

HEBREWS 9: The Priesthood & Blood Sacrifices.

I. (1-5) The Old Covenant's Tabernacle and Furnishings.

The Tabernacle ordained by the Old Covenant was planned for an **earthly** service; **The Lampstand, The Table of Showbread, The Holiest of All, The Golden Censer, The Alter of Incense, The Ark of the Covenant, The mercy Seat - The Golden Pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the Tablets of the Covenant.**

We're the Light, powered by the Holy Spirit, He is the Bread of life and we have fellowship with Him, we are given His holiness and access to His throne, we are living sacrifices, a sweet smelling aroma to Him, He's ever present, He is merciful...

II. (6-15) Priestly service in Old and New Covenant.

The **priests**, as appointed, went daily into the holy place to perform priestly functions such as tending the Lampstand and replacing the Showbread and offering sacrificing. **The high priest alone entered the "holy of holies" once a year, on the Day of Atonement for the whole nation, until the death of Jesus Christ.** Animal sacrifice was sufficient for a temporary covering of sin, but only a perfect sacrifice could obtain **eternal redemption and inheritance.**

In the NT, Jesus, as our High Priest, ministers in a superior sanctuary – the very throne room of God.

John 14:1-3 - *"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. "In My Father's house are many mansions if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.*

Ephesians 1:7-10 -*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.*

“We that have been purged by Christ are to render to God the worship of a royal priesthood. It is ours to present prayers, thanksgivings, and sacrifice; it is ours to offer the incense of intercession; it is ours to light the lamp of testimony and furnish the table of showbread [fellowship].” (Charles Spurgeon)

III. (16-28) Blood Sacrifices in the Old and New Covenants.

A **testament** (will) only takes effect when the person who made the testament dies. In the OT, death was necessary to the Old Covenant; the death of calves, goats, rams and bulls...sprinkled on the priest, the people and in the Tabernacle was necessary for their purification.

Therefore Jesus had to die for the testament – the covenant – to take effect.

***Leviticus 17:11** - ‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.’*

Jesus’ sacrifice was made on earth, once and for all entered heaven in the very presence of the Father.

***Acts 7:55-56** - But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, “Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”*

***Luke 22:20** - Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.*

***1Peter 1:17-19** - And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

“The focus of Jesus’ first coming was to deal with the sin problem through His atoning sacrifice. But now, having dealt with the sin problem perfectly, He comes again **apart from sin** – for the **salvation** (in the sense of *rescue*) of His people.”