

THE BOOK OF HEBREWS



8. Jesus: High Priest of a New Covenant

Introduction

New, faster computers have replaced the old ones. New, smaller hand phones have replaced the old ones! The new is always replacing the old. This is also true of the Old Covenant that God gave to his people through Moses. It has been replaced by the new. Let's continue our study from the Book of Hebrews and learn more about Jesus, the High Priest of this New Covenant.

1. High Priest of a New Covenant Hebrews 8:1-13

In the previous chapter of Hebrews we discovered that Jesus was greater than the High Priest in the Old Testament, he was a High Priest like Melchizedek. He would introduce the New Covenant that had been prophesied by Jeremiah 600 years earlier.

- ❖ What reason is given in these verses to show that Jesus' ministry is superior to that of the priests in the Old Testament? V6
- ❖ What are the 'better promises' that are given in this new covenant? Which one is most significant to you are this time? V10-12, 9:15
- ❖ Why do you think this new covenant is more effective than the old one? 8:9, 9:9, 10

2. High Priest of the Heavenly Tabernacle Hebrews 9:1-10

- ❖ Part of the first covenant included the sanctuary where God's people came to worship. Describe briefly what was in the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place of the Tabernacle. V2-5
- ❖ What did the High Priest do in the Most Holy Place, and what was the significance of this? V7
- ❖ We are told that the tabernacle built by Moses was a 'copy' of the real tabernacle in Heaven. What can we learn about the real tabernacle in Hebrews 8:2, 5, 9:8, 11, 12?
- ❖ In the tabernacle the altar of incense was placed in the Holy Place before the curtain to the Most Holy Place. Why do you think that the writer of this book says that it is in the Most Holy Place, rather than the Holy Place? What truth does this teach us?

Reality Check

Jesus has made the way open for us into the presence of a wonderful God. How often do we make the most of this privilege?

Conclusion

As we have studied these chapters we can see that the old covenant, with its' tabernacle and worship was set up to prepare us for the new one. These earthly things help us to understand the real things, which are spiritual and heavenly. Jesus is the true High Priest who entered into the real tabernacle in Heaven and offered his own blood as a sacrifice for our sins forever. Hallelujah!