

Hebrews 9v11-15: New and Improved

The writer of Hebrews draws much on the Old Testament, referring to a large list of faith heroes including Abraham, Moses, David and Jeremiah. He also speaks a lot about the religion of ancient Israel with its system of priests and sacrifices. He claims these foreshadowed, and are now superseded by the coming of Christ, Who Himself declared He was the fulfilment of Old Testament Scripture and Law.

Because God has now spoken to the world through His *Son* rather than just prophets or even angels, because Jesus made the *perfect* sacrifice of Himself on the cross and is risen and ascended to the Father's right hand in glory, we have the perfect Priest and Mediator!

He deals with our sin and brings us to God, liberating us to live positively in His service with the added promise of an *eternal, heavenly* homeplace!

Readers are urged not to take this 'New Covenant' for granted, become complacent, ethically careless or 'hard-hearted' as some did with the old one.

Rather, picturing ourselves surrounded by a grandstand of faithful 'witnesses' from long ago, Christians are to stay focussed on Jesus, the 'Author and Perfecter' of our faith, firmly reject fresh temptations to sin and 'run with perseverance the race marked out for us.' (12v1-2)

Renewed people following our amazing Saviour in an ever fresh covenant of love!