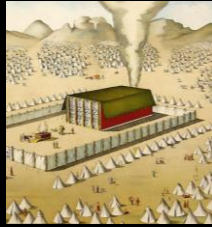


That first covenant between God and Israel had regulations for worship and a place of worship here on earth. There were two rooms in that Tabernacle. In the first room were a lampstand, a table, and sacred loaves of bread on the table. This room was called the Holy Place. Then there was a curtain, and behind the curtain was the second room called the Most Holy Place.



1

In that room were a gold incense altar and a wooden chest called the Ark of the Covenant, which was covered with gold on all sides. Inside the Ark were a gold jar containing manna, Aaron's staff that sprouted leaves, and the stone tablets of the covenant.



2



Above the Ark were the cherubim of divine glory, whose wings stretched out over the Ark's cover, the place of atonement. But we cannot explain these things in detail now.

3

When these things were all in place, the priests regularly entered the first room as they performed their religious duties. But only the high priest ever entered the Most Holy Place, and only once a year. And he always offered blood for his own sins and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.



4

By these regulations the Holy Spirit revealed that the entrance to the Most Holy Place was **not freely open** as long as the Tabernacle and the system it represented were still in use.

This is an illustration pointing to the present time. For the gifts and sacrifices that the priests offer are **not able to cleanse** the consciences of the people who bring them.

5



For that old system deals only with food and drink and various cleansing ceremonies—physical regulations that **were in effect only until a better system** could be established.

Hebrews 9:1-10 (NLT)

6

A human offering



7

A human offering

A life given in death



8

A human offering

A life given in death

=

Cleansing



9

בביתך וְכִתְּבָהּ בְּדֶרֶךְ וּבְשִׁכְמֶךָ וּבְקוֹמֶךָ וּקְשִׁיתָהּ  
לְאִתּוֹת עֲלֶיךָ וְהָיוּ כְּטִטְפַּת מֶיֶן עֵינֶיךָ וּכְתִבְתָּם  
עַל מִזְבֹּחַת הָעֹלֹת וּבְשִׁיעֶרֶךָ וְהָיָה  
כִּי יִבְיֹאֲךָ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֶל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע  
לְאֲבוֹתֶיךָ לֵאמֹר יִתֶּנְךָ בְּיָמֶיךָ וּבְיַעֲקֹב נִתְּתָה כֶּכֶךְ  
יָרִיב וְדָבַח וְנָשָׂא אֶשְׁכְּהָ לִּי וְהָיָה מִלִּי

Now when someone leaves a will, it is necessary to prove that the person who made it is dead. The will goes into effect only after the person's death. While the person who made it is still alive, the will cannot be put into effect.

10

That is why even the first covenant was put into effect with the blood of an animal. For after Moses had read each of God's commandments to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, and sprinkled both the book of God's law and all the people, using hyssop branches and scarlet wool. Then he said, "This blood confirms the covenant God has made with you."



11

And in the same way, he sprinkled blood on the Tabernacle and on everything used for worship. In fact, according to the law of Moses, nearly everything was purified with blood. For without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness.



12

That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far better sacrifices than the blood of animals.

Hebrews 9:16-23 (NLT)



13

"Just as Jesus has gone into the very heart of the presence of God... so the effects of his sacrifice are to be felt not only in the outer lives of his people, ... but in the inward depths, the 'holy of holies' at the core of each individual person, the place where we really are who we are. ...there is a purification available which goes to the centre of things"

N. T. Wright, Hebrews for Everyone p 96-97

14

And he did not enter heaven to offer himself again and again, like the high priest here on earth who enters the Most Holy Place year after year with the blood of an animal. If that had been necessary, Christ would have had to die again and again, ever since the world began. But now, once for all time, he has appeared at the end of the age to remove sin by his own death as a sacrifice.



15

And just as each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment, so also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again, not to deal with our sins, but to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9:25-28 (NLT)



16

Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. But our High Priest offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honour at God's right hand. There he waits until his enemies are humbled and made a footstool under his feet. For by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy.

Hebrews 10:11-14 (NLT)

17

And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.

Hebrews 10:18 (NLT)



18

Jesus completely and utterly deals with  
everything that stands between you and God.



19