Hebrews 10:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

Analysis

If the sacrifices had truly cleansed, 'would they not have ceased to be offered?' The continuation of sacrifices proved their inadequacy. True cleansing would remove 'conscience of sins'—the guilt and awareness of sin. The worshippers would be 'once purged' (Greek 'hapax'—once for all). The repetition testified to failure, not success.

Historical Context

The question is rhetorical—the obvious answer is yes. The very existence of the Levitical system proved it couldn't accomplish what Christ would accomplish in one sacrifice.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. Has Christ's sacrifice purged your conscience of sin's guilt?

2. Do you sometimes act as though Christ's sacrifice needs to be supplemented or repeated?

Interlinear Text

ἐπεὶ	οὐκ	ἂν	ἐπαύσαντο	προσφερόμεναι	διὰ	τὸ
For then	**not**	**would they**	**have ceased**	**to be offered**	**because**	G3588
G1893	G3756	G302	G3973	G4374	G1223	

μηδεμίαν	ἔχειν	ἔτι	συνείδησιν	ἁμαρτιῶν	τοὺς
no	**should have had**	**more**	**conscience**	**of sins**	G3588
G3367	G2192	G2089	G4893	G266	

λατρεύοντας	ἅπαξ	κεκαθαρμένους
that the worshippers	**once**	**purged**
G3000	G530	G2508

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 43:25 (Sin): I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Micah 7:19 (Sin): He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

Psalms 103:12 (Sin): As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Isaiah 44:22 (Sin): I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee.

Hebrews 10:17 (Sin): And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.