

## DAY 24 TUESDAY

### HEBREWS 9:6-10 FOOTPRINTS TO GOD

<sup>6</sup> When everything had been arranged like this, the priests entered regularly into the outer room to carry on their ministry. <sup>7</sup> But only the high priest entered the inner room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offered for himself and for the sins the people had committed in ignorance. <sup>8</sup> The Holy Spirit was showing by this that the way into the Most Holy Place had not yet been disclosed as long as the first tabernacle was still standing. <sup>9</sup> This is an illustration for the present time, indicating that the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. <sup>10</sup> They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.

Hospitals can be very confusing when it comes to finding a particular clinic or laboratory. Such facilities are usually on the lowest level and when you step off the elevator the hallways seem to be arranged differently than on the levels above. Some hospitals help the public out (as well as new staff members) by having lines of different colors that you can follow to reach your proper destination. In one facility, instead of lines, colored footprints were affixed to the floor and by them you could literally be walked to your clinic.

The ordinances and rituals of the old covenant may be seen to have a similar function. By following them we are “walked” through how God wishes to be reached. They show us who God is and how he has planned to reconcile us to himself.

To put the old covenant in its proper perspective using the hospital illustration, we would have to add to the latter that we are using the footprints to direct us during our “dry run.” Let’s say that we go to the hospital the night before our appointment to figure out our way. The clinic is closed, but we learn how to arrive so that in the morning, when it is open, we will know the way. If we pay attention, even if the footprints were to be removed the next day we could find our way and the office would be open.

Jesus opened the door, tore the curtain, giving us access to the Most Holy Place. The external regulations and ceremonies served the function of directing us there so that when Jesus opened the door we could enter.

**Thank you Lord for giving me directions so that when I was called I could know the way. By directing me to the door, you have taught me the awesome meaning of your saving act and through that knowledge enriched my worship and my desire to follow you. Amen.**