



1

¹⁵ For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption from transgressions that were on the basis of the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. ¹⁶ For where a covenant is, of necessity the death of the one who made it must be borne. ¹⁷ For a covenant becomes valid on the basis of deaths, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives. ¹⁸ Therefore even the first *covenant* was not inaugurated without blood.

2

¹⁹ For when every commandment according to the Law had been spoken by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, ²⁰ saying, "THIS IS THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT WHICH GOD COMMANDED YOU." ²¹ And in the same way he sprinkled both the tent and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood. ²² And according to the Law, almost all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

(Hebrews 9:15-22)

3

"without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness"

"For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the life."
(Leviticus 17:11)

4

"without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness"

Q: Why is this true?

Q: Why is the death of Christ necessary?

5

Mediator of the New Covenant

➤ Review

- the Old Covenant was inadequate by design – it could not bring the "perfection" required
- Christ's superior sacrifice ends the Old Covenant and inaugurates the New

6

The Necessity of Christ's Death

1. The Nature of a Covenant

- divine covenants required the death of the one making it to be represented ("borne") (cf. Isaiah 53:4)
- divine covenants have no force while that which ratifies it (sacrificial victims) still lives

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The Necessity of Christ's Death

2. The Inauguration of the First Covenant

- Exodus 24:3-8
 - the blood that inaugurated the First Covenant invoked the penalty of death upon the people
 - it also signified that blood was necessary for cleansing and forgiveness in order to be in relationship with God

8

"without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness"

Q: Why is this true?

- the necessary, inevitable just retribution (wrath) of God against all sin
- the gracious provision of His love in providing substitutionary atonement

9

"without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness"

Q: Why the death of Christ?

"God, because in His mercy he willed to forgive sinners, and willed to forgive them righteously...purposed to direct against his own very self in the person of His Son the full weight of that righteous wrath which they deserve."

(Charles Cranfield, *Romans*)

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