

**The Great Motivation: The Two Approaches to God —
The Old and the New Covenants
Hebrews 12: 18–24**

**1. *The first or old approach:*
*The old covenant***

- a. Was an external worship
- b. Was to a holy, distant God of judgment
- c. Was a reluctant, fearful approach
 - 1) To the people
 - 2) To the leaders

**2. *The new approach:*
*The new covenant***

- a. Is a spiritual and heavenly worship
- b. Is to the angels of God
- c. Is to the church of Christ
- d. Is to God, the Judge of all
- e. Is to the spirits of the righteous already departed
- f. Is to Jesus, the Mediator — to the sprinkled blood of Jesus

18 You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm;

19 To a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them,

20 Because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned.”

21 The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

22 But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly,

23 To the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect,

24 To Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.