Hebrews Lesson 13

**Hebrews 9:1-10 (NIV)**
1  Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary.
2  A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lampstand, the table and the consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place.
3  Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place,
4  which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant.
5  Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now.
6  When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry.
7  But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.
8  The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing.
9  This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper.
10  They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings--external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

**Chapter 9**

[9:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A1) first covenant. The covenant made at Sinai (see [8:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A13) and note).

[9:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A2) A tabernacle was set up. The tabernacle built under Moses. lampstand. Made of hammered gold and placed at the south side of the Holy Place ([Ex 40:24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+40%3A24)), it had seven lamps that were kept burning every night ([Ex 25:31-40](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+25%3A31-40); [27:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+27%3A21)). the table and the consecrated bread. Made of acacia wood overlaid with gold ([Ex 25:23-30](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+25%3A23-30)), it stood on the north side of the Holy Place ([Ex 40:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+40%3A22)). On it were twelve loaves, replaced every Sabbath and arranged in two rows of six ([Lev 24:5-8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+24%3A5-8)).

[9:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A4) which had the golden altar of incense. Although the altar of incense stood in the Holy Place, the author describes it as belonging to the Most Holy Place. His purpose was to show its close relationship to the inner sanctuary and the ark of the covenant (cf. [Ex 30:1-6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+30%3A1-6)). On the Day of Atonement the high priest took incense from this altar, along with the blood of the sin offering, into the Most Holy Place ([Lev 16:12-14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+16%3A12-14)). ark of the covenant. A chest made of acacia wood, overlaid inside and out with gold ([Ex 25:10-16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+25%3A10-16)). [See diagram, p. 127](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=3913&sec=00001592#thetab). manna... staff... tablets. See notes on [Ex 16:33-34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+16%3A33-34); see also [Nu 17:8-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Nu+17%3A8-10).

[9:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A5) cherubim of the Glory. Two winged figures made of pure gold, of one piece with the atonement cover, or mercy seat, and stationed at either end of it. It was between them that the glory of God's presence appeared ([Ex 25:17-22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+25%3A17-22); [Lev 16:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+16%3A2); [Nu 7:89](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Nu+7%3A89)). atonement cover. Fitting exactly over the top of the ark of the covenant, it was a slab of pure gold on which the blood of the sin offering was sprinkled by the high priest on the Day of Atonement ([Lev 16:14-15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+16%3A14-15)).

[9:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A7) only once a year. On the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur), the tenth day of the seventh month ([Lev 16:29](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+16%3A29),[34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+16%3A34)). For a description of its ritual see [Lev 16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+16) and notes. sins... committed in ignorance. See [5:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+5%3A2) and note.

[9:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A8) Holy Spirit. See [3:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+3%3A7) and note. as long as the first tabernacle was still standing. As long as the Mosaic system with its imperfect priesthood and sacrifice remained in effect ([8:7-8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A7-8),[13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A13)).

[9:9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A9) an illustration for the present time. The Mosaic tabernacle and its temple replacement, though superseded, still provided instruction through their typical (symbolic) significance and were reminders that returning to the old order was useless, since it could not deal effectively with sin. gifts and sacrifices. See [5:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+5%3A1) and note.

[9:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A10) the new order. The new covenant, with its new priesthood, new sanctuary and new sacrifice, all introduced by Christ.

**NIV Study Bible.**

**Open it**

1. If you could show three objects or artifacts that best tell the story of your own spiritual journey, what items would you show? Why?
 **My bible, my cross, and my baptism, this shows my journey**

2. What is the most beautiful church, cathedral, or religious shrine you have visited?
 **Moody Church in Chicago, made me think of the churches in Europe**

**Explore it**

3. What aspect of the old and new covenants is compared in this passage? ([9:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A1))
 **In Heaven Vs here on earth**

4. What was in the first room of the earthly tabernacle? ([9:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A2))
 **Lampstand, the table and consecrated bread, call the Holy Place**

5. What was behind the second curtain in the tabernacle? ([9:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A3))
 **The Most Holy Place, where God dwelt while on Earth**

6. What two objects were in the room behind the second curtain? ([9:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A4))
 **Golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant**

7. What was inside in the ark of the covenant? ([9:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A4))
 **The Gold jar of manna, Aarons staff that had budded and the stone tablets of the covenant**

8. What was above the ark? ([9:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A5))
 **The cherubim of the Glory**

9. During the year, who typically ministered at the tabernacle, and in which part did this ministry take place? ([9:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A6))
 **The priests entered regularly but only the outer room**

10. What three severe restrictions were placed upon entrance to the inner room of the temple? ([9:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A7))
 **But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance.**

11. What truth was the Holy Spirit teaching through the once-a-year offering for sin under the old covenant? ([9:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A8))
 **That the way into the Most Holy Place had not be disclosed, as long as the first tabernacle was standing**

12. What symbolic truth did the Mosaic tabernacle teach about sin? ([9:9-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A9-10))
 **This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. 10  They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings--external regulations applying until the time of the new order.**

**Get it**

13. What does the earthly tabernacle and sacrificial system tell us about Christ’s once-for-all sacrifice for sin?
 **It was far greater than anything we could offer**

14. What is significant about the contents of the ark of the covenant?
 **This is what led the captives out of bondage from Egypt and will help lead us to heaven**

15. How does Christ’s sacrifice enable us to have a clear conscience?
 **He has forgiven all sins, past present and future for the whole world**

**Apply it**

16. What are some practical steps you can take when you feel touched by a guilty conscience?
 **Stop and think about what you may have done and remember NOT to do again**

17. What do you want to remember the next time you approach God in worship?
 **He is truly Merciful**