

Hebrews

Study of Chapter 9

Day 1

Read the chapter at least twice to familiarize yourself with the details. Then take a few minutes and ask God to open your eyes and heart to all he has for you in His word. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth and give you understanding.

Hebrews 7:22-25

Because of this oath, Jesus has become the guarantor of a better covenant.

²³ Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; ²⁴ but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

1. Over the last couple weeks, we have read about our high priest who initiated a new covenant. Who is this new high priest? Read Hebrews 7:22-25 for a refresher.

2. This week we are going to look at the first covenant and the new covenant. What two facts did you notice concerning the first covenant from Hebrews 9:1?

- _____
- _____

3. In Hebrews 9:2-5, we see a list of objects that would have been seen by the priests as they ministered in the tabernacle. In the Old Testament these tabernacle articles took many, many chapters to describe and clarify their purpose. List below the objects mentioned in Hebrews 9:2-5.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4. Look up the verses below, and briefly list the details you find about each object mentioned?

Exodus 25:31-40 _____

Exodus 25:23-30 _____

Exodus 30:1-10 _____

Exodus 25:10-22 _____

5. Can you imagine how beautiful this tabernacle was to see? What might you think if you had the opportunity to see inside? _____



Exodus 27:1-8

Build an altar of acacia wood, three cubits high; it is to be square, five cubits long and five cubits wide. ² Make a horn at each of the four corners, so that the horns and the altar are of one piece, and overlay the altar with bronze. ³ Make all its utensils of bronze—its pots to remove the ashes, and its shovels, sprinkling bowls, meat forks and firepans. ⁴ Make a grating for it, a bronze network, and make a bronze ring at each of the four corners of the network. ⁵ Put it under the ledge of the altar so that it is halfway up the altar. ⁶ Make poles of acacia wood for the altar and overlay them with bronze. ⁷ The poles are to be inserted into the rings so they will be on two sides of the altar when it is carried. ⁸ Make the altar hollow, out of boards. It is to be made just as you were shown on the mountain.

Exodus 30:17-21

Then the LORD said to Moses, ¹⁸ "Make a bronze basin, with its bronze stand, for washing. Place it between the tent of meeting and the altar, and put water in it. ¹⁹ Aaron and his sons are to wash their hands and feet with water from it. ²⁰ Whenever they enter the tent of meeting, they shall wash with water so that they will not die. Also, when they approach the altar to minister by presenting a food offering to the LORD, ²¹ they shall wash their hands and feet so that they will not die. This is to be a lasting ordinance for Aaron and his descendants for the generations to come."

6. If you enjoy drawing, please take a minute to sketch the four objects from questions 4 and 5. If you do not enjoy drawing, go online, find the most accurate pictures you can find, and print them, cut them out and paste them here. Not all internet pictures are accurate.

7. Read Exodus 27:1-8 and Exodus 30:17-21. Notice the materials used to make these two articles, the altar of sacrifice and the basin for washing, that are just outside of the tabernacle. Underline the materials used for the altar of burnt offerings and the basin. What is the distinct difference of materials used to make the articles used outside the tabernacle and the articles inside the tabernacle?

8. In verse 4 we see the contents of the ark of the covenant that was in the Holy of Holies. What were the three articles mentioned? If you are artistic, draw each item.

-
-
-

John 6:31

Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Numbers 17:1-11

The LORD said to Moses,² "Speak to the Israelites and get twelve staffs from them, one from the leader of each of their ancestral tribes. Write the name of each man on his staff.³ On the staff of Levi write Aaron's name, for there must be one staff for the head of each ancestral tribe.⁴ Place them in the tent of meeting in front of the ark of the covenant law, where I meet with you.⁵ The staff belonging to the man I choose will sprout, and I will rid myself of this constant grumbling against you by the Israelites."⁶ So Moses spoke to the Israelites, and their leaders gave him twelve staffs, one for the leader of each of their ancestral tribes, and Aaron's staff was among them.⁷ Moses placed the staffs before the LORD in the tent of the covenant law.⁸ The next day Moses entered the tent and saw that Aaron's staff, which represented the tribe of Levi, had not only sprouted but had budded, blossomed and produced almonds.⁹ Then Moses brought out all the staffs from the LORD's presence to all the Israelites. They looked at them, and each of the leaders took his own staff.¹⁰ The LORD said to Moses, "Put back Aaron's staff in front of the ark of the covenant law, to be kept as a sign to the rebellious. This will put an end to their grumbling against me, so that they will not die."¹¹ Moses did just as the LORD commanded him.

Exodus 34:1

The LORD said to Moses, "Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.

Exodus 34:28-29

Moses was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant—the Ten Commandments.²⁹ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that his face was radiant because he had spoken with the LORD.

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

9. Why do you believe these articles would be of such importance that they would have been kept in the room designated for the Holy of Holies? Read John 6:31, Numbers 17:1-11, Exodus 34:1 and Exodus 34:28-29. In a few words, describe what you believe these articles represented?
-

Day 3

10. According to Hebrews 9:6, who could enter the first room of the tabernacle?
-
11. According to Hebrews 9:7, who could enter the second room of the tabernacle?
-

How often was he allowed to enter the Holy of Holies? _____

What did he take with him? _____

12. Can you imagine the sounds and smells as a person would approach the tabernacle? Every day the priests would meet with those who entered the outer court and received their sacrifices and offerings. But once per year the high priest was to enter the Holy of Holies with the blood of sacrifice for himself and the people. Did you notice what the Scripture said in verse 7 concerning their sins? What sins was the high priest atoning for when he went into the Holy of Holies?
-

13. Prayer often consists of these five aspects: adoration, supplication, thanksgiving, intercession, and confession. But what about the sins committed of which we are unaware? Perhaps we did not even notice we slighted someone or hurt them. When was the last time you asked God to forgive sins you were unaware you had committed? _____

How often do you suppose we sin in this way? _____

How often do we do things that hurt someone and are unaware of it or grieve the heart of God by our coldness, and it goes unnoticed by us?

14. As you read Hebrews 9:7, pause to personally consider if you had any sins such as these? Why not stop for a few minutes and talk to the Lord about this? An intimate relationship with your heavenly Father requires us to strive for righteousness. Righteousness has been defined as purity of heart and conformity of heart, guided to live by the divine law of God.

Would you say you crave a Matthew 5:6 type of relationship with God, to the point that it feels insatiable? _____

15. The tabernacle clearly showed that man did not possess direct and complete

access to God. It was a picture or symbol for all to see that just as access was not open into the Holy of Holies, access to God was not complete. Could any of these worshipers ever be completely and permanently cleansed of their sins?

16. Could these rituals meet the deep spiritual need of a person's heart to be made right with God? _____
17. Can you imagine how they felt returning time after time with sacrifices, yet, knowing they could not possibly think of every sin they had committed? Do you think they ever felt truly at peace with God? _____
-

Day 4

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

John 10:9

I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

Ephesians 2:18 TPT

And now, because we are united to Christ, we both have equal and direct access in the realm of the Holy Spirit to come before the Father!

Hebrews 8:6

But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises.

Hebrews 8:13

By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.

18. Read Hebrews 9:8-10 in a few different translations. What point is the Holy Spirit wanting to make known to us?

19. Now, read John 14:6, John 10:9 and Ephesians 2:18. What is the only way to enjoy fellowship with God? Underline the truths seen in these verses concerning the way into God's presence. _____
20. Hebrews 9:11-14 begins with a conjunction, the word "but." This word ties it to the previous verses. When we read, "But when Christ came as high priest," our focus shifts to something new. In what way was our high priest Christ different from all the Levitical priests? _____
21. Read Hebrews 8:6 and 8:13 to go along with Hebrews 9:15. Note what you see from these verses concerning this new covenant of which Christ is the mediator. It is easier to jot down notes if you underline or highlighted them first in the text.

22. Hebrews 9:16-17 speaks of a will, a testament. When does a will come into effect?

Day 5

23. Read Hebrews 9:18-23, and spend a few minutes thinking about covenants. The Unger's Bible dictionary defines covenant as, a compact between parties. In the Old Testament it is the Hebrew word berith, which means "cutting." In the New Testament, it is the Greek word diatheke, which means "will." This first covenant, spoken of in Hebrews 9:18, was established between God and Israel. How was this covenant put into effect, ratified, inaugurated or confirmed?

What event had to take place for the new covenant to come into effect? It might help to read a couple of translations of this section of Scripture to gain a better understanding. _____

24. The law required everything in the tabernacle to be sprinkled with blood to be ceremonially cleansed and ready for service. Without the shedding of blood there is _____ .
25. Looking back over our study of the old covenant and the new covenant, how did Christ's offering as our high priest differ from the offerings of the high priests throughout the history of Israel's tabernacle?

| Levitical high priest offering for sin | Christ's offering for sin |
|--|---------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

26. In verse 24, 26 and 28, we read of Christ's appearing. What do you see in these verses about his appearance and the purpose?

Verse 24 _____

Verse 26 _____

Verse 28 _____

27. Hebrews 9:27-28 states very clearly, men and women die only once and after that face God's judgment. How does understanding this principle clarify the truth about Jesus' atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world? _____

28. Why do you believe the author of Hebrews has spent so much time trying to help us understand the tabernacle? _____

