

Verse 14 of this chapter contrasts dead works with serving the living God. Whatever is dead is powerless and passive. That which is living, however, can act, can grow, can move, can respond. This vital life, which we can have only in Christ and through His death, blesses us far above those under any law.

*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who **live**, but Christ who **lives** in me. And the life I now **live** in the flesh I **live** by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me (Gal. 2:20).*

*...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of **life** (Rom. 6:4)*

*For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives **life** (2 Cor. 3:6).*

*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of **living** water.'*" (John 7:38)

*... we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a **living** God (Acts 14:15)*

*And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the **living** God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts (2 Cor. 3:3).*

*... the new and **living** way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh (Heb. 10:20).*

*He has caused us to be born again to a **living** hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (1 Pet. 1:3)*

*You yourselves like **living** stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 2:5)*

Questions:

1. What is the first covenant of verse 1?
2. Where was its earthly sanctuary, or place of holiness?
3. What were the requirements for someone to enter the Most Holy Place of the tabernacle and come into the presence of God? How many people met those qualifications?

4. Who now can gain access to God? Is blood still required?
5. What was the main shortcoming of the old covenant, according to verse 9?
6. Do religious groups today impose any restrictions reminiscent of the tabernacle regulations?
7. What is the superior tabernacle of verse 11? When did Christ enter it?
8. Verses 15-21 tell us that, just as a will takes effect only upon the death of the testator [vocabulary word of the day], any new covenant is inaugurated with a death. How does this apply to the old and new covenants?
9. How is Christ's entry into the presence of God superior to the priests' entry into the Most Holy Place?
10. At the end of this chapter we see the three aspects of salvation: past, present, and future.
Verse 26: Christ *appeared* to save us from the P_____ of sin.
Verse 24: Christ *appears* before God and intercedes to save us from the P_____ of sin.
Verse 28: Christ *will appear* again and save us from the P_____ of sin.