

## INSTALLATION OF THE NEW COVENANT

The Law under the Old Covenant was never a means to the new birth of the cooperating sinner and the gift of eternal life. Old Testament Saints were saved by believing in God's Promise.

Hebrews 9 is contrasting the Old Covenant with the New Covenant. The blood sacrifices of the Old Testament never took away sin. Those sacrifices were for the purpose of preserving Israel as a Nation. Being offered multiple times year after year, the animal sacrifices reminded the people of their sin and need of a Savior.

Christ did not enter the heavenly tabernacle with the blood of animals. Christ entered once and for all with His own blood securing eternal redemption. Christ is mediator of the New Covenant and He died to make a way for an inheritance to be granted to those who believe in Him. A will does not go into effect until the one who writes the will dies. Jesus had to die a sinless death to redeem us from our sins committed under the Old Covenant. That is why the Old Covenant was inaugurated with blood. That blood ceremonially cleansed the outward flesh for service in contrast to the blood of Christ which cleanses the inner man permanently. The shedding of blood highlights the transition from temporary, outward purification to a permanent, inward cleansing of the heart and mind. So, without the shedding of blood there is no atonement. Atonement refers to the transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant in which the New literally takes away the sin of the world.

To say that "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin" is very misleading. It short circuits the context of chapter 9 and leads people to think wrongly that God requires a payment for sin before He is able to forgive sin. God always freely forgives without exacting payment of any kind. Hebrews 9:22

God did not punish Jesus in your place. Jesus was not being punished so that your sins could be forgiven. Jesus was not being punished so that divine justice is served.

God used sin's killing of sinless Jesus for the purpose of destroying sin's legal power over mankind.

Jesus did not deserve the death penalty. God was able to condemn sin's right to exist in human nature because the cross broke sin's legal authority. Sin is condemned to extermination because it killed the physical body of Jesus. Jesus became a sacrificial offering for sin's defeat so that sin is condemned and defeated. Romans 8:3

