

**The Book of Hebrews
Session Eight
Doug Seed**

Hebrews Chapter Nine

**Verse 1 – “ordinances” – requirements of the law (also used in verse 10)
“worldly” – of the earth, as contrasted with heaven. “sanctuary” – holy place, the tabernacle (later the temple)**

Verse 2 – the two veils of the tabernacle (Exodus 26:31-37) behind the first veil was “the candlestick... the table... the shewbread” (Exodus 25:23-40) in an area 30’x 15’x 15’

Verse 3 – after the second curtain was the holy of holies

**Verse 4, 5 – Exodus 25:10-22. “golden censer... ark of the covenant... golden pot with manna...Aaron’s rod that budded...tables of the covenant (II Corinthians 3:3)...cherubim of glory shadowing the mercy seat”
These things were hidden, stolen, lost or destroyed during Israel’s history.**

Verse 6 – The daily, continual services of the priests carried out in the sanctuary, which was constantly open, as opposed to the mysterious off-limits of the holy of holies.

Verse 7 – This occurred on the Day of Atonement. “for” – *huper*, as a substitute.

Verse 8 – “the Holy Ghost” – God. Under the Old Covenant, access to God was very limited, i.e. highly restricted. Old Testament examples of illegitimate approach, i.e. access denied: Leviticus 10 - the two sons of Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, died. Numbers 16 - the rebellion of Korah and his followers – 250 men died. John 14:6 – Our approach unto God.

Verse 9 – “figure” – parable, a dark saying, one illustration laid alongside a truth “perfect” – complete, finished. “conscience” – consciousness leading to conduct; habit patterns (VPW). No religious ritual touches the conscience.

Verse 10 – “carnal” – refers to humanness. The ordinances had to do with human conditions of life, food, drink, cleanliness imposed on Israel. “reformation” – making straight; restoring to a right condition, satisfactory state.

These first 10 verses speak of the Old Covenant types and their transitory purposes. Now verses 11-15 speak of what the New Covenant does that Old could not.

Verse 11 – “being come” – to arrive on the scene. “of good things to come” – of the good things realized, referring to blessings already attained, such as approach to God, the superior Covenant, our close relationship with God and the purging of the conscience. “building” – creation.

Verse 12 – The superior sacrifice of Christ. “entered”- by his ascension. “once” – once and for all. “the holy place” – heaven itself. “redemption” – to release and liberate by payment of a ransom.

Verse 13 – “heifer” – a sin offering – Numbers 19 – foreshadowing Christ in terms of (1) being extremely rare (2) sacrificed in the same location as Christ – “outside the camp”(Hebrews 13:13), and (3) ashes functioned to cleanse from the filthiest defilement – contact with a dead body. “sprinkling” – refers to cleansing and covenant making (see Jesus Christ Our Approach Offering page 35, note 9)

Verse 14 – “purge” – to make perfectly pure, from every stain or useless thing, from anything that would corrupt. “dead works” – of the flesh, of religion, with no life. “serve the living God” – living works as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1)

Verse 15 – “mediator” – the go between; one who interposes between two parties to bring about reconciliation. Jesus Christ paid the price for the sins committed under the First Covenant.

Verse 16 – “testator” – one who ratifies the covenant. The victim must shed its, or his, blood to bring the covenant into affect.

Verse 17 – “men” – delete this word as it is not in any Greek text. This has nothing to do with the making of a modern will, which is a one-sided bequeathing upon death.

Verses 18-21 – The First Covenant was ratified by the sprinkling of the blood of animals by Moses upon the book of the law, all the people, the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry.

Verse 22 – Leviticus 17:11 – a law set up by God for man’s benefit.

Verse 23 – “the patterns” – copies, referring to the Old Covenants’ symbols. “these” – animal sacrifices. “heavenly things themselves” – God’s meeting place with man and our approach unto Him.

Jesus Christ is the superior sacrifice

Verse 24 – “holy places made with hands” – the sanctuary and holy of holies comprising the tabernacle. “now” – Christ’s present ministry as our intercessor

Verse 25 – “often... every year” – on the Day of Atonement.

Verse 26 – “end of the world” – consummation of the ages; where the ages meet. Jesus Christ’s sacrifice does not have to be renewed – it is eternally efficacious for all mankind forever.

Verse 27 – Men die once, then comes the judgement for rewards (the church) or the Great White Throne judgement in resurrection.

Verse 28 – Like other men, Jesus Christ died once - and for all, bearing the sins of the world. “them that look for him” – believers who have the hope of his return. “shall he appear the second time” – first to gather the Church, then as judge of all. “salvation” – complete and total