

**The Book of Hebrews**  
**Chapter 9 verses 9 – 15 - Pastor Charles A. Hall – August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Chapter 9** continues on the theme of a merciful Christ and High Priest that was highlighted in chapter 7. Jesus Christ as our High Priest has a superior ministry (a higher calling, greater power, and everlasting), and better covenant (the relationship between God as High Priest, Israel, and all of humanity), a better sanctuary (a consecrated place the holy of holies) and a better sacrifice (the death of Jesus and His blood). Chapter 9 – further draw a comparison and contrast between the Levitical rituals and the priestly work of Christ. The rituals of the old covenant were old and temporary, the new covenant is permanent, and able to remove sin permanently.

9. Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

- This verse states that the tabernacle was there as a figure or symbol for all of Israel to see, which symbolized that access to the Holy of Holies was not permitted to all, so access to God was not open to all as well. Therefore, man's conscience was never really satisfied, since he never really knew what happen inside the closed chambers (Holy of Holies), man could never feel like he had complete and permanent cleansing from sin.

10. Which stood only in meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

- This verse is a follow on from verse 10, which states that the tabernacle stood only as a symbol, until the period of reformation, which was when Christ established a new covenant, prior this the new covenant, the tabernacle was used primarily for food, drinks and other traditions and ceremonies.

11. But Christ being come a high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;

- The reformation or new covenant of Christ was based on Him being a High priest of good things, that had not yet been manifested on earth prior to Jesus' birth and ministry, Christ as our High priest was of a greater and more perfect tabernacle or temple, which was not made by human hands

12. Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

- This verse states that Christ entered into the Holy of Holies, one time only, by His own blood, and not by the blood of a goat or calves, and as a worthy and acceptable sacrifice, He obtained eternal redemption (deliverance) for all of humanity.
  - Leviticus 16:14-16
  - Hebrews 10:12-14

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13. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

- The blood of a bull and of a goat, a pure red heifer (red female cow) would be taken outside the camp, killed, and then burned. While it was burning the priest would throw cedar, hyssop, and scarlet wool upon it, then the ashes would be stored outside the city. When a person committed a sin by having contact with a dead body, then these ashes would be mixed with water and then sprinkled on the person. This was a ceremonial practice or tradition for outer purification by the old covenant.

14. How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

- This verse is a follow on from verse 13, if the traditional sprinkling will purify the outer body, how much more will the blood of Christ accomplish, since Christ offered Himself as a sinless sacrifice to God, which cleansed man's conscience from dead works (behavior contrary to the will of God) to serving the living God.
- 1John 1:7

15. And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

- Because of the sacrifice of Christ, the new covenant was established, and Christ is the mediator (intermediary) of this new testament (covenant), made possible by His death, for the redemption of the sins committed under the old covenant. And they which are called will receive the promise of eternal life.
  - Romans 3:25