

## Hebrews 9:15-22

### Hebrews 9:15 (NOTES)

- "For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant" - The old system that foreshadowed Him was doomed to obsolescence, as it only symbolized the perfect system founded on His blood. Not only was He the sacrifice, but He also became High Priest to present His blood to the Father on our behalf. Thus He is the "mediator of a new covenant". Hebrews 7:25
- "since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant" - Since Christ died in fulfillment of the old system, those who faithfully practiced it looked forward to, and were actually saved by, His blood.
- "those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance" - Those who died having faithfully lived under the old system will by virtue of having done so obtain eternal life - BUT only by *His* blood (not the blood of goats and bulls, which merely pointed forward in time to His advent).
- There remained, then, only the question of those Jews who were alive and heard the Gospel at the time of His coming. They were no longer able to successfully rely on the Old Covenant, but by faith in Jesus of Nazareth as their Messiah (Christ), but had to embrace the New Covenant in His blood. Matthew 26:28

### Hebrews 9:16 (NOTES)

- The Necessity of Death - As the *covenant* (Gr. - *diatheke* = will/testament) regards the promise of an inheritance, the inheritance remains in the possession of the one who makes the covenant until His death.

### Hebrews 9:17 (NOTES)

- Anecdotally, in the modern usage of estate documents, powers of attorney are operable during a person's lifetime, but cease operation at death when the last will and testament (covenant) enters operation in its place. Wills are never in operation during the life of the person who makes the will. Only at death does the will come into operation.

### Hebrews 9:18 (NOTES)

- "first *covenant* was ... inaugurated with ... blood." - The first covenant was also attended by the death of a substitutionary sacrifice.

**Hebrews 9:19 (NOTES)**

- These events are recorded in Exodus. However, not all of the details are recorded there. Paul evidently received direct revelation (via inspiration) from the Holy Spirit to have knowledge of these details ("with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself"). Exodus 24:3-8
- "with water" - The blood was mixed with water, a very particular foreshadowing of the death of Christ. John 19:34
- Why did Moses sprinkle the blood of the covenant on the "book and the people" in this verse, and also on the "tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry" in verse 21? To make them ceremonially clean, except for the "book" which would be covered by the blood of the sacrifice so that God would not see it broken in the hearts of the people, but would rather see the blood of the sacrifice which covered their sins.
- Note that the shedding of the blood of the sacrifice is not enough. It must be sprinkled, symbolically on the hearts of the people in which they have sinned. 1Peter 1:2, James 1:15

**Hebrews 9:20 (NOTES)**

- In the same way Moses inaugurated the Old Covenant with the blood of an innocent substitutionary sacrifice, Jesus inaugurated the New Covenant with His blood. Matthew 26:28

**Hebrews 9:21 (NOTES)**

- These details are also not included in the Exodus 24 passage. Paul apparently received them by direct revelation. Exodus 24:3-8

**Hebrews 9:22 (NOTES)**

- "almost" - Excluding the non-spiritual things of the world.
- "forgiveness" - requires the shedding of blood.