**

**B) Christ offered the body prepared for him as a single sacrifice for sins.**

**C) Christ then sat down at his rightful place of sovereignty.**

- (Ephesians 1:20–21 ESV) That he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

**D) By his single offering he finished the salvation work of the Father—he took away our sins.**

- (Hebrews 10:14 NIV) For by one sacrifice **he has made perfect** forever those who are being made holy.

By one offering he did what the law could never do. He took away our sins.

- (Hebrews 10:1 ESV) For since **the law** has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it **can never**, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, **make perfect** those who draw near.

He finished the will of the Father and “made perfect” [τετελειώκεν] forever those who trust in him—those who believe in him to take away our sins.