



Sunday, October 17, 2021  
Pastor Don Denyes

## Intro to Hebrews 9:15-28

Christ is the mediator of the new covenant because He shed His blood for us. In any covenant, there are stipulations. In the Old Testament, we see examples like Deuteronomy 28, where the stipulations of the covenant are laid on the people—blessings for continued faithfulness, curses for rebellion. We also see vivid pictures of covenant stipulations, as in the time God had Abraham slaughter the animals and divide them into two pieces, as if to say, “may this happen to me if I do not uphold the covenant promises.”

In the case of the new covenant, Christ offered His own blood. He took the curse upon Himself. In doing so, He took the penalty for all those who would receive the blessing of the new covenant. There is no more condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus! There is no more covenant curse to be levied against those for whom Christ died! Because He died in our place, and shed His own blood, we can be spared our rightful punishment for our rebellion. Praise God for His mercy!

So, we would do well to consider the great calling that it is to be counted as members in the new covenant. We ought not take for granted that a sacrifice had to be made and that we require a mediator still. We are not sufficient on our own to come before God, but there is One who is, and He has done exactly what was needed to secure our redemption.

### Context

There is movement throughout the letter to the Hebrews of Christ bringing His people closer to God. In the climactic passage of 12:22-24, the author will tell us that we have come to Christ the mediator of a new covenant *and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel*. That blood is Christ’s, and the word it speaks is a gracious word of forgiveness to all it covers!

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read Hebrews 9:15-28

“Christ our Mediator”

- Has appeared 9.26

- Now appearing 9.24

- Will appear 9.28

## Discuss

- 1) According to this passage, what benefit is it to us to have Christ as our mediator?
- 2) Why do you think blood is required in order for sins to be forgiven (v. 22)?
- 3) Why is it so important that Christ has gone into heaven itself rather than some earthly tent or building?
- 4) As Pastor Don noted, verse 27 is an aside to the larger point that the author is making. The author uses the assumption that there is death and judgment to make his larger point. Do you think death and judgment are widely held assumptions today? Why or why not?
- 5) What effect does meditating on Christ's second coming have on our spiritual lives?