Hebrews Lesson 14

**Hebrews 9:11-28 (NIV)**
11  When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation.
12  He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.
13  The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.
14  How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!
15  For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance--now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.
16  In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it,
17  because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living.
18  This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood.
19  When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people.
20  He said, "This is the blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep."
21  In the same way, he sprinkled with the blood both the tabernacle and everything used in its ceremonies.
22  In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.
23  It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.
24  For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.
25  Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own.
26  Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.
27  Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,
28  so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

[9:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A11) not a part of this creation. It was not an earthly tabernacle, but the heavenly sanctuary of God's presence ([v. 24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A24); [8:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A2)).

[9:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A12) blood of goats and calves. See note on [Lev 17:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+17%3A11). he entered... once for all. Not repeatedly year after year as did the Levitical high priests. Christ's sacrifice was perfect, because it was completely effective and did not need to be repeated. After he had obtained eternal redemption, Christ ascended into the true heavenly sanctuary.

[9:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A13) blood of goats and bulls. As on the Day of Atonement. ashes of a heifer. As prescribed in [Nu 19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Nu+19) for those who became ceremonially unclean as a result of contact with a corpse (see note on [Nu 19:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Nu+19%3A18)). outwardly clean. Such sprinkling, since it was only external, could not cleanse a person from sin.

[9:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A14) through the eternal Spirit. An unusual expression that is much debated but probably refers to the Holy Spirit, who empowered Jesus to fulfill his mission (see [Mt 3:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+3%3A16) and note). offered himself. He was the one who offered the sacrifice, and he was the sacrifice itself. unblemished. See [Lev 22:19-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+22%3A19-21). cleanse our consciences. Remove sin's defilement from the very core of our beings. acts that lead to death. See [6:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+6%3A1) and note.

[9:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A15) mediator. See [8:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A6) and note. new covenant. See [7:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A22); [8:6](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A6),[13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A13). the promised eternal inheritance. Specified in [Jer 31:31-34](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+31%3A31-34) (see note on [8:8-12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A8-12)). On the basis of Christ's atoning death, this inheritance has become real for those who are called by God (cf. [Ro 8:28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+8%3A28)). as a ransom. See [Mk 10:45](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mk+10%3A45) and note.

[9:16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A16) will. Translates the same Greek word as that for "covenant" ([v. 15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A15)), but here and in [v. 17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A17) used in the sense of a last will and testament. ([Verse 18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A18) returns to the concept of covenant.) Beneficiaries have no claim on the benefits assigned to them in a will until the testator dies ([v. 17](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A17)). Since Christ's death has been duly attested, "the promised eternal inheritance" ([v. 15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A15)) is available to his beneficiaries.

[9:18-20](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A18-20) For the ceremony referred to here see [Ex 24:4-8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ex+24%3A4-8).

[9:18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A18) without blood. Without death—the death of the calves from which Moses took blood to seal the old covenant.

[9:21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A21) See, e.g., [Lev 8:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+8%3A10),[19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+8%3A19),[30](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+8%3A30).

[9:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A22) See note on [Lev 17:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lev+17%3A11).

[9:23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A23) copies of the heavenly things. See [8:5](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+8%3A5). Whereas it was necessary for the earthly sanctuary to be purified with animal sacrifices, it was necessary for the heavenly sanctuary to be purified with the better sacrifice of Christ himself.

[9:24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A24) now to appear for us in God's presence. See [7:25](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+7%3A25); [1Jn 2:1](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+2%3A1) and notes. Christ also "has appeared" ([v. 26](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A26)), and "he will appear" ([v. 28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A28)).

[9:26](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A26) end of the ages. His coming has ushered in the great Messianic era, toward which all history has moved (see notes on [1:1-2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+1%3A1-2)).

[9:28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A28) appear a second time. See, e.g., [Mt 24:3-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+24%3A3-21); [25:31-46](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+25%3A31-46); [Jn 14:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+14%3A3); [1Co 1:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Co+1%3A7); [15:23](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Co+15%3A23); [1Th 2:19](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Th+2%3A19); [4:13-18](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Th+4%3A13-18); [2Th 1:7](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Th+1%3A7); [Tit 2:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Tit+2%3A13); [2Pe 3:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Pe+3%3A4); [Rev 3:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+3%3A11); [19:11-16](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Rev+19%3A11-16). to bring salvation. The consummation of the salvation purchased for us on the cross (see, e.g., [Ro 8:29-30](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+8%3A29-30); [Php 3:20-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Php+3%3A20-21); [1Jn 3:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+3%3A2)). waiting for him. As the Israelites on the Day of Atonement waited for the high priest to reappear after ministering in the Most Holy Place, bringing assurance that their sins had been atoned for (cf. [2Ti 4:8](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ti+4%3A8); [Tit 2:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Tit+2%3A13)).

**NIV Study Bible.**

**Open it**

1. What are some ways people typically try to deal with their own mortality?
 **Ignore it, joke about it**

2. What images come to mind when you hear the phrases "blood sacrifice" and "cleansed with blood"?
 **animal with throat cut, something with blood spots on it.**

**Explore it**



3. How is the heavenly tabernacle in which Christ serves as high priest described? ([9:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A11))
 **it is a greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with human hand**

4. By what means did Christ enter the Most Holy Place? How man times did he enter? ([9:12](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A12))
 **By His own blood, he entered once for all having obtained eternal redemption**

5. What ritual cleansing ceremony did a high priest typically complete before he entered the Most Holy Place? ([9:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A13))
 **They had to sacrifice for their owns sins first then for the people**

6. To what degree was a high priest considered clean? ([9:13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A13))
 **Cleansing of the flesh only**

7. How was Christ’s sacrifice on our behalf different from the usual sacrifice for sin on the Day of Atonement? ([9:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A14))
 **He offered himself through the eternal Spirit without blemish to God, to cleanse not your flesh but your conscience. He was our perfect sacrifice.**

8. What benefits do believers in Christ derive from the sacrifice Christ made on their behalf? ([9:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A14))
 **He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.**

9. What is our promised eternal inheritance? ([9:15](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A15))
 **To be able to see God**

10. What must happen in order for sins to be forgiven? ([9:22](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A22))
 **Blood must be shed for us, as Christ did on the cross**

11. As a high priest, why did Christ enter heaven instead of an earthly man-made sanctuary? ([9:24](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A24))
 **So he may appear in the presence of God for us**

12. How is Christ categorically different from every other high priest? ([9:25-26](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A25-26))
 **He only had to sacrifice himself once, not every year**

13. What fate awaits every person? ([9:27](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A27))
 **We are appointed to die once and after this comes judgment**

14. How will Christ’s Second Coming differ from His first advent? ([9:28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Heb+9%3A28))
 **He will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin for those who eagerly await him**

**Get it**

15. In what ways was Christ an unblemished sacrifice?
 **He knew no sin**

16. Why do you think the author kept emphasizing that Christ’s sacrifice was "once for all"?
 **To show Jesus worthiness to offer himself one for all**

17. If Christ has done all these fantastic things for us, why are we so prone to stray from Him?
 **We are human and have contrary minds**

**Apply it**



18. In what concrete way can you show gratitude for Christ’s sacrifice?
 **Do to others as He would have us do**

19. With whom do you want to share the good news this week of a Savior who offers forgiveness, freedom from sin, and eternal life? How?
 **Family, by example and word**