

14 – A BETTER SYSTEM (HEBREWS 9:1-15)

I. The Old System (Hebrews 9:1-10)

A. The Earthly Sanctuary (Hebrews 9:1-5)

1. Ordinances (Hebrews 9:1)

- The Mosaic system has ordinances concerning service and the earthly tabernacle.

2. The Tabernacle (Hebrews 9:2-5)

a. The Holy Place (Hebrews 9:2)

- The first room was called the Holy place.
- In this room, the lampstand, the table and the showbread were located.

b. The Holy of Holies (Hebrews 9:3-5)

- The second room was called the Holiest of All or the Holy of Holies.
- In this room was located the golden censer or bowl and the Ark of the Covenant.
- The Ark of the Covenant contained a golden pot of manna, Aaron's rod and the tablets.
- Above the mercy seat located on the ark were angels which overshadowed it.
- The writer states that he cannot go into detail concerning these things.

B. The Priestly Roles (Hebrews 9:6-10)

1. Duties in the First Room (Hebrews 9:6)

- The priests performed their daily functions in the first room.

2. Duties in the Second Room (Hebrews 9:7)

- Once a year, only the High Priest went alone into the second room.
- He could only enter with blood in order to offer it for sins of ignorance.

3. The Purpose (Hebrews 9:8)

- The Holy Spirit showed through the old system that there was no direct access to God.

4. The Illustration (Hebrews 9:9-10)

Understanding Our Faith: The Letter to the Hebrews

- The old system was symbolic for the present time.
- The offerings could not cleanse the consciences of those who made the offering.
- The regulations concerning food and other ceremonial exercises were only temporary.

II. The New System (Hebrews 9:11-15)

A. Christ the High Priest (Hebrews 9:11)

- Jesus Christ came as the High Priest of the new system.
- He serves in a better tabernacle that is not of this world.

B. Coming with His Blood (Hebrews 9:12-14)

1. His Entrance into God's Presence (Hebrews 9:12)

- Christ did not enter with the blood of animals, but with his own blood.
- He did so because he had obtained eternal redemption for believers.

2. The Effect of Animal Blood (Hebrews 9:13)

- The blood and ashes of animals served to ceremonially clean people.

3. The Effect of Christ's Blood (Hebrews 9:14)

- The writer asks "how much more will Christ's blood cleanse our consciences of our sin?"

C. Christ the Mediator (Hebrews 9:15)

- He became the mediator through his death.
- He did this to redeem those whose sin was exposed through the old system.
- He did this so that those who are called will receive the promise of eternal life.