

“THE INFERIOR OLD COVENANT VS. THE SUPERIOR NEW COVENANT” (Hebrews 8)

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March 24, 2024

INTRO: Jesus’ Triumphal Entry was a public proclamation of His being King and Prophet (Matt. 21:1-11; Zech. 9:9). In our Hebrews series, Jesus is proclaimed as both King and Priest. So, only Jesus is Prophet, Priest and King!

I. The Superior Great High Priest has Replaced the Inferior Old Testament High Priesthood (Hebrews 8:1-5).

- A. We have a High Priest seated eternally in the heavenly tabernacle after which the earthly tabernacle was patterned – far superior to Aaron & his priesthood (vv. 1-2).
- B. All high priests were appointed to offer sacrifices and Jesus offered a superior sacrifice (vv. 3-5).
 - 1. Jesus didn’t come from the tribe of Levi, but fulfilled a superior priesthood in another dimension – heaven!

II. The Superior New Covenant has Replaced the Inferior Old Covenant (Heb. 8:6-13)!

- A. Jesus is Mediator of a better covenant (v. 6; 1Tim. 2:5).
 - 1. The first covenant couldn’t transform lives (v. 7).
 - 2. God’s plan for the first covenant was temporary.
 - 3. Purpose: to reveal their sinfulness so they would see their need for Christ (Rom. 3:19; 5:20; 7:7; Gal. 3:24).
- B. The promise of a new covenant (Heb. 8:8; Jer. 31:31-34).
 - 1. It wouldn’t be like the old covenant, which Israel broke and therefore, God disregarded them (Heb. 8:9).
- C. The Blessings & Cursings of the Old Covenant (Deut. 28).
 - 1. The Blessings for Obedience (Deut. 28:1-14; esp. 1-2).
 - 2. The Cursings for Disobedience (Deut. 28:15-68; esp. vv. 15, 21, 45, 62-64).
- D. The Jewish religious leaders broke God’s covenant when they rejected Jesus as King and Messiah (Matt. 21:12-45).
- E. The kingdom was then extended to Gentiles through the new covenant (Matt. 21:43; 23:38; 24:1-2; Gal. 6:16).
- F. Characteristics of the New Covenant (Heb. 8:10-12).

Conclusion: The new covenant has now replaced the old (v. 13)! Use the new to interpret the old, not vice versa!