

Hebrews

Chapter Eight

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Eight

SUMMARY: Verses 1-13

1. Jesus is the mediator of a new and better covenant which has been enacted on better promises.
2. Jesus is ministering in the heavenly tabernacle at the right hand of God not in an earthly one (which was a copy and shadow of heavenly things).
3. The New Covenant is written on our hearts and enables us to know the Lord in an intimate way.
4. Jesus has promised to forgive our sins and remember them no more. The New Covenant has made the Old one obsolete.
5. Christians have the best high priest possible. One who's "seated at the right hand of the throne of Majesty in the heavens."
6. The Jewish high priests in the old days worked in the tabernacle (the tent that God instructed the Israelites to assemble in the desert after the exodus from Egypt). They had to offer gifts like rams and goats to atone for their sins and follow Jewish law while doing it.
7. But Jesus works in the "true tent." That's not a place set up by people, but by God himself.
8. He's in charge of a better covenant with way better promises. If God's instituting the first covenant with his people had worked, there wouldn't be any need for Jesus. But it didn't, so it's on to Plan B.
9. Paul quotes Jeremiah and explains that God himself told the people that one day he would make a new covenant with them.
10. This new deal wouldn't be like the old one. God planned to write his law on their hearts, not on parchment. People wouldn't have to tell each other about God—they'd just know him.
11. The Old Covenant based on the law and the keeping of such is out and the New Covenant based upon better promises and the finished work of Jesus is complete.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out most to you?
2. How does Jesus provide the power for you to live with God in an ongoing guilt free relationship?
3. Why do you think it was necessary for God to replace the Old Covenant with a new one?
4. What promises do you find God making to us in this chapter?
5. Notice in verse 7 it states that "God found fault." What was that fault and how did God remedy the fault?

APPLICATION

1. Why do you think relationship was so important to the Father beyond just keeping rules?
2. Are you more inclined to build relationship or stick to rules in serving God?
3. How do you keep your Christian walk relational based with God vs. rules based?
4. How do you practically write God's truths on your own heart?
5. What will you start doing to walk in the new covenant power?

