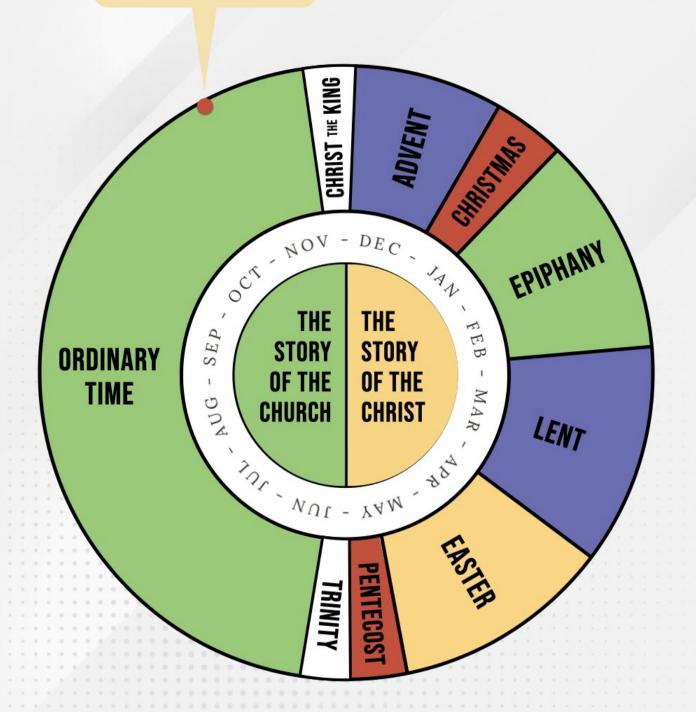


WE ARE HERE



THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR

CYCLE OF LIGHT

GOD
with us

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

Epiphany: Revelation

CYCLE OF LIFE

GOD for us

Lent: Crucifixion

Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

CYCLE OF LOVE

GOD in us

Trinity: Magnification

Ordinary Time: Mission

Christ the King: Conclusion



Now the first covenant had regulations for worship and also an earthly sanctuary. A tabernacle was set up. In its first room were the lamp stand and the table with its consecrated bread; this was called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant.

This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now. When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry.

But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still functioning.

This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.



The covenantal relationship between God and His people has been broken. In order for reconciliation to occur, we need a holy place, a pure sacrifice, and a righteous mediator.

FIRST COVENANT (9:1)



HOLY PLACE TABERNACLE

FIRST COVENANT (9:1)



HOLY PLACE
TABERNACLE

PURE SACRIFICE
UNBLEMISHED ANIMAL

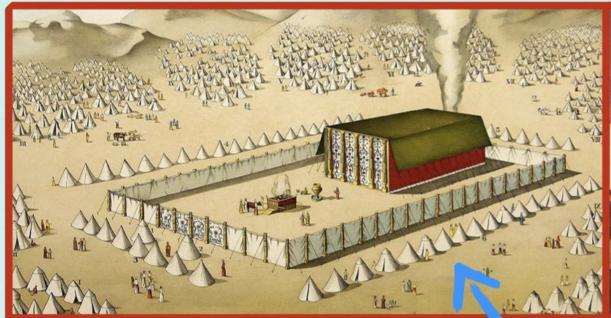
RIGHTEOUS MEDIATOR
HIGH PRIEST

But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

FIRST COVENANT (9:1)





NEW COVENANT (9:15)

PLACE

SACRIFICE

MEDIATOR







HEBREWS 9:23-28

It was necessary, then, for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these sacrifices, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ did not enter a sanctuary made with human hands that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

HEBREWS 9:23-28

Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

HEBREWS 9:23-28

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.

Not only did Christ enter the holiest place, and offer the purest sacrifice by the most righteous mediator, His once-and-for-all reconciliation transforms His people to be perfect, holy, and blameless forever.

HEBREWS 10:1-4, 11-14

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered?

HEBREWS 10:1-4, 11-14

For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

HEBREWS 10:1-4, 11-14

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

