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*And by that will, we have
been made holy through the
sacrifice of the body of
Jesus Christ once for all.*

Hebrews 10:10

Have you ever noticed how quickly that happens?

A moment of pride A burst of anger

A simple slip of the tongue

A compromise that feels justified



**And before long, the flame
of pursuit flickers**

**Because God knew that even His
people, walking in covenant with
Him, would still sin**

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The Heart of the Sacrifice

Say to the Israelites: 'When anyone sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commands

Leviticus 4:2

“Anyone”

God gave detailed instructions for this offering depending on who sinned

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 3:23

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Anyone!

All people have the potential to sin; all have sinned, and all sin must be dealt with for the good of the individual and the body as a whole

Sin, no matter who commits it, always affects the whole community

Even the “private” sin of one person can pollute the collective pursuit of God’s people

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Unintentionally

Rebellion is sin you refuse to let go of,
and this not the altar for that

Because you don't just have a sin issue,
you have a surrender issue

This offering wasn't for rebellion, but for
those daily, unintentional moments that
still separate us from His presence

The idea was to answer what I must do
when I come to realize about my sin

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Unintentionally

It was never about condemnation, but restoration because the only things condemned are the sacrifice and the sin, not the sinner

It was God's way of saying, "I know you'll fail, but I won't leave you in it."

He gave them the Sin Offering, an altar not for celebration, but for cleansing

"You can be clean again."

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The Sin Offering

It was initiated by the sinner: The one seeking forgiveness brought a young bull or goat to the priest

It involved interaction with the sacrifice

It is the acknowledgement that forgiveness is never free, somebody or something must pay a price

It was illustrative as the priest took some of the animal's blood into the Tabernacle itself

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The Sin Offering

It symbolized that sin reaches deep, but God's cleansing goes even deeper

It involved intercession when the rest of the blood was put on the horns of the altar, the place of intercession

Finally, it had to be ignited, as the body of the sacrifice, the part that bore the guilt, was carried outside the camp and burned completely

Through this offering, God made a way for His people to be made clean again





“You may approach again.”

Cleansed Completely

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The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Hebrews 9:13–14



Cleansed Completely

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This basin also looks ahead to baptism

In baptism, we testify that the cleansing made possible through the Sin Offering has touched our lives

We go under the water, identifying with Christ's death, the carrying of sin outside the camp

We rise again, cleansed and made new

The water declares: **"The cleansing has happened."**



The Sin Offering

God gave two full chapters of detailed instructions for this offering

Forgiveness was never earned by perfect performance; it is granted by a gracious God

The worshiper obeyed, but God forgave

That's still true today — forgiveness isn't the result of getting everything right, it's the result of coming to the One who can make things right

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The Forgiveness Struggle

The reason we struggle with forgiveness so much is that we keep trying to get saved, while God simply wants us to come clean

We keep trying to obtain righteousness, but God just asks us to get right

We turn things into a religious ritual and God wants the focus to be repentance

Once repentance happens, God saves. God makes us righteous. God makes us clean

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The Forgiveness Struggle

Maybe there's guilt that's lingering

Maybe there's something you've
carried something unspoken,
unresolved, unwashed

This is where you bring it

This is where you
let God cleanse it



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Cleansed to Continue the Pursuit

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The Sin Offering teaches us that sin interrupts, but cleansing restores

Sin dulls our intimacy it blurs the connection between us and God

You can't pursue God fully while hiding what He already sees

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 139:23-24



Cleansed to Continue the Pursuit

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“Come now, let us settle the matter,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

The contrast is

Isaiah 1:18

Deep Scarlet vs Fresh White Snow

Crimson Red vs Newly Sheered Wool

Covenant Truth



Completely Fulfilled in Christ

The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. And so, Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.

Hebrews 13:11–12

He became unclean so we could be made clean

He was cast out so we could be brought in



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Completely Fulfilled in Christ

God doesn't simply wipe the slate clean;
He invites us back into the pursuit

After the cleansing, the priest could serve
again

After confession, the worshiper could
draw near again

After the cross, we can continue again

At this altar, we don't stay in shame; we
rise, wash, and are restored, ready to
pursue again

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The Sin Offering teaches us when the pursuit gets polluted, God provides cleansing so it can continue.

