

A BETTER COVENANT

Text: Hebrews 8

- Two new truths about the superiority of our Great High Priest:
 - I. A BETTER PRIESTLY _____ (vs. 1-6)**
 - The high priestly service of Christ is “more excellent” than that of Old Testament priests in at least 6 ways:
 - A. In its more excellent _____ (vs. 1, 4).**
 - In _____ not on earth.
 - B. In His more excellent position.**
 - _____ not standing. “Set” = “to sit down”
 - C. In its more excellent _____ (vs. 2).**
 - The sanctuary and the true _____.
 - Sanctuary = “the _____” (place); here, the throne room of heaven where God’s presence and glory continually reside.
 - “True” = genuine, authentic. The place of which the Holy of Holies in the earthly Tabernacle was a picture.
 - D. In His more excellent _____ (vs. 3).**
 - E. In its more excellent substance (vs. 5).**
 - The substance of Old Testament priestly ministry is described by 3 words:
 - _____ = “outline, sketch, symbol”
 - Shadow = “foreshadowing”
 - _____ = “type, picture”
 - The ministry of Christ is the completion and fulfillment of all those things:
 - Not example but solid _____;
 - Not shadow but the _____;
 - Not type but antitype.
 - F. In its more excellent _____ (vs. 6).**
 - A better covenant established on better _____.
 - II. A BETTER _____ (vs. 7-13)**
 - Covenant = a solemn _____ stated either as a unilateral decree by one party to another or as an agreement between two parties in which each voluntarily assumes obligations as the basis for a relationship or fellowship with the other.
 - A. The _____ First Covenant (vs. 7-9):**
 - Of _____ established with the Jewish fathers at Mt. Sinai after the Exodus from Egypt.
 - Characteristics:
 - _____ (vs. 7, not bad but insufficient to save).

- Superseded (vs. 8).
- _____ (vs. 9).
- Outmoded (vs. 13).
- About to _____ (vs. 13).

B. The Superior New Covenant (vs. 8-12, quoting Jer. 31:31-34):

- Jer. 31:31-34: Characteristics of the New Covenant God will establish with _____:
 - _____—characterized by the internalization of the Law in people’s hearts (vs. 33, also Ezek. 36:26-27, Zech. 12:9-10).
 - Universal and saving (vs. 34a)—everyone will know the Lord.
 - _____—allowing a personal knowledge of the Lord (vs. 34a).
 - _____—offering complete forgiveness of sins (vs. 34b).
 - Everlasting—in effect for eternity (vs. 36).
 - _____—rooted and maintained by the unfailing promises of God
 - “I will” 5x in vs. 31-34.
- Observation: As born-again believers in Christ, God has given us these same blessings!
 - Our participation in the New Covenant is part of the mystery of the _____ that was not revealed in the Old Testament but has now been made plain in the New Testament (Rom. 11:17-26, Matt. 26:27-28).

CONCLUSION

- Question 1: What is your spiritual heart _____? Do you have a _____ or fleshy heart (Ezek. 36:25-27, Titus 3:5-6)?
- Question 2: If you’re saved, are you enjoying all the blessings of the New Covenant to the _____?
 - If we want to make the most of them, we must guard our hearts and keep them _____ through the constant work of the Word and Spirit within (Heb. 3:12-13).