

Hebrews 9:1-5

Hebrews 9:1 (NOTES)

- "the first covenant" - Salvation based upon the sacrificial system of OT.
- "regulations of divine worship" - The ceremonial law: sacrificial system, washings, dietary laws, feasts, sabbaths, jubilee, etc.
- "earthly sanctuary" - The portable tabernacle and the permanent temple in Jerusalem.

Hebrews 9:2 (NOTES)

- "tabernacle" - Means "dwelling place." The tabernacle of God was the first meeting place "tent of meeting" God established for His people. It prefigured Christ (was a type of), whose body was the "temple" of God.
- John 1:14, 2:19-21, Hebrews 10:5, 2Corinthians 5:19, Colossians 2:9, Revelation 21:3
- The difference between the tabernacle and the temple was that the tabernacle was a temporary moveable tent system Israel used in the wilderness before entering the promised land, and the temple was a permanent stone structure built by King Solomon on the Jerusalem threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite which was purchased by Solomon's father, King David.
- Important comparisons of the tabernacle and temple:
 - Tabernacle Contrasted to Temple:

<u>Tabernacle</u>	<u>Temple</u>
Temporary	Permanent
Wilderness	Jerusalem
1st Coming	2nd Coming
Unattractive	Glory

- Tabernacle Related to Jesus Christ:
 - A temporary abode, as was Christ's earthly body.
 - Tabernacle was born in the wilderness during the wanderings when Israel had no home. Jesus was born in a manger (Ark of the Covenant) while traveling. He had no place to lay His head (a traveler/itinerant preacher). He was buried in a *borrowed* tomb. Tabernacle was used in the wilderness less than 35 years. Jesus used His earthly body for just under 35 years.
 - The tabernacle was visually unattractive. Jesus had " ... no form nor comeliness no beauty that we should desire him ... " Isaiah 53:2
 - God's dwelling place between the two Cherubim. Jesus was attended by two angels at His resurrection and ascension. There were two witnesses at His birth, transfiguration, trial, crucifixion death, resurrection, ascension, and will be attended by two witnesses at His second coming.
 - Where God met with man. "Tent of Meeting" is an Old Testament phrase for the Tabernacle. Exodus 25:21,22, John 14:6, 1Timothy 2:5
 - The tabernacle was set in the center of Israel's Camp. Jesus was in the midst of His brethren (Israel). Numbers 1:50, 2:17, 11:24-25, Matthew 18:20
- "lampstand" - On the left as you enter. Why was a lampstand included in the Holy Place but not the Holy of Holies. The shekinah glory of God (His presence) illuminated the room.
- "table and the sacred bread" - On the right as you enter. Twelve loaves of unleavened bread, one each for the twelve tribes of Israel. Seven and five loaves when Christ fed the 5,000 and 4,000 masses. After the feeding of the 5,000, there were also twelve baskets of bread left over. Matthew 14:17, 15:34

Hebrews 9:3 (NOTES)

- "second veil" - This veil separated the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies. It is the veil in the permanent temple in Jerusalem that was torn top to bottom when Christ gave up His spirit. Matthew 27:50-51

Hebrews 9:4 (NOTES)

- "altar of incense" - It had a practical and spiritual purpose. Practically, it covered the stench of the slaughtered animals of the priestly worship. Spiritually, it represented the prayers of His people. Psalm 141:2, Revelation 5:8
- "golden jar of manna" - Manna was a small, wafer-like food with which God provided sustenance to Israel during her wilderness wanderings. "Manna" literally means *What is it?* It was a type of the Word of God (Who is Christ) - it had to be gathered daily, was food, was bread of life. John 1:1-3, 6:31-35
- "Aaron's rod which budded" - From an almond tree. God caused Aaron cut, dead stick (rod) to come to life and bear blossoms and almonds to show that Aaron and Moses, and not the men of Korah's rebellion, were chosen by God to lead. Numbers 17
- "tables of the covenant" - What are these? What is on them? The Ten Commandments, yes. But how can just those ten commandments be a covenant? The tablets contained the entire OT law. Exodus 24:3-8, 12, 2Chronicles 14:2-4, 31:21

Hebrews 9:5 (NOTES)

- "cherubim ... overshadowing the mercy seat" - These cherubim (plural of cherub) are mentioned seven times in the key passage in Exodus. "Overshadowing" was in the sense of protecting God's throne and glory.
- "Mercy Seat" - It was perhaps better translated or referred to as the *propitiary* or *place of propitiation* (the blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled there so that God would look at the blood rather than the broken law beneath it) was the throne of God - where the Shekinah glory of God in the tabernacle (and later the temple) rested and from which rose up to speak. Exodus 25:17-22
- Propitiation (the appeasing of God's wrathful response to sin) was made at the brazen altar in the outer court area where and when the animals were sacrificed. But their blood was applied to cover sin when sprinkled on the mercy seat where it came between God and the broken law below. In the same sense, Christ was sacrifice for all, but His blood was only applied to the hearts (arks that held the broken law) at conversion when Christ is trusted for salvation.
- "cherubim of glory" - So referred to as they guarded God's throne AND His shekinah glory. 2Chronicles 7:1-3

- "of these things we cannot now speak in detail" - They were no longer extant at the time of Christ. God's manifest presence had abandoned Israel long before because of her sin. The Ark of the Covenant was lost. Today, the Jerusalem "Temple Institute" exists to restore the worship in the Temple and the priestly worship in the hope that God's manifest presence (Shekinah Glory) will return to Israel.
- The tabernacle in summary: everything points to Christ.
 - The altar - He is the Lamb of God sacrificed for the sins of the world.
 - The brazen laver - baptism signifying His resurrection and ours.
 - The lampstand - He is the Light of the World.
 - Table of Showbread - Fellowship with God through Him - the way, truth, and life.
 - Altar of Incense - Prayer is available through Him (ask anything in My Name).
 - The Veil - His body, torn to give us access to the throne.
 - The Ark of the Covenant - He is the Lawgiver, Bread of Life, and the Resurrection.