

The Book of Hebrews

Chapter 8 verses 1 – 13 - Pastor Charles A. Hall – July 28th, 2022

Chapter 8 continues on the theme that was highlighted in chapter 7, that Jesus Christ as our High Priest has a superior ministry (a higher calling, greater power, and everlasting), and better covenant (the relationship between God as High Priest, Israel, and all of humanity), a better sanctuary (a consecrated place the holy of holies) and a better sacrifice (the death of Jesus and His blood).

1. Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;

The author states to the reader that of all the things that has been covered in this epistle or letter thus far, the conclusion of this matter is that Jesus Christ is our high priest, and He is currently seated on the right hand of God the Father in the magnificence of the heavens.

2. A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

The author points out in this verse that Jesus Christ in His role as High Priest in Heaven, is our supreme spiritual leader, in the true church, the house of God in heaven, which was made by God and not by the hands of man.

3. For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.

The author states that all high priests are ordained or appointed to offer gifts, and sacrifices, therefore it is essential that this man (Jesus Christ) as our High Priest have something to say as well.

4. For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law:

If Jesus Christ were on earth today, He would not be a priest according to the law, because there is already priest that offer gift according to the law, and there is no need for Him to offer up continues gifts.

5. Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

This verse is a continuation of the prior verse that state that earthly priest serves in a tabernacle that is an example of things that are in heaven, remembering that Moses was once rebuked by God when he was about to make the tabernacle, God stated that all things should be made according to wat Moses received from Him at Mount Sinai. (**Exodus 25:1-9**)

6. But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

The author states that Jesus Christ as our High Priest had obtained a more excellent ministry or priesthood, because He is our mediator, which is a facilitator of a much more superior covenant or agreement, which is based on a better promise (if we believe on Jesus Christ, we shall receive eternal life). (**2Corinthians 3:6-8**)

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7. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

If the first covenant had been perfect, and accomplished that which it was intended to do, then there would be no need or place for a new covenant.

- **Exodus 3:8 and Exodus 19:5**

8. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

God found fault in His chosen people, the Israelites because they were unable to keep his covenant, agreement, and laws, so He stated that a day would come when He would make a new covenant with the Israelites.

- **Jeremiah 31:31-33**

9. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

This verse follows on from the prior verse and is a direct quote from Jeremiah 31:32, and confirms God's Word, that the new covenant will not be like the old covenant, when He took the Israelites out of bondage, and from the land of Egypt.

10. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

God states that in the new covenant that He will establish with Israel, that he will put His Spirit in them (an inter spiritual change), and they shall know His laws in the mind, and store them in their hearts, and they shall be His people and He will be their God.

11. And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

This verse is a direct quote from Jeremiah 31:34 where the Word of God states that they shall no longer teach their neighbor to say to each other "know the Lord" because they shall all know Him from the least of them to the greatest.

12. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

In knowing the Lord, He states that He will have mercy on their wicked and unholy ways, and He will remember their sins no more.

13. In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

The author points out that the Lord said that the coming about of the new covenant had made the first covenant old, and useless, and is ready to be done away with.