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# Lesson 5B

## Jesus Christ Offers a Permanent Sanctuary (Hebrews 9:1–14)

### To start the lesson:

1. Have a time of silence and prayer.
2. Go over your answers to Test 5A.
3. Now read Hebrews 9:1–14 two or three times to get the sense of the passage.

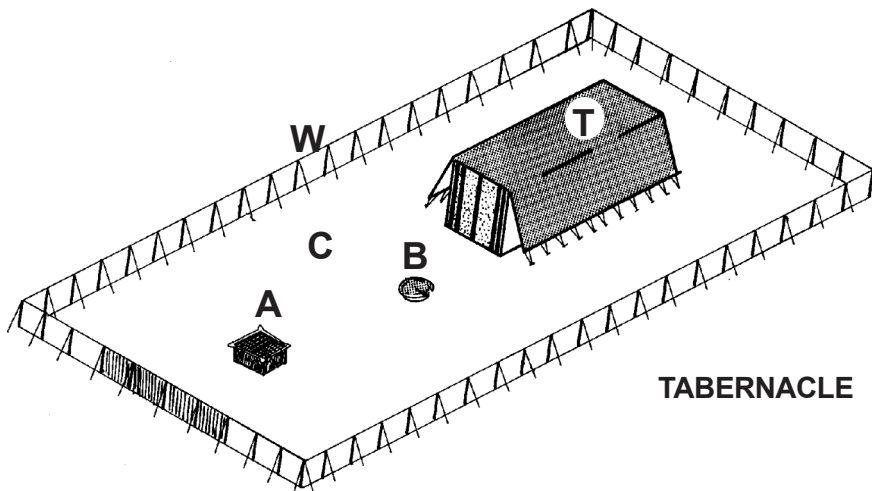
*After his exposition regarding the wonderful promises of the new covenant, the writer continues exalting the benefits of the new sanctuary and the sacrifice which Christ offered there, compared with the earthly tabernacle based on the law and its temporary sacrifices. We will look at it under the following headings:*

- A. The earthly sanctuary – its holy articles (vv.1–5)**
- B. The earthly sanctuary – its sacrifices (vv.6–7)**
- C. The earthly sanctuary – its meaning (vv.8–10)**
- D. The heavenly sanctuary – eternal (vv.11–14)**

### A. The earthly sanctuary – its holy articles (vv.1–5)

1. (v.1) What regulations did the first covenant have?

For worship and an \_\_\_\_\_.

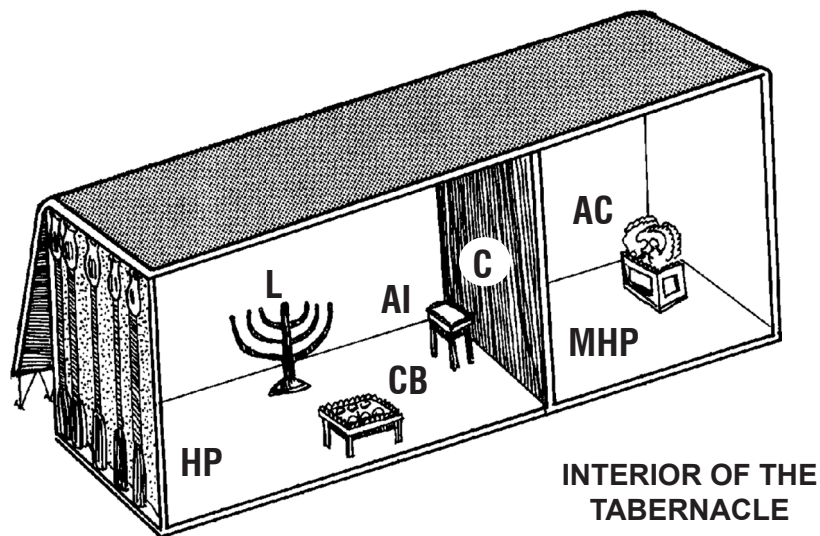



The tabernacle was a portable temple in the form of a tent, constructed by God's command, which the people carried with them in their pilgrimage towards the Promised Land.

It was used until, after the land had been conquered and the kingdom established, Solomon constructed a magnificent temple in Jerusalem.


The arrangements inside the temple were the same as in the portable tabernacle, but bigger and made of solid materials.

During the pilgrimage the people placed the tabernacle in the centre of the camp. When the people were established, they had the temple in the centre of the kingdom – in both cases, this symbolised the presence of God in the midst of his people.



2. (v.2–3) How many parts did the tabernacle consist of? \_\_\_\_\_
  3. (v.2) What was the first part called? \_\_\_\_\_
  4. (v.3) What was the other part called? \_\_\_\_\_
  5. (v.3) What divided the two parts? \_\_\_\_\_
-  **Note:** The entry to the first part also had one (Ex. 26:36).
6. (Mark 15:38) What happened to this curtain when Jesus died? \_\_\_\_\_
  7. (v.2 and Ex. 25:31–34) What item lit up the Holy Place? \_\_\_\_\_
  8. (v.2 and Ex. 25:23, 30) Where was the bread of the Presence placed? \_\_\_\_\_
  9. (v.4a and Ex. 30:1) What object was used to burn the incense? \_\_\_\_\_
  10. In fact this object is called in Exodus 30:1 an \_\_\_\_\_ of acacia wood for \_\_\_\_\_ . It was kept in the Holy Place, but belonged to the Most Holy Place as it was used by the High Priest when he entered there once a year (Ex. 30:10).

11. (v.4) What item occupied the central place in the Most Holy Place and was totally covered with gold? The \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. (v.5 and Ps. 80:1) What two figures on the ark represented the glory of God?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. (v.4 and Ex. 16:15) What was inside the ark which was a reminder of God's provision for his pilgrim people? \_\_\_\_\_
14. (v.4) What did the ark contain as a record of God's will as revealed to his people?  
\_\_\_\_\_
15. (v.4 and Lev. 16:14–15) What element represented God's mercy and forgiveness?  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. (Ex. 25:22) Where had God promised to meet with his people?  
\_\_\_\_\_

 **Note:** You can find more details on this section in Exodus 25, 37 and 40.

### B. The earthly sanctuary – its sacrifices (vv.6–7)

17. To understand the argument in this part of the epistle, it is important to understand the division of the tabernacle into its two principal parts (v.6). In what part of the tabernacle was the regular ministry carried out? The \_\_\_\_\_
18. (v.7) Where were they not able to enter? To the \_\_\_\_\_
19. (v.7) Who was the only one who could enter? The \_\_\_\_\_
20. (v.7) How many times in the year? \_\_\_\_\_
21. (v.7) What did he have to take with him on entering? \_\_\_\_\_
22. (v.7) For whom was the annual sacrifice offered? \_\_\_\_\_
23. (v.7) For what was the sacrifice offered? \_\_\_\_\_

### C. The earthly sanctuary – its meaning (vv.8–10)

24. In its original meaning, it is like the rest of the Old Testament – a figure of what was to come. The tabernacle and then the temple in the midst of Israel symbolised God in the midst of his people. But the way was closed by an exterior fence and a gate. The people did not get to the tabernacle, only the priests. God's presence was manifested in the Most Holy Place above the ark of the covenant.

How to get to his presence there? An ordinary Israelite had to bring an animal and hand it over to the priest who sacrificed it on the altar in the outer court. There was the bronze basin which symbolised washing from sin. Then the Holy Place where only the priests on duty entered, with its symbolism of the offering of life, light and prayer. And only once in the year the High Priest presented himself before God in the Most Holy Place with blood and incense, with a sacrifice representing himself and the people.

(v.8) Who shows this, according to the writer of Hebrews? \_\_\_\_\_

25. (v.8) What had not yet been disclosed for the Old Testament believer?  
\_\_\_\_\_
26. In other words, due to the problem of sin the believer did not have free and direct access to the intimate presence of God (v.9). This was so because *“the gifts and \_\_\_\_\_ being offered were \_\_\_\_\_ able to \_\_\_\_\_ of the worshipper.”*
27. (v.10b) So what symbol or message do these things have for the present? They were *“applying until the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.”*

**D. The heavenly sanctuary – eternal (vv.11–14)**

28. (v.11) Who is the High Priest now? \_\_\_\_\_
29. (v.11) Where does he exercise his ministry? \_\_\_\_\_
30. (9:24) Where is the Holy of Holies? \_\_\_\_\_
31. (v.12) With what perfect offering did he enter there? \_\_\_\_\_
32. (v.12) How often does he need to enter there? \_\_\_\_\_
33. (v.12) What did he obtain with that offering? \_\_\_\_\_
34. (v.14) What does the blood of Christ cleanse? \_\_\_\_\_
35. (v.14) For what does it cleanse us?  
*“so that we may \_\_\_\_\_.”*
36. **Meditation for the Group Meeting** (Make a note of your ideas so as to share them with the group)
- a) Is there anything you did not understand and need to clarify?
  - b) What teaching has most touched you in this lesson?
  - c) Look at the content of Supplement 2 at the back of the book and meditate on it.
37. **Now do Test 5B.**