

Hebrews 9.1-14

"Lingering Look at the Setting Sun"

Some of You will Find this Hard to Believe > Time just ONE SCREEN in Home  
NOT on Phone, or Computer, or anything that begins with "I"

In My House > Black and White Television – Old Cathode Ray Tube

Longest Night – Saturday parents watched "Lawrence Welk Show"

Ch 9 Pulls out Old ALBUMS - Turns on OLDIES Station – Good Old Days...

THEME: Exceeding GREATNESS of NEW Covenant –

Unconditional, Internal, Experiential, Eternal, Universal

In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. Hebrews 8.13

YES! Jesus is BETTER – Surely the NEW Covenant is SUPERIOR

But don't FORGET! Even OLD Covenant was GLORIOUS

Before it VANISHES writer takes "Lingering Look at the Setting Sun"

Here > Detailed Description of TABERNACLE! As Jews they were FAMILIAR

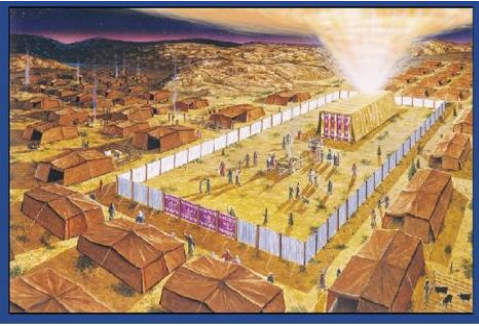
v. 5 Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

ZGC Collection of GENTILES from Around GLOBE > Not so FAMILIAR

v. 1 the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness

If YOU been Million+ Israelites who Lived round Tabernacle Palestinian Dessert

First THING would have SEEN > WHITE LINEN walls of Tabernacle > TENT



45 m by 23 m >

WHITE = this is HOLY Ground

Tabernacle = Territory of HOLY God

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD!” Psalm 122.1



If went INTO that Tent Enclosure >

1<sup>st</sup> thing SEE ALTAR of Burnt Offering

Large Bronze Altar – HORN on each of

4 Corners > Offerings could be TIED

The LORD called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, “Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock. “If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the LORD. He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him. Then he shall kill the bull before the LORD, and Aaron's sons the priests shall bring the blood and throw the blood against the sides of the altar that is at the entrance of the tent of meeting...”  
Leviticus 1.1-5

White Tent CONTRAST w/ BLOOD RED – You Carry DEAD CARCAS

Blood Dripped from Freshly Killed Animal, On Hands, Splattered on CLOTHES

YOU killed ANIMAL > Vivid Reminder > Should have been YOU!

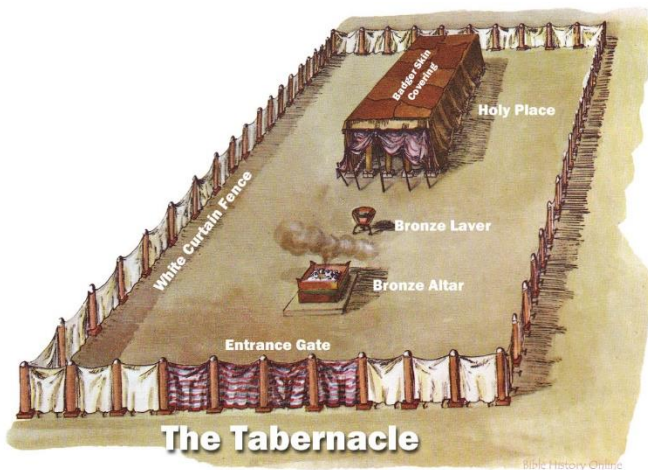
WAGES of SIN is Always and Only DEATH > Animal Slain by YOUR Knife



That's as FAR as You Can GO –  
From here Only PRIESTS GO  
Only Priest Draw Near to God

BEHIND Altar was BROZE LAVER – Big BASIN for Priests to WASH

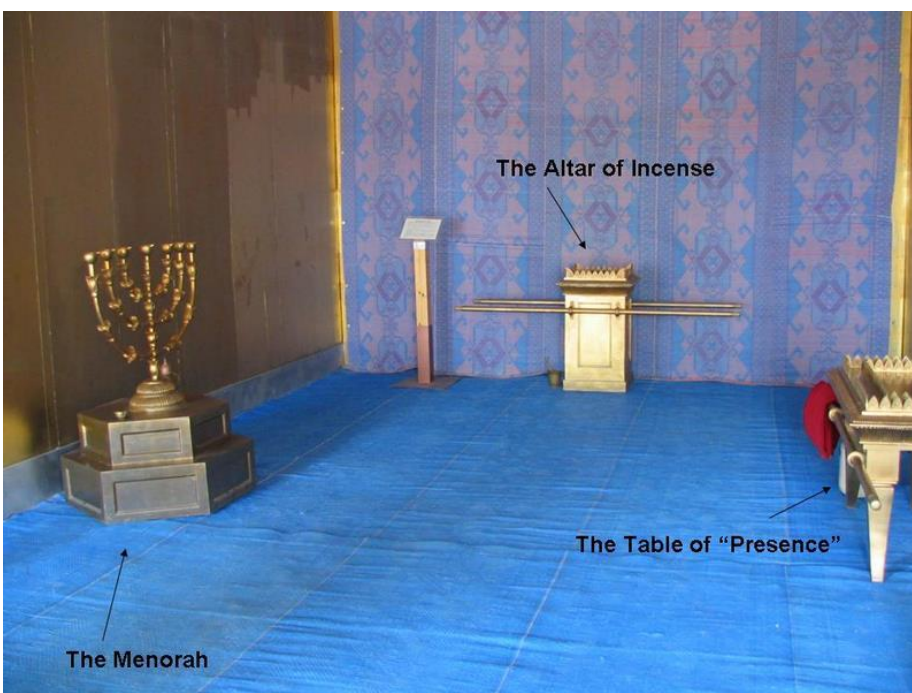
All this BLOOD and BURNING of CARCASES was HUGE MESS



Behind LAVER: TENT – Flat-Roofed,  
Oblong, 4 ½ m High & Wide, 14 m Long  
3 Layers – Beautiful TAPESTRIES and  
ANIMAL SKINS

2 Rooms divided by Ornate VEIL held  
up by 4 Golden Columns on Silver Bases

1<sup>st</sup> Room HOLY Place – Inner Room MOST Holy Place or Holy of Holies



v. 2 For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place.

Lampstand SOLID GOLD – 7 Branches with Lights on Top – MENORAH  
TABLE holding CONSECRATED BREAD “the Bread of the PRESENCE”

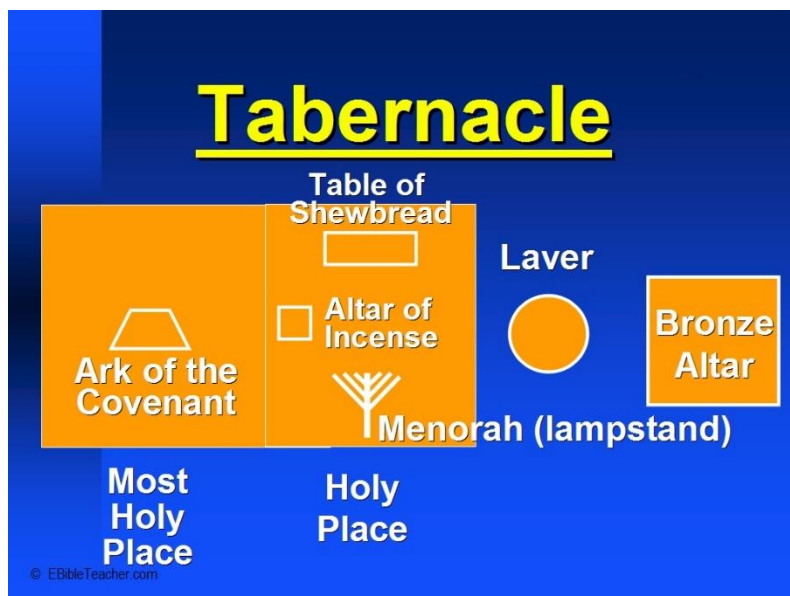
12 Loaves of Bread – One for each of 12 TRIBES

In the TABERNACLE 3<sup>rd</sup> Piece of Furniture in that OUTER Room

ALTAR of INCENSE > All Readers knew this Basic Fact of ISRAEL

WRITER takes Liberty to MOVE Altar of Incense from Outer Room to INNER

Not MISTAKE but conveys an IMPORTANT MESSAGE



vs. 3,4 Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place, having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.

While the location of the incense altar (verse 3) is puzzling to some, its prophetic significance is not, for the incense prophesies of the ultimate prayers offered by Christ, our high priest, in the presence of God.

Kent Hughes



v. 5 Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat.

OLD = VANISHING, OBSOLETE, SHADOW > But even this is GLORIOUS

Writer does NOT Lift Jesus UP by Putting OLD Covenant DOWN

Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.

2 Corinthians 3.7-11



v. 6 These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties,

This DAILY Worship was CONTINUOUS > SACRIFICES Never STOPPED

LAMPS needed to be TRIMMED MORNING & EVENING 7 days a Week

Fresh Loaves of BREAD were placed on Table of Showbread WEEKLY

1000's Priests, MOST Never Chosen for ONE Week of Duty in Holy Place



v. 7 but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people.

7 days before Yom Kippur (Day/Atonement), HPriest left home / Stayed Temple  
That WEEK he would Carefully PRACTICE what he'd Do Most Holy Place  
Very Careful NOT to come into Contact w/ Anything make him UNCLEAN

Morning of Day of Atonement – High Priest Offered BURNT Offering

After this Offering > Ritually Bathed entire Body > Put on Glorious ROBES

WHITE Sacred Linen Tunic – White Undergarments – White Sash & TURBAN

Placed HANDS on HEAD of a Bull and Prayed.....

O God, I have committed iniquity, transgressed and sinned before thee. I and my house, as it is written in the Law of thy servant Moses, “For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you; from all your sins shall ye be clean before the Lord.” And they answered after him, “Blessed be the name of the glory of his kingdom for ever and ever!” Yoma 3.8, Jewish Talmud

Then he LEAVES the BULL for a few Moments – Turns to TWO GOATS

Chooses One for YAHWEH and the Other for AZAZEL (SCAPEGOAT)

Piece CRIMSON WOOL tied to Horns of Scapegoat, Thread on 1 for Slaughter

Then GOATS are Left STANDING Together

Then turns Back to BULL and SACRIFICES It

Next fills CENSOR of Burning Coals from Altar of Burnt Offerings

In Most Holy Place for 1<sup>st</sup> Time, Pour COAL & 2 Handfuls Incense, Mercy Seat CLOUD of Incense Covers the Mercy Seat and Fills Most Holy Place

EXITS Holy of Holies gets some BULL'S BLOOD

Sprinkles Blood on Mercy Seat and 7 times on Ground before Cover of Ark

Then SACRIFICES Goat designated for YAHWEH

Performs SAME Ritual again in the Most Holy Place

Then MIXES BLOOD of Bull & Goat – Puts on Horns of Altar, Sprinkles 7 X's

THEN...Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over it all the iniquities of the people of Israel, and all their transgressions, all their sins. And he shall put them on the head of the goat and send it away into the wilderness by the hand of a man who is in readiness. The goat shall bear all their iniquities on itself to a remote area, and he shall let the goat go free in the wilderness. "Then Aaron shall come into the tent of meeting and shall take off the linen garments that he put on when he went into the Holy Place and shall leave them there. And he shall bathe his body in water in a holy place and put on his garments and come out and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people and make atonement for himself and for the people. And the fat of the sin offering he shall burn on the altar. And he who lets the goat go to Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp. And the bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place, shall be carried outside the camp. Their skin and their flesh and their dung shall be burned up with fire. And he who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and afterward he may come into the camp. Leviticus 16.21-28

2 Truths we see from Look back at Setting Sun of Glorious Tabernacle...

### 1. God's Holiness Warning

Word that DESCRIBES God most often in the Bible is HOLY

We Moderns think it should be LOVE – Word IS often USED, He IS Love!

But HOLY Wins the Competition, often used 3 X's in Row - Holy, Holy, Holy!

Means God is DIFFERENT, UNIQUE, SET APART, WAYS are HIGHER Ours  
 Are you not from everlasting, O LORD my God, my Holy One?...You who are of  
 purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong Habakkuk 1.12,13

Especially after FALL into SIN > Now our Eyes ARE Open, Know Good & Evil  
 But NOT Like God – He hates Evil, loves God / We love Evil, Hate Good

a. Barriers Just as CARS have SEAT BELTS save us from BAD DRIVING

Holy God made BARRIERS to SAVE US from OURSELVES

vs. 1,2 Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly  
 place of holiness. For a tent was prepared, the first section...

ISRAELITES Could NOT just RUN In and Out before Presence of God

HOLINESS of God compels Him to give CLEAR DETAILS

3<sup>rd</sup> Book in Bible LEVITICUS > HOLINESS Code, How to WORSHIP

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to all the congregation of the  
 people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am  
 holy. Leviticus 19.1,2

Even Aaron the High Priest’s SONS did not READ Holiness Code Carefully

N & A CONSUMED as Offered “Unauthorized Fire” on God’s HOLY ALTAR

TABERNACLE > God APPOINTED Place to MEET Him > Very Carefully

Average Israelite Only come FEW STEPS into OUTER ENCLOSURE

FEW Priests Chosen for WEEK of Service in OUTER Room

REAL PRESENCE of God is Separated by BARRIER of a THICK CURTAIN

One Guy who CAN get CLOSER for One Day a Year

PRACTICES all Motions for a WEEK > Breathes Sigh of RELIEF when OVER!



vs. 6,7 These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties, but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood...

b. Blood - In the ECONOMY of God > SIN demands SACRIFICE

For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life. Leviticus 17.11

SOLEMN WARNING – This should be YOU! – Get a Substitute or BE SLAIN!

v. 13 the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh

BULL & GOAT Slain on Yom Kippur to REMOVE Sins of NATION

Red HEIFER Ritual described Numbers 19 > DEFILED when Touch Dead Body

Old Covenant Sacrifices Dealt w/ Great Problems of SIN & DEATH

RESTORED Fellowship with GOD Temporarily > Till NEXT Sin or Death

## 2. God's Heart of Welcome

a. Chasing – God of BIBLE Loves and Calls People into RELATIONSHIP

God MADE Man & Woman His IMAGE > Not because LONELY, His GLORY

Our PARENTS Enjoyed Intimate Fellowship w/ God in GARDEN

For MOST Part > GOD of BIBLE is JILTED LOVER

When that RELATIONSHIP was BROKEN > God tries to PATCH Things Up  
the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” Genesis 3.9

When WORLD in TOTAL Rebellion > God saved ONE Man & Family > ARK

When WORLD again Rebelled, Building TOWER @ BABEL for Own Glory  
 God AGAIN saved ONE Man and his FAMILY, telling them...

“in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed” Genesis 12.3

SAVED from Pharaoh, COVENANT at SINAI, again REFUSED to Follow  
 OLD GEEZERS Died but the Pepsi Generation ENTERED Promised Land

Story of Bible: ONE UNDESERVED SECOND CHANCE AFTER ANOTHER!

vs. 8-11 By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is *not yet* opened as long as the first section is still standing (which is symbolic for the *present age*). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until *the time of reformation*. But *when Christ appeared* as a high priest of the good things that have come

Writer says HOLY SPIRIT is giving a Message thru TABERNACLE

Several times Already, Writer said Holy Spirit has Spoken, then Quotes OT

GUEST LIST to Tabernacle very SMALL and SELECTIVE

But God Preparing MUCH BIGGER CELEBRATION > Invitation Global, Viral

FUTURE Day – Not Yet – TIME OF REFORMATION > Good Things Coming!

After Great High Priest Completed His Sacrifice > PENTECOST, fulfilled...

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains...and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD”  
 Isaiah 2.2,3

## b. Conscience

Biggest BARRIER in our Relationship with God > NOT Tents, Curtains, Laws

v. 9 According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper

Conscience > Moral Faculty in people determines What is Good & Bad

“conscience is God’s spy, and man’s overseer” John Flavel

SINCERE Israelite could NEVER Really have PEACE

SAVE Money for UNBLEMISHED Animal to SACRIFICE for your SINS

WALKING HOME from the TABERNACLE you SIN All Over Again!

ALBERT SPEER was BRILLIANT, LOYAL NAZI – Close Friend of HITLER

SPEER, GENIUS CREDITED with Keeping Nazi FACTORIES Running WW2

Caught by Allies – Joined 24 other War Criminals on Trial at NUREMBURG

Speer ONLY one of 24 who ADMITTED he was Guilty > Served 20 yr Sentence

“I served a sentence of twenty years, and I could say, ‘I’m a free man, my conscience has been cleared by serving the whole time as punishment.’ But I can’t do that. I still carry the burden of what happened to millions of people during Hitler’s lifetime, and I can’t get rid of it”  
Albert Speer

v. 9 purify our conscience from dead works

This is what the world is busy about, works that if not sinful are certainly pointless and dead from the perspective of eternity. Building empires that will fall, buying things that will not satisfy or last, serving ambitions that are destined for the grave.  
Richard Phillips

God has given an AZAZEL for your Troubled Conscience > Scapegoat

God INVITES you to Lay your Sins on Jesus, Who can take them Away Forever

GREAT HIGH PRIEST Died > VEIL to Most Holy Place torn Open by God

COME IN! Do Not have to Remain Separated > DRAW NEAR in X to X

Connection btwn RIPPING of CURTAIN and making CONSCIENCE RIGHT

The Holy Spirit so persuades us that God loves us that our souls are filled with joy and comfort. This is his work and he does it effectively. To persuade a poor sinful soul that God in Jesus Christ love him, delights in him, is well pleased with him and only has thoughts of kindness towards him is an inexpressible mercy”

John Owen

### c. Cleansing

vs. 12,14 he (Christ) entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption...the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Jesus DONE what No OT Sacrifice could DO > FULLY REMOVED Our Sin  
Does So by TAKING them ON Himself > ENDURING Wrath we Deserved  
Paid Full Penalty > PROPITIATES the ANGER of God > Restored to LOVE  
DARK Secret that HAUNTS you at NIGHT > You can GIVE that to HIM

Jesus: “I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

John 14.3,4

From Perspective of NT we Criticize Thomas > How BLIND can he Be?

Consider his Question from Context of Hebrews 9

Jesus promising INTIMATE Relationship – Blessing seems UNBELIEVABLE!

Only High Priest gets anywhere NEAR God > Does so with FEAR & DREAD!

How WONDERFUL it is for US to know with GROWING Understanding...

Jesus our Christ is the WAY, TRUTH, and LIFE – will Take us to Father

vs. 12,14 by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption...the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God

Holy Spirit who EMPOWERED Him from Baptism to do His Ministry

Was there even thru the AGONY of the CROSS

Greatest AGONY of Jesus NOT Physical TORTURE > tho it WAS Horrible!

SPIRITUAL Darkness and ALIENATION > Bearing SINS of WORLD

Spiritual SACRIFICE – BLOOD Applied SPIRITUALLY to the HEART

v. 14 purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

We are CLEANSED and COMMISSIONED > SAVED to SERVE

Even in NEW COVENANT we're Called to PRIESTLY Service

Greek word used here for SERVE has Priestly connotation

Priests in Tabernacle > Kept Lights Burning, Incense Smoke going Up

We keep LIGHT of God's Word Shining / PRAYERS like Incense RISING

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Revelation 1.5,6

“To serve the living God is necessary to the happiness of a living man: for this end we were made, and we miss the design of our making if we do not honor the Maker. ‘Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and enjoy Him forever.’ If we miss that end we are ourselves terrible losers. The service of God is the element in which alone we can fully live.” Charles Spurgeon

From this LOOK BACK at the Glory of Tabernacle

We Now Look FORWARD to the GREATER GLORY of GOD our TEMPLE

They are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Revelation 7.15-17

\*\*\*\*\*

Hebrews 9.<sup>1</sup>Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. <sup>2</sup>For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. <sup>3</sup>Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place, <sup>4</sup>having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. <sup>5</sup>Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail. <sup>6</sup>These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties, <sup>7</sup>but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people. <sup>8</sup>By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing <sup>9</sup>(which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, <sup>10</sup>but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation. <sup>11</sup>But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) <sup>12</sup>he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup>For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup>how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Luke tells us in Book of Acts

But MANY DID NOT > In fact they went back into Temple w/ Needle & Thread

GIANT VIEL – God TORE from Top to Bottom > Sewed from Bottom UP!

After Once for All Sacrifice of Lamb of God given > Kept killing Bulls & Goats!

Would rather have CURTAINS & RITUALS to KEEP them FROM God

Not want GOD too Close > Israel at Foot of Sinai “Don’t Let God Speak to Us!”

This Week Small Group > Brother “I just started taking Communion at BICF”

Home Church > Stern Warnings “If did any SIN, better Not Take this!”

If you are SINNER and TAKE Communion – Might get Sick, maybe DIE!