



WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH

THE
EARTHLY
Vs.
THE
HEAVENLY
SANCTUARY

HEBREWS 9:1-12

BIBLE CLASS



Pastor
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Hebrews 9:1-12

- Then indeed, even the first *covenant* had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.
- ² For a tabernacle was prepared: the first *part*, in which *was* the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary;
- ³ and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All,

Hebrews 9:1-12

- ⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which *were* the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;
- ⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.
- ⁶ Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services.

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- ⁷ But into the second part the high priest *went* alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and *for* the people's sins *committed* in ignorance;
- ⁸ the Holy Spirit indicating this, that the way into the Holiest of All was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was still standing.
- ⁹ It *was* symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience—

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- ¹⁰ *concerned* only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation.
- ¹¹ But Christ came *as* High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.
- ¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

I. THE EARTHLY SANCTUARY WAS DIVINELY ORDAINED—BUT TEMPORARY (9:1)

- “Then indeed, even the first covenant had ordinances of divine service and the earthly sanctuary.”
- **A. The Old Covenant was not evil**
- God Himself instituted it.
- The ceremonies were holy and purposeful.
- They taught Israel:
- God’s holiness, Sin’s seriousness and Need for mediation

I. THE EARTHLY SANCTUARY WAS DIVINELY ORDAINED—BUT TEMPORARY (9:1)

- **B. Yet it was “worldly” (earthly)**
- Temporary. Material. Symbolic. Pointed beyond itself.
- **Teaching Point:** God never intended the Mosaic system to be the final destination.
- **Application:** Many people still attempt to relate to God externally:
- Ritual; Church attendance; Religious performance’
Tradition - But external religion cannot replace spiritual transformation.

II. THE TABERNACLE REVEALED PROGRESSIVE ACCESS TO GOD (9:2–5)

- **Structure of the Tabernacle**

- A. The Holy Place (Outer Room)

1. **Lampstand** = Light; Revelation; God illuminating His people.

2. **Table of Showbread** = Twelve loaves. = God's continual provision and covenant fellowship.

3. **Golden Altar of Incense** - Though physically before the veil, it belonged symbolically to the Holy of Holies.

- Represented: Intercession; Prayer ascending to God.

- Psalm 141:2 - Revelation 8:3–4

II. THE TABERNACLE REVEALED PROGRESSIVE ACCESS TO GOD (9:2–5)

- **B. The Holy of Holies (Inner Room)**

- 1. Ark of the Covenant**

- Represented: God's throne among His people.
- Contained:
 - **a. Golden Pot of Manna** = God's provision.
 - **b. Aaron's Rod that Budded** = God's chosen priesthood.
 - **c. Tablets of the Covenant** = God's holy law.

II. THE TABERNACLE REVEALED PROGRESSIVE ACCESS TO GOD (9:2–5)

- **2. Mercy Seat**
- Cover of the ark.
- Place where blood was sprinkled.
- **Important:**
The law inside condemned.
The blood above covered.
- **Beautiful gospel picture:**
Mercy triumphs over judgment.

II. THE TABERNACLE REVEALED PROGRESSIVE ACCESS TO GOD (9:2–5)

- **3. Cherubim of Glory**
- Represented:
- Divine majesty.
- Guarded access to God.
- Connection:
Genesis 3—cherubim guard Eden.
- **Teaching:**
Sin always restricts access to God.

III. THE DAILY PRIESTLY MINISTRY SHOWED LIMITED ACCESS (9:6)

- “The priests always went into the first tabernacle...”
- **Daily Activities:** Trimmed lamps. Burned incense. Replaced showbread.
- **Notice:** They never finished.
- Religion under the old system: Repeat, Repeat, Repeat
- Constant ministry revealed incomplete cleansing.
- People still live spiritually like Old Covenant priests:
- Repeating works; Never resting; But Christ offers rest.

IV. THE DAY OF ATONEMENT EXPOSED HUMAN INABILITY (9:7–8)

- “But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year...”
- The High Priest’s Restrictions
- A. **Only one man** - No public access.
- B. **Only one day** - Day of Atonement.
- C. **Only with blood** - No blood = judgment.
- D. **Even for himself** - The priest himself needed forgiveness.

IV. THE DAY OF ATONEMENT EXPOSED HUMAN INABILITY (9:7–8)

- **Day of Atonement Sequence =**
- Sacrifice for himself, Bull offered.
- Enter with incense.
- Cloud covered mercy seat.
- Sprinkle blood. Sacrifice for the people.
- Scapegoat sent away. Burnt offerings. Bodies burned outside camp.

Meaning?

- This entire process announced:
- “You still cannot come near.”
- **The Problem:** Sin was covered. It was not removed.
- Hebrews 10:4
- “It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.”
- **Fallen Condition Focus:** Human beings desire God—
- but cannot enter His presence apart from atonement.

V. THE TABERNACLE WAS A DIVINE OBJECT

LESSON (9:8–10)

- “The Holy Spirit indicating this...”
- The Holy Spirit’s message: The closed veil preached a sermon.
- **Message:** “The way is not open.”
- Why sacrifices could not perfect conscience
- **They dealt with:** Food laws, Washings, External cleansing
- But they could not: Remove guilt, Transform hearts, Cleanse conscience

V. THE TABERNACLE WAS A DIVINE OBJECT

LESSON (9:8–10)

- **Application:** External reform ≠ internal redemption.
- **You can:** Dress holy, Attend church, Memorize Scripture, Yet still lack peace with God.

VI. CHRIST ENTERED THE TRUE SANCTUARY (9:11–12)

- “But Christ came...”
- This is the turning point.
- **Old Covenant:** Repeated. **New Covenant:** Completed.
- **Christ the Better High Priest**
- **A. Better Tabernacle**
- Not made with hands. Meaning: He entered heaven itself.
- **B. Better Sacrifice** - Not animal blood. His own blood.
- **Jesus is:** Priest Sacrifice Mediator

VI. CHRIST ENTERED THE TRUE SANCTUARY (9:11–12)

- **C. Better Access**
- Once for all. No repetition. No annual return.
- **D. Better Result**
- Eternal redemption.
- **Old:**
Temporary covering.
- **Christ:**
Complete cleansing.

1. The Earthly Sanctuary = (External religion)



2. Restricted Access = (Sin separates)



3. Inadequate Sacrifices =
(Cannot cleanse conscience)



4. Christ's Finished Work = (Access secured)

Christ-Centered Conclusion

- **The veil said:** “Stay out.”
- **The cross says:** “Come boldly.”
- **Hebrews 10:19–22**
- Because Christ entered once for all, believers no longer stand in the outer court hoping to approach God.
- We now enter through Christ with confidence—not because our conscience is clean, but because His blood is sufficient.