

HEBREWS

STUDY 10 – HEB 9:1-28

1. Recap – from the following verses, and what you can remember of Hebrews so far, what has been the main point of this letter?
 - a. Heb 8:1-2 - *Jesus is qualified to be our high priest, and his system is far superior to the old system of earthly high priests.*
 - b. Heb 8:3-6 - *Jesus' new covenant is essentially better than the old one as it is based around his death, which is an eternal sacrifice.*



Read Hebrews 9:1-10

2. Describe the situation that existed under the old covenant in order for the Israelites to come before God.

There was an earthly sanctuary with many strict rules and guidelines about who could enter which parts of it, and only at certain times. Don't get stuck in the details here – simply a question to understand the general difficulties associated with the old system.

3. According to verses 8-10, what was the purpose of the old covenant system?

It was pointing towards the need for a new and better system. Verse 8 indicates that the way into the true 'Most Holy Place' (ie heaven) had not yet been revealed (ie Jesus had not yet come).



Read Hebrews 9:11-28

4. In what ways are Jesus' actions as high priest different from that of the earthly high priests? (verses 11-15)

He did not enter the Most Holy Place with the blood of the sacrifices of animals, but with the blood of his own sacrifice. His sacrifice is effective in releasing people from the consequences of their sinfulness.

5. What distinction is being made between v9 and v14 in regards to the consciences of believers?

Under the new covenant there is certainty that Jesus' death has acted as an effective action to remove our sin. We will not have to continue to make sacrifices. As such, we can have certainty in our consciences.

6. In what ways do you feel / not feel this played out in your own faith?

Personal reflection. They may well often have doubts about the certainty of the removal of their sins (especially in light of the fact that we remain sinful people).

7. What function did the sprinkling of blood perform in the rituals of the Old Covenant? (see particularly vv 12, 13, 18-20, 21-22)

The sprinkling of blood was an outward sign of sacrifice and cleansing. Unless blood was shed, there was unable to be any forgiveness for sins.

8. How does the blood of Jesus fulfil all of these functions for us in the new covenant?

His blood achieves the same things, yet in a much more complete and perfect manner.

9. What do you think are the implications for us that Jesus has now entered the 'true sanctuary' (heaven)?

Again, it is a more complete solution than the old covenant. It is an eternal solution in which we can place our hope and trust.

10. In light of what this passage has said about worship, what do you think it means for us to 'wait' for Jesus' return? (verse 28)

It does not mean that we are idle, but that we are ready and prepared for the time at which he returns!

11. What can we be doing to ensure that we have that kind of mentality?

A chance for some further practical application [here](#).