

Christ, Our High Priest

1. WHAT has been Christ's position and work since His ascension? Heb. 8:1-3; 9:24.
2. How was Christ's priestly work typified by Moses? Heb. 8:4, 5.
3. How is the earthly sanctuary described? Heb. 9:1-5. Note 1.
4. What was the order of service in the earthly sanctuary? Heb. 9:6-10. Note 2.
5. What took place on the day of atonement? Lev. 23:26-32; 16:3, 5-8, 15, 16-22. Note 3.
6. Of what was this earthly sanctuary and service a figure? Rev. 4:5; 8:3, 4; 11:19; Heb. 9:11, 12.
7. Does the heavenly sanctuary need to be cleansed? Heb. 9:22, 23.
8. When is the heavenly sanctuary to be cleansed? Dan. 8:14. (See Eze. 4:6; Num. 14:34.)
9. How much of this long period of time did the angel say was allotted to the Jews? Dan. 9:20-24.
10. What event marked the beginning? Dan. 9:25; Ezra 7:8-10. Note 4.
11. How many years would reach to the Messiah? Dan. 9:25.—Seven weeks and 62 weeks, or 69 weeks—483 years. (See diagram.)
12. What great events would come in the seventieth week? Dan. 9:26, 27. (See diagram.)
13. What events marked the close of the 70 weeks, or 490 years? Acts 8:1-4.—In A. D. 34 the Jews officially rejected the gospel by stoning Stephen, and the gospel went to the Gentiles.
14. How much of the 2300 years still remained?—2300 less 490 leaves 1810 years. The 490 years extended to A. D. 34. Adding the 1810 years left of the 2300 brings the end of this important prophecy in 1844.
15. What did the angel Gabriel say would begin at the close of the 2300 years in 1844? Dan. 8:14. The cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary, or day of judgment.

Notes on Reading No. 9

NOTE 1.—Study Exodus, chapters 25 to 30.

NOTE 2.—For 359 days the service of the sanctuary had to do with the first apartment. The ten commandment law within the ark in the most holy place demanded the life of the sinner. 1 John 3:4; Rom. 6:23. Thus the sinner, recognizing his guilt, brought his offering. Then laying his hands upon the head of the innocent victim representing the Christ to come, he confessed his sin, the animal was slain, and its blood put on the horns of the altar and poured at the foot of the altar. Thus the sins of all who confessed were pardoned, and in type transferred to the sanctuary.

NOTE 3.—The tenth day of the seventh month was the day of atonement. On this day the sanctuary was cleansed of the blood record of sins confessed during the year. The only ones passing the test of this yearly judgment day were those who had confessed every known sin. In a service strictly conforming to God's instructions, the high priest took the blood of the Lord's goat into the most holy place, where the visible presence of God appeared. The sprinkling of the blood there transferred the sins to the high priest in type, after which he cleansed the outer apartment, and then transferred the guilt to the goat representing the one responsible for all sin, *Azazel*, or Satan. The goat was then loosed in a desert place, a "land of forgetfulness."

NOTE 4.—Ezra started on the "first day of the first month," answering to April in our calendar. He arrived at Jerusalem on the first day of the fifth month, in the seventh year of the reign of Artaxerxes, B. C. 457, answering to our August and September. Thus the first half of the year 457 B. C. was past when the decree went forth.

