

No Comparison

Text: Hebrews 9:8-14

Date: 9-22-24

I. The foundation of the Old Covenant (Heb. 9:1)

II. The facets of the earthly sanctuary (Heb. 9:2-5) – shadow pieces

III. The functions of the priests (Heb. 9:6-7) – shadow people

IV. The figure of the Old Covenant (Heb. 9:8-10)

- **Limited access to worship before God (v. 8):** Under the Old Covenant, no matter what the people did, their access to God was restricted because they had no permanent Redeemer or Savior. The Holy Spirit was saying in essence then that without the right Person, the right sacrifice, and the right covenant, access to God was impossible.
- **Incomplete and imperfect offering (v. 9):** Every offering, every sacrifice, every gift multiplied thousands of times over could not gain them direct access to God.

These gifts and sacrifices never brought complete, permanent cleansing for the offeror.

- **Temporary sacrifices (v. 10):** While a heart must be right in obediently following the law, the heart itself was never changed for whatever the people did under the old covenant was an external exercise.

The author declares that the old system was temporary. Its cleansings, priests, rituals, laws, and sacrifices were fleshly and incomplete. The New Covenant would set things straight and make a change for the better. A lot better!

V. The fullness of Jesus Christ's priesthood (Heb. 9:11-14)

- **Jesus Christ and a better building (Heb. 9:11)**

Compared to the shadowy and symbolic things of the old covenant, Jesus Christ's arrival and His position as High Priest truly establishes good things (Heb. 8:10-12)!

The new Tabernacle is much better for it has not been made by human hands, nor is it an earthen structure. It is in heaven (9:24) and made from heavenly components.

It is perfect, permanent, and eternal. It is perfect both in quality (without blemish) and also in completion.

On the basis of Christ's blood and His entering the heavenly sanctuary into the Holiest of Holies, He has demonstrated that He alone has won the victory. His humiliation and exaltation has given mankind an effective salvation. There is no comparison to the earthly tabernacle and sacrifices.

- **Jesus Christ and His better blood (Heb. 9:12)**

The Priest was the sacrifice.

All sin was atoned for through His blood. Sins from the past, present, and future were dealt with once and for all through one act of redemption. Jesus Christ entered one time into the holy place of the heavenly sanctuary, demonstrating the completeness and finality of His sacrifice. Repeated sacrifices are no longer needed. Why? Because His sacrifice brought eternal redemption for its inheritors. This redemption was permanent, unlike the temporary Day of Atonement covering. Christ's work was fully decisive and adequate.

What does this mean to you?

This means that the unblemished, infinite blood of our Savior has washed all of our sins away and we are completely forgiven and made righteous through His sacrifice.

- **Jesus Christ and a better Being (Heb. 9:13-14)**

With Christ's blood being shown as better, the logical conclusion is drawn: Jesus Christ's character, Person, life, death, sacrifice, obedience to His Father, His leading through the Holy Spirit, and His perfect offering was so much better. Why? Jesus Christ can cleanse our sin from the inside out. His unblemished offering can turn the spiritually dead person into a servant of the living God. The OT covenant rituals are truly No Comparison to the building, blood, and Being of Jesus Christ!