

Refrigerator Notes 15 November 2015
'Have You Prepared for Death'
Hebrews 9 1-28

1. The question at the top of the sermon was 'Have you prepared yourself to die?'
2. My point was that we are never prepared to die the physical death nor have we prepared ourselves for the eternal life after our physical death
3. First, we need to be prepared to die the physical death by leaving a 'Will' that has been signed by the testator, witnessed and sealed by the state.
4. Planning one's death may appear to be morbid, but your love ones are not left trying to figure out what big mama or papa wanted to happen after their death
5. A will is nothing more than a covenant, that allows the testator to select their heirs and who will become the administrator of person and legal affairs after one's death
6. Prior to having a will drafted, one needs to consider their funeral or memorial service (plan it out and be specific as to your wishes and don't be afraid to appoint a trusted individual to carry out your last wishes)
7. The bottom line is that we don't view the eternal life or envision it as being morbid, but just like our physical death, most people don't prepare for their eternal life after death
8. A covenant is nothing but a pledge, a guarantee agreement based on trust
9. The text advised that the first covenant had regulations for worship and earthly sanctuary – It was between God and Adam, God and Noah, God and Abraham and God and Moses, where God had expressed commands
10. In the NT, the text said, Christ became the new mediator and the new covenant for those who were called to receive His promise of eternal inheritance
11. In terms of biblical OT covenants or testaments were sealed with the blood of an animal sacrifice
12. In the NT, Jesus became the sacrificial lamb, the way of forgiveness
13. Although, we are sinful people, our sins have been wiped clean by our Mediator - Christ
14. We remember Christ covenant when we partake of Holy Commune or a Baptism rite
15. The text says, v. 16-18, "In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it, because a will is in force only when somebody has died, it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood."
16. But Christ died once as the living sacrificial lamb and no other blood needed to be shaded
17. 'We are one in Christ and Christ in us' – the part of the new testament or covenant we violate is 'We are one in Christ' because our words, thoughts and acts say differently'
18. We are called to love our neighbors as we love God – this was the last and most important commandment
19. Christ 'will' is irrevocable and therefore must be honored!
20. "Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many, and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him." – the future for eternal life, Are You Prepared to die?