

Hebrews 9:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.

Analysis

Moses declared: 'This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you.' The phrasing anticipates Christ's words at the Last Supper: 'This is My blood of the new covenant' (Matthew 26:28). Blood established both covenants. The old covenant's blood was external and repeated; the new covenant's blood is Christ's own, shed once for all. Reformed theology sees the Lord's Supper as signifying (not repeating) Christ's covenant blood.

Historical Context

Exodus 24:8 records this declaration. Jesus's deliberate echo of Moses's words at the Passover meal indicated He was inaugurating the new covenant predicted by Jeremiah, using His own blood rather than animal blood.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How do Christ's words 'This is My blood of the new covenant' connect to and surpass Moses's words?
2. What does the Lord's Supper signify about your participation in the new covenant?

Interlinear Text

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|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| λέγων, | Τοῦτο | τὸ | αἷμα | τῆς | διαθήκης | ἧς |
| Saying | This | G3588 | is the blood | G3588 | of the testament | which |
| G3004 | G5124 | | G129 | | G1242 | G3739 |
| ἐνετείλατο | πρὸς | ὑμᾶς | ὁ | θεός | | |
| hath enjoined | unto | you | G3588 | God | | |
| G1781 | G4314 | G5209 | | G2316 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 26:28 (Covenant): For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Exodus 24:8 (Covenant): And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.

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,

Zechariah 9:11 (Covenant): As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water.

Deuteronomy 29:12 (Covenant): That thou shouldest enter into covenant with the LORD thy God, and into his oath, which the LORD thy God maketh with thee this day:

