

★ Our Great Savior

Better Than All Things ★

Lesson 5

The Teacher's Preparation

Scripture Passages to Study: Hebrews 10

Study Guide: Read "Our Great Savior: *Better Than All Things*" from *New Testament Highlights - Part 2*.

Lesson Objective: There is a big difference between the sacrifices made in the Temple by the Levitical priesthood and the sacrifice made by the Son of God. The Temple sacrifices were only "a shadow of good things to come." Christ supersedes all other sacrifices, satisfies all sin debts, and settles all prophecy.

Lesson Application: Our great Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, is better than all things!

Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:12



"THY WORD HAVE I HID IN MINE HEART..."

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.

—Hebrews 10:12

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The Teacher's Checklist

- Activity Worksheets and Pencils
- Attendance and Record Notebook
- Lesson Plan
- Cue Card
- Memory Verse Card
- Music Player
- Visual Illustrations for the Lesson
- Attention Getter: Oregon Trail

Teacher Tips

Inspire your class to do better with an incentive for bringing their Bibles, inviting friends, or memorizing a verse.

The Teacher's Lesson Plan

Materials: Picture of the Oregon Trail

You could also bring a map of the country.

What You Could Say:

A pioneer is someone who does something that not many people have tried to do or goes somewhere that most would not head. The word pioneer is often used to describe astronauts, inventors, explorers, or any other groups who are one of the first to help change how people view or respond to different things.

In the mid-1800s—almost two hundred years ago—the word described the men and women, boys and girls who journeyed across the United States in wagons to settle different parts of the West. (You must remember that, in the 1800s, most of the people in the United States lived on the East Coast; and not many dared to venture into unknown territory.) The route that these pioneers took to the West was called the Oregon Trail. The trail itself was about 2,170 miles—that is more than half the length of the United States!—and led the people through six different states (from Missouri, through Kansas, through Nebraska, through Wyoming, through Idaho, and finally to Oregon). These pioneers weathered lack of food, treacherous storms, wild animals, and many other dangers on their journey.

Today, if you wanted to travel by wagon from Missouri to Oregon just like the pioneers, you would need to plan to be on the road for at least four months. To travel the same distance in a car would take you a little over a day's drive. To travel by plane would be even less. The difference between four months and one day is huge, I would say. Today, people no longer have need of wagons because of automobiles and planes.

In today's lesson, you will learn about the Old Covenant and the New Covenant and how the old one is no longer needed because of the new one. Animal sacrifices are no longer needed because of Christ Jesus' ultimate sacrifice.

Teacher's Notes

“Enthusiasm is excitement with inspiration, motivation, and a pinch of creativity.”
—Bo Bennett

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1st - 3rd Grade
Lesson 5

Many of your toys have been around for many years. When your grandparents were children, they probably had a bicycle to ride. Your grandmothers had dolls to play with, too. But would you like to have the newest model bike or the one your great-grandparents rode? Girls, would you like an old-fashioned doll or one that can “talk” to you or that can “walk”? And you probably have some electronic toys too. Your grandparents did not have those at all. I am sure you will agree that your toys are much better than toys children used to play with.

In the book of Hebrews, God tells us that Jesus’ sacrifice for our sins was much better than the old way. People used to have to bring animals and sacrifice them for their sins. They had to do this day after day, year after year, over and over again. Jesus’ sacrifice was much better. He had to die only once for our sins. We only have to ask Him to save us one time. Then He cleanses us from all our sins forever.

Old Covenant—Only a Shadow

Before Jesus died, God told His people to bring their best sheep and goats and bulls and offer them as sacrifices for their sins. Every day you could hear the noise of these animals as the people brought them to the priests. The priest then offered the blood of the animals as a sacrifice for their sins.

God also told Moses to build a tabernacle. He told him to make two rooms in it, the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. God chose Moses’ brother, Aaron, and his sons to be the priests for Israel. Aaron was the first high priest. After Aaron died, one of his sons became the next high priest. Once a year, the high priest went into the Holy of Holies to offer a special sacrifice to God. He offered this sacrifice for himself and for the people.

God’s people did this for hundreds of years. Why did they have to do this over and over again? Hebrews 10:4 tells us, “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.” These sacrifices were not good enough to wash away sins forever. And the priests that offered the sacrifices were sinners, too. They had to offer the sacrifices to God for their own sins.

So why did God tell the people to do this?

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

—Hebrews 10:1

God knew He would one day send Jesus to die for us. But it wasn’t time for Him to come yet. And God wanted the people to understand that there had to be a sacrifice for their sins. So He gave them a picture of the sacrifice that Jesus would be for them.

