

Hebrews 9:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Analysis

Christ is 'the Mediator of the new covenant' so that those called 'may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.' This required His death 'for the redemption of transgressions under the first covenant.' Even OT believers were saved by Christ's sacrifice - it had retroactive effect. Reformed covenant theology sees essential unity in the way of salvation across testaments (by grace through faith in Christ) while recognizing progressive revelation and administration.

Historical Context

OT believers looked forward in faith to God's promised redemption; NT believers look back to the accomplished redemption in Christ. The same sacrifice saves both, demonstrating the unity of God's redemptive purpose throughout history.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How were Old Testament believers saved if Christ hadn't yet died?
2. What does the unity of salvation across both testaments teach about God's eternal plan?

Interlinear Text

Καὶ διὰ τοῦτο διαθήκη καινῆς μεσίτης ἐστίν, ὅπως
And cause for this testament of the new the mediator he is that
G2532 G1223 G5124 G1242 G2537 G3316 G2076 G3704

θανάτου γενομένου εἰς ἀπολύτρωσιν τῶν ἐπὶ τῇ
of death by means for the redemption that were under G3588
G2288 G1096 G1519 G629 G1909 G3588

πρώτη διαθήκη παραβάσεων τὴν ἐπαγγελίαν λάβωσιν
the first testament of the transgressions G3588 the promise might receive
G4413 G1242 G3847 G1860 G2983

οἱ κεκλημένοι τῆς αἰωνίου κληρονομίας
G3588 they which are called G3588 of eternal inheritance
G2564 G166 G2817

Additional Cross-References

Romans 8:28 (Parallel theme): And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:30 (Parallel theme): Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Hebrews 9:12 (Redemption): Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Hebrews 10:36 (Covenant): For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

1 Timothy 2:5 (Parallel theme): For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Hebrews 12:24 (Covenant): And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Hebrews 7:22 (Covenant): By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

Hebrews 13:20 (Covenant): Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

Romans 5:6 (Parallel theme): For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

1 Peter 3:18 (Sin): For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: