

God's Definitive Solution to Sin

Hebrews 9

Jesus' sacrifice is God's definitive solution
to mankind's sin problem.

1. The first covenant was designed to be temporary.
2. The new covenant is designed to be enduring.

Skating Video link:

"Nothing Else Matters" – Oona and Gage Brown

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qqlH9ez7d9A>

The Logical Flow of Hebrews 9:11-28

- God offers a promised eternal inheritance to mankind
- Our sin prevents us from taking hold of this inheritance
- The forgiveness of our sin requires the shedding of blood
 - Animal blood doesn't do the job, but
 - Jesus's blood cleanses us inwardly
- Jesus' sacrifice is God's definitive solution to mankind's sin problem

Discussion Questions

1. Besides training wheels for bicycles, name some other examples of when novices in a sport or skill are given some sort of prop or scaffolding to get them started.
 - Why is the prop necessary in each case?
 - How do you know when the prop is no longer needed?
 - What would happen if the prop were never dropped?

2. The last verse of chapter 8 frames chapter 9. Read 8:13 and briefly discuss what it means if something is obsolete. In this verse, what does the author say will happen to the first covenant? When will this happen?
3. The Tabernacle is the focus of 9:1-10. What was the tabernacle? Why was it important?
4. The author focuses on the two-room structure of the tabernacle. According to this passage, what were the different activities that took place in each room?
5. In verse 9, what does the author mean by saying, "This is an illustration (symbol, parable) for the present time"? In your own words, explain what the two-roomed structure of the tabernacle was intended to communicate.
6. In verses 9-10 (and again in 13-14) describe how the effects of the old regulations, gifts, and sacrifices differ from the effects of the new. Did the old ways have any value at all?
7. The author mentions the "greater and more perfect tabernacle" in verse 11. What is he talking about? How does the author describe this tabernacle in verse 24?
8. What does it mean that Christ is "the mediator" of the new covenant in verse 15? What does a mediator do?
9. Verse 22 says that "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness." How would you respond to a friend who made the claim that the God of the Bible is backward and barbaric because of this demand for blood? In other words, how would you explain why the shedding of blood is necessary for forgiveness?
10. How many times did Jesus need to die? In light of the ongoing yearly sacrifices by the Jewish high priest, was Jesus' sacrifice enough? Why?
11. Jesus' sacrifice guarantees that an eternal inheritance/salvation is coming to those who trust in Him (v 15 and 28). What aspect of our future in Christ do you look forward to the most?