

Calvary Chapel of El Cajon Women's Bible Studies

Hebrews 9:1-28

Lesson 11

As the Israelites learned God's laws and how to worship him, God gave them instructions for building a place of worship called the tabernacle. This portable building traveled with the Hebrews as they traveled to the Promised Land. It became the place where God lived among them. To Jewish minds, the tabernacle had wider appeal than the temple. In order to worship, Jews had to travel to the temple, located in Jerusalem. But before the temple was built, the tabernacle had traveled with the people, representing God's presence and availability. Hebrews 9 presents the superiority of the new covenant heavenly sanctuary where Jesus, our great High Priest, has entered and ever lives.

DAY ONE: Read Hebrews 9:1-28

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?

- a. Hebrews 9 has been divided into five sections. List below the subject(s) covered in each section.

Verses 1-5

Verses 6-10

Verses 11-15

Verses 16-22

Verses 23-28

How would you title each section? Record your titles on the **Chapter & Paragraph Division Titles Chart** provided with your Observation Worksheet.

After titling each section, record a title for Chapter 9.

2. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbol**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.

Used in prior homework lessons: *God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, covenant, and high priest (priest)*

New to this lesson: *tabernacle, Holy (Holiest), eternal, once, testament, blood, sacrifice, and offered*

Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Hebrews 9. Remember, as you mark the words for *God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, and high priest*, mark any personal pronouns that refer to them.

3. Note the two terms of conclusion in verses 18 and 23. Mark each of them. Choose one and record the conclusion and what it was based upon.

4. Hebrews 9 is a chapter of contrasts, showing the vast difference between the work of the Levitical High Priest and the work of Jesus, our High Priest. The author uses the contrasting word *but* seven times in this chapter. Mark each time this word is used. Choose one of the contrasts and briefly reflect on its significance.

5. Using the chart titled *Jesus*, list a few things that Hebrews 9:1-28 reveal about Him.
Challenge: Hebrews 9 contains several key words. Choose one and make a list of what the text reveals.

DAY TWO: Read Hebrews 9:1-10 (Also, refer to the diagram included with this lesson.)

1. In chapter nine the author continues to compare the old covenant with the new and once again proves the superiority of the new. If you have time, read this chapter in other versions. These verses contrast man's approach to God through the Old Testament laws and regulations with the new and better approach to God through Jesus Christ. The writer begins with a description of the tabernacle. In Hebrews 9:1, the phrase *ordinances of divine service* refers to the regulations of worship and service; the term *earthly sanctuary* refers to the earthly tabernacle. The Old Testament tabernacle, and later the temple in Jerusalem, contained the articles mentioned in Hebrews 9:2-5. These were placed in the two main compartments or rooms of the tabernacle. List these contents from the following verses:
 - a. Hebrews 9:2 (the *first* room – the *sanctuary* or the Holy Place)

 - b. Hebrews 9:(3)4,5 (the *second* room - the *Holiest of all* or the Most Holy Place)

Challenge: Inside the *ark of the covenant* (verse 4) were three sacred items that are rich with symbolism. Research these from the Old Testament. Summarize the significance of each.

2. Each item in the tabernacle had its own meaning as a foreshadowing of Christ. The phrase *of these things we cannot now speak in detail* (verse 5) indicates there will not be a detailed discussion of these things here. Instead, the writer directs us to the ministry that takes place in these two main rooms. Underline or highlight the regulations concerning the priests' ministry from Hebrews 9:6,7 NLT: *When these things were all in place, the priests went in and out of the first room regularly as they performed their religious duties. But only the high priest goes into the Most Holy Place, and only once a year, and always with blood, which he offers to God to cover his own sins and the sins the people have committed in ignorance.*

3. Read Hebrews 9:8-10. We see from these verses that the old system was limited and could not meet the needs of man and his guilty conscience. These ceremonies and rituals provided a preview of what was to come. How does the last phrase of Hebrews 9:10 verify this statement?
 - a. The phrase *until the time of reformation* means until the time of "setting things right." These ceremonies were external activities that were spiritually inadequate for dealing with the internal condition of man that needed to be made right. The giving of gifts and sacrifices cannot relieve a guilty conscience. Why are external activities, even religious ones, not a solution for this problem?

DAY THREE: Read Hebrews 9:11-15

1. The tabernacle and sacrificial system was an illustration or type of Jesus Christ and His sacrifice that provides the perfect and final sacrifice for man's sin and establishes access to God. This paragraph focuses on Christ and His sacrifice. Read and observe the contrasts in the following verses. Choose words or phrases that reveal the superiority of Christ's ministry:
 - a. Hebrews 9:11
 - b. Hebrews 9:12
 - 1.) The emphasis here is on the *blood*. What did Christ's *blood obtain* for us?
 - a.) Define the word *redemption*.
 - 2.) Consider the cost of your *eternal redemption* by meditating on the phrase *with His own blood*. What is your response to this?
 - c. Hebrews 9:(13)14
2. Read Hebrews 9:14 again. Think for a few moments about the following phrases and tell what they mean to you:
 - a. *How much more shall the blood of Christ*
 - b. *offered Himself*
 - c. *without spot*
 - d. *cleanse your conscience from dead works* (works that possess no spiritual vitality)
 - e. *to serve the living God*

3. Hebrews 9:15 is a transitional verse that supplies a link between what has been said about Jesus' sacrificial death and the subject of the *testament* that follows. Write this verse here phrase by phrase.
 - a. Not only are we promised *eternal redemption* but also an *eternal inheritance* when we believe in the work Christ has done for us. Share what this means to you.

DAY FOUR: Read Hebrews 9:16-22

1. The word *testament* in Hebrews 9:16,17 is the same Greek word translated *covenant* previously, but here it takes on the meaning of a last *will* or *testament*. What do these verses say is necessary to bring a *will* or *testament* into effect?
2. Hebrews 9:18-22 points back to the first covenant and the way in which it was established. Write in all caps the key word that is repeated in each of these verses.
 - a. Now view this from Exodus 24:(3-5) 6-8. What do you see?
3. Record the words expressed by Moses (Hebrews 9:20).
 - a. What similar words did Jesus use at the last supper (Matthew 26:28)?
 - 1.) Try to imagine what hearing these words must have been like for the disciples who had been raised under Jewish Law. What might have been their reaction?
3. What does Hebrews 9:22 say is necessary for *remission*?
 - a. What does Leviticus 17:11 say about this?
 - b. The word *remission* means forgiveness. Contemplate this through Matthew 26:28. Selah. How has your life been affected by this *forgiveness*?

DAY FIVE: Read Hebrews 9:23-28

1. Hebrews 9:23,24 continues the comparison of the earthly tabernacle with the heavenly one. The phrase *which are copies of the true* (verse 24) indicates once more that the earthly things were merely types or symbols of heavenly things. Print the phrase that declares where Christ is *now*.
 - a. In this context, what does the phrase *for us* mean to you today?

2. Observe the words *often* and *once* as you read Hebrews 9:25-28. How do they help you understand the sufficiency and finality of Christ's sacrifice?
 - a. The Old Testament sacrifices provided a temporary covering for sin, but Jesus' *sacrifice of Himself put away sin* once and for all (verse 26). The words *put away* indicate a removal. In what way does this minister to you today?

3. According to Hebrews 9:27, what *is appointed for men*?
 - a. What do the following verses say that confirm this?

Psalm 89:48

Romans 5:12
 - b. What does Hebrews 9:27 tell us comes *after this*?
 - 1.) What do we learn about this *judgment* from John 5:26-27 and Acts 17:31?

4. In Hebrews 9 we have looked at the past through the types and symbolism of the tabernacle and its systems. We have seen how Jesus Christ fulfilled these when He *offered Himself once for all*. We read of Jesus and His present work as He is *now appearing in the presence of God for us*. This chapter closes with a view to the future. What is the promise of Hebrews 9:28b?
 - a. In what ways are you comforted to know that Jesus is coming to save you rather than judge/condemn you?
 - b. Christ will appear a second time *not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him*. NIV How does the promise of Colossians 3:4 increase your anticipation of His return?

DAY SIX: Review Hebrews 9

1. What do you think went through the priest's mind as he prepared to enter the Holy of Holies?
2. This chapter reminds us of the old rules about worship. What do you like about the "new" rules?
3. In what ways do you see Jesus as your perfect sacrifice?
4. What are some of your thoughts when you consider that Jesus has *put away* all of your sins?
5. Choose a word, phrase, or verse from this chapter that especially ministers to you and share why.

*And they speak of how you are looking forward
to the coming of God's Son from heaven—
Jesus, whom God raised from the dead.
He is the one who has rescued us from the terrors of the coming judgment.
- 1 Thessalonians 1:10 NLT*