

Hebrews 8 & 9 Jesus Established A Better Covenant Jan 10, 2010

Intro: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (HCSB) ³¹ “Look, the days are coming”—[this is] the Lord’s declaration—“when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.

³² [This one will] not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant they broke even though I had married them”—the Lord’s declaration.

³³ “Instead, this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days”—the Lord’s declaration. “I will place My law within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be My people.

³⁴ No longer will one teach his neighbor or his brother, saying: Know the Lord, for they will all know Me, from the least to the greatest of them”—the Lord’s declaration. “For I will forgive their wrongdoing and never again remember their sin.”

1. The Better Priest of the New Covenant. Hebrews 7:22-8:2 (HCSB)

²² So Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better covenant.

²³ Now many have become [Levitical] priests, since they are prevented by death from remaining in office.

²⁴ But because He remains forever, He holds His priesthood permanently.

²⁵ Therefore He is always able to save those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to intercede for them.

²⁶ For this is the kind of high priest we need: holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

²⁷ He doesn’t need to offer sacrifices every day, as high priests do—first for their own sins, then for those of the people. He did this once for all when He offered Himself.

²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak, but the promise of the oath, which came after the law, [appoints] a Son, who has been perfected forever.

¹ Now the main point of what is being said is this: we have this kind of high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, ² a minister of the sanctuary and the true tabernacle, which the Lord set up, and not man.

- Abiding (7:22-24)
- Always Able (7:25)
- Awesome (7:26, 28, 8:1-2)

2. The Beautiful Place of the New Covenant

(A Tale of Two Temples)

Hebrews 8:3-5 (HCSB) ³ For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; therefore it was necessary for this [priest] also to have something to offer.

⁴ Now if He were on earth, He wouldn't be a priest, since there are those offering the gifts prescribed by the law.

⁵ These serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was warned when he was about to complete the tabernacle. For He said, Be careful that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown to you on the mountain.

Hebrews 9:1-12 (HCSB) ¹ Now the first [covenant] also had regulations for ministry and an earthly sanctuary.

² For a tabernacle was set up; and in the first room, which is called "the holy place," were the lampstand, the table, and the presentation loaves.

³ Behind the second curtain, the tabernacle was called "the holy of holies."

⁴ It contained the gold altar of incense and the ark of the covenant, covered with gold on all sides, in which there was a gold jar containing the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.

⁵ The cherubim of glory were above it overshadowing the mercy seat. It is not possible to speak about these things in detail right now.

⁶ These things having been set up this way, the priests enter the first room repeatedly, performing their ministry.

⁷ But the high priest alone enters the second room, and that only once a year, and never without blood, which he offers for himself and for the sins of the people committed in ignorance.

⁸ The Holy Spirit was making it clear that the way into the holy of holies had not yet been disclosed while the first tabernacle was still standing.

⁹ This is a symbol for the present time, during which gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the worshiper's conscience.

¹⁰ They are physical regulations and only deal with food, drink, and various washings imposed until the time of restoration.

¹¹ Now the Messiah has appeared, high priest of the good things that have come. In the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands (that is, not of this creation),

¹² He entered the holy of holies once for all, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

Hebrews 9:23-24 (HCSB) ²³ Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be purified with these [sacrifices], but the heavenly things themselves [to be purified] with better sacrifices than these.

²⁴ For the Messiah did not enter a sanctuary made with hands (only a model of the true one) but into heaven itself, that He might now appear in the presence of God for us.

3. The Bountiful Provision of the New Covenant.

Hebrews 8:6-13 (HCSB) ⁶ But Jesus has now obtained a superior ministry, and to that degree He is the mediator of a better covenant, which has been legally enacted on **better promises.**

⁷ For if that first [covenant] had been faultless, no opportunity would have been sought for a second one.

⁸ But **finding fault with His people,** He says: “Look, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—

⁹ not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day I took them by their hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt. Because they did not continue in My covenant, I disregarded them,” says the Lord.

¹⁰ “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” says the Lord: “I will put My laws into their minds, and I will write them on **their hearts,** and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

¹¹ And each person will not teach his fellow citizen, and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will **all know Me,** from the least to the greatest of them.

¹² For I will be merciful to their wrongdoing, and I will never again remember their sins.”

¹³ By saying, a new [covenant], **He has declared that the first is old. And what is old and aging is about to disappear.**

- **Insight (8)**
- **Inside Out (10)**
- **Instruction (11)**
- **Invitation (12-13)**

Galatians 3:18-21 (HCSB) ¹⁸ For if the inheritance is from the law, it is no longer from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise. ¹⁹ Why the law then? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise was made would come. [The law] was ordered through angels by means of a mediator.

²⁰ Now a mediator is not for just one person, but God is one.

²¹ Is the law therefore contrary to God's promises? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that was able to give life, then righteousness would certainly be by the law.

4. The Blood Poured out for the New Covenant.

Hebrews 9:13-22 (HCSB) ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who are defiled, sanctify for the purification of the flesh,

¹⁴ how much **more** will the blood of the Messiah, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works to serve the living God?

¹⁵ Therefore He is the **mediator** of a new covenant, so that those who are called might receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, because a death has taken place for redemption from the transgressions [committed] under the first covenant.

¹⁶ Where a will exists, the death of the testator must be established.

¹⁷ For a will is valid only when people die, since it is never in force while the testator is living.

¹⁸ That is why even the first covenant was inaugurated with blood.

¹⁹ For when every commandment had been proclaimed by Moses to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, along with water, scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll itself and all the people,

²⁰ saying, This is the blood of the covenant that God has commanded for you. ²¹ In the same way, he sprinkled the tabernacle and all the vessels of worship with blood. ²² According to the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

- **Expiator (13-14)** (To Atone For)
- **Mediator (15)** (Standing Between Two parties at variance)
- **Testator (16-22)** (a person who dies leaving a will or testament in force)

Invitation: The Bountiful Permanence of the New Covenant.

Hebrews 7:27 (HCSB) ²⁷ He doesn't need to offer sacrifices every day, as high priests do—first for their own sins, then for those of the people. He did this **once for all** when He offered Himself.

Hebrews 9:12 (HCSB) ¹² He entered the holy of holies **once for all**, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

Hebrews 9:26,28 (HCSB . . . But now He has appeared **one time**, at the end of the ages, for the removal of sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

²⁸ . . . the Messiah, having been **offered once** to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.