

## Cleansing Our Conscience

**Text:** Hebrews 9:1-14

**Main Idea:** Christ & His sacrifice are alone able to cleanse the conscience of any worshiper, unlike the rituals & regulations of the Old Covenant.

### 1. The Old Covenant is obsolete because it was unable to cleanse the conscience of the worshiper. (v. 1-10)

- A Past Illustration: The \_\_\_\_\_ was inadequate. (v. 1-5)
- A Present Illustration: The old system of sacrificial \_\_\_\_\_ was inadequate. (v. 6-10)
  - In the Old Covenant \_\_\_\_\_ to God was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In the Old Covenant \_\_\_\_\_ the conscience was only \_\_\_\_\_.
  - In the Old Covenant \_\_\_\_\_ was limited.

### 2. Only the New Covenant with the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ adequately cleanses the conscience of the worshiper. (v. 11-14)

- Christ, our perfect High Priest entered into a perfect \_\_\_\_\_ tabernacle. (v. 11)
- Christ's sacrifice was perfect through His \_\_\_\_\_ blood. (v. 12a)
- Christ entered into the Most Holy Place once for all securing \_\_\_\_\_ redemption.
- Christ's blood alone is able to \_\_\_\_\_ our conscience so that we can serve the living God! (13-14)

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### Application Questions:

1. God has given every man a conscience. What is the purpose of the conscience? (Rom 2:14-15) Is having a guilty conscience a bad thing? Think through “some” of the things you have done that have given you a guilty conscience before God. What if someone says they do not have a guilty conscience? What would you say to them? Isn’t the question of life how we can be freed from such a guilty conscience? What does this passage teach us about how to cleanse our conscience? (Reread Hebrews 8:12)
2. How does the author of Hebrews show the inadequacy of the Old Covenant in chapter 9:1-10? List the three limitations of the Old Covenant.
3. What does the author mean when he says that the Old Covenant only cleansed at least partially “sins committed in ignorance” in verse 7? (See Numbers 15:22-31, esp. v. 30) What was to happen to those who sinned “defiantly?” In contrast to the Old Covenant what does the blood of Jesus cleanse? (see end of v. 12)
4. Up to this point in the book of Hebrews, the author has gone to great lengths to show us the identity of Jesus. Can you identify at least 5 things about who He is from chapters 1-8 (specifically 1:2-4)? Why is this crucial to his argument at this point? Why did the blood of Christ and not someone else’s blood have to be offered without blemish to God (Heb 9:11-14)?
5. What does the author mean in v. 10 when he says “**until the time of reformation?**” Reread Hebrews 7:11, 19, 8:7, 13. What do these passages teach us about the weakness of the Old Covenant? What was God’s design for the Old Covenant? (To save? To foreshadow? To convict?)
6. Is your conscience clear? What must be done so that all of our guilt can be removed? (See Heb 10:19-23)

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