



BLOOD
OF THE
COVENANT

SIN SEPARATES US FROM GOD

- Isaiah 59:2 – This is the most foundational truth about ourselves that we must come to accept before we can find salvation. Without an acknowledgement of Romans 3:23, there is no hope of reconciliation with God.
- Sin separates us because God cannot tolerate evil (Psalm 5:4, 1 John 1:5). Out of His presence, we die both spiritually and physically (Genesis 2:16-17, Genesis 3:19ff). Neither of these are God's desire (Ezekiel 18:23, 33:11, 1 Cor. 15:26).

MERCY

A photograph of a white lamb lying in a green field. The lamb is looking directly at the camera with its ears perked up. The background is a soft-focus green field.

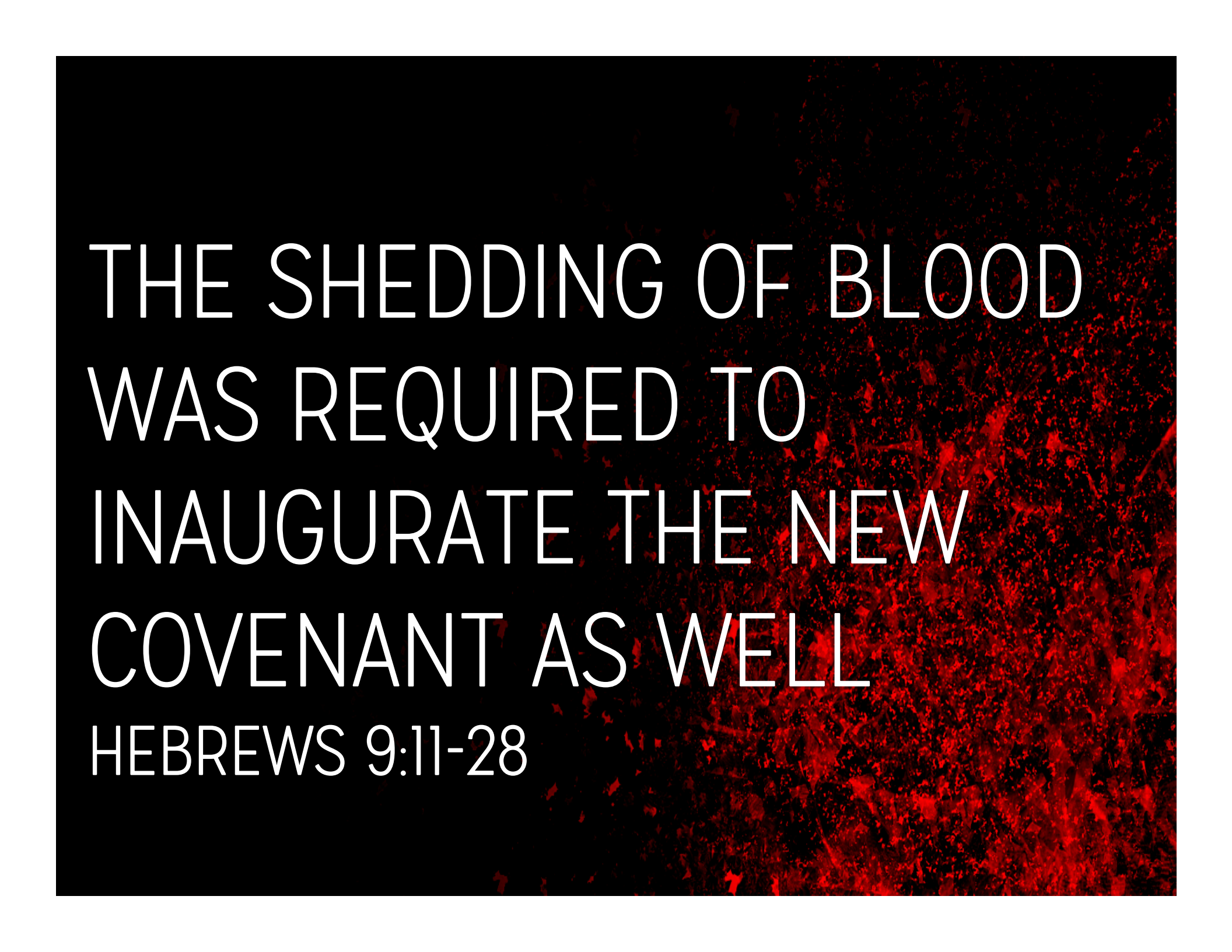
- God is both just and merciful (Psalm 103:1-14), therefore, He cannot deal with sin in a way that violates His nature. He shows this seemingly paradoxical character by accepting atonement through sacrifice (i.e., something or somebody else dies for me).
- Notice Leviticus 17:11, 16:30.

A COVENANT OF BLOOD

- One can almost say that the Bible would drip blood if squeezed hard enough. This is because of the severity of man's sin. It is abominable, despicable, and costly. Never forget this!
- The first covenant with Israel, a covenant that made atonement possible through animal sacrifice, was inaugurated with blood after sacrifices were offered (Ex. 24:1-8, Heb. 9:22).
- There were several reasons why this covenant existed in its form, in its time:

A COVENANT OF BLOOD

- First, it was not the “right time” for Christ (Romans 5:6). Whatever developments were needed for man to be ready for Jesus were centuries away. Humanity received revelation from God as it could accept it (Gal. 3:23-4:7).
- There is something to be said about the tangible nature of these sacrifices (Leviticus 1:4). Sin is costly. Something is always hurt by it, someone always has to pay.
- It was designed to be temporary, a stopgap of sorts for the problem of sin (Heb. 10:1ff).



THE SHEDDING OF BLOOD
WAS REQUIRED TO
INAUGURATE THE NEW
COVENANT AS WELL

HEBREWS 9:11-28

MY BLOOD OF THE COVENANT



- Matthew 26:28, Mark 14:24
- Jesus uses the same language as Moses when describing the “blood of the covenant.” While the emblems of the supper were only representative of His blood, the literal sacrifice would come soon after.
- His new covenant was inaugurated, replacing the old (Hebrews 9:15, 8:6, 8:13).

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- The covenant of Christ is better in every way, in that it is a final, perfect solution for sin. God's justice is satisfied, His mercy is expressed, His holiness is vindicated, His followers are saved (1 Peter 1:17-21).
- Our sharing in the blood of the covenant is a basis for our unity (1 Corinthians 10:16-17).
- We are "redeemed", "purchased", "atoned." Let words like that really mean something to you. You do not have to be guilty any more (Ephesians 1:7).
- This has universal appeal (Revelation 5:9-10).