LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 07 Sep .......... Hebrews 1:1-14 ................. Who Is Jesus?
2) 14 Sep .......... Hebrews 2:1-13 ................. Pay Attention
3) 21 Sep .......... Hebrews 2:14-18 ................. Why One of Us?
4) 28 Sep .......... Hebrews 3:1-19 ................. Watch Out!
5) 05 Oct .......... Hebrews 4:1-5 ................. Secured with Confidence
6) 12 Oct .......... Hebrews 6:1-20 ................. Don't Walk Away
7) 19 Oct .......... Hebrews 7:1-28 ................. Only Jesus Saves
8) 26 Oct .......... Hebrews 8:1-13 ................. Only Jesus Transforms
9) 02 Nov .......... Hebrews 9:1-28 ................. The Perfect Offering
10) 09 Nov .......... Hebrews 10-11 ................. Faith Defined
11) 16 Nov .......... Hebrews 12:1-7 ................. The Discipline of Suffering
12) 23 Nov .......... Hebrews 12:18-29 .......... A New Kind of Community

INTRODUCTION

- Jesus assumes a "more excellent ministry" by becoming the mediator of a New Covenant with better promises and blessings for His people.

Big Question #2: Why does God play the Progressive Revelation card?

- Promises tied to the Land of Israel: Bountiful harvest, No illnesses or plagues, Multiplied livestock, Large number of progeny, Victory in battles – enemies flee, Favorable weather.
- Promises tied to Eternity: We seek food that does not perish, We endure all trials / persecutions, Life more abundant (in purpose), Those who follow Christ shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

Old Covenant Revisited .................. Jeremiah 31:31-34
8:7
v11. "And they shall not teach everyone... Know the Lord" for ALL will know ME – This lifts all restriction who can know the Lord, from the least to the greatest will have complete access.

New Covenant Established .............. Hebrews 8:13
8:13
- The New Covenant found in Christ frees us from the ceremonial aspects of the Old Covenant Tabernacle. The Shadow of the Old Covenant Tabernacle
- The Old Covenant with all of its legalistic ways is now obsolete – We do not need to sacrifice animals for our sins.
- BUT, do we need to avoid setting up idols; profaning God’s name; stealing, lustful, and coveting? \(\ldots\) ABSOLUTELY
- The timeless principles and commands in the OT are just as valid today ......... cf Romans 13:9-10; 1Cor 7:19

- The New Covenant found in Christ frees us from the legalistic & ceremonial aspects of the Mosaic Law, not from knowing how to live righteously before a Holy God \(\ldots\) cf Acts 15:20

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS / BENEFITS

- REMEMBER – The Law is our tutor. It shows us how sinful we are by our desires to steal, to covet, to lie, to be lazy, to be selfish, etc.
- Hence the need to have a permanent solution – a once-for-all sacrifice and a once-for-all mediator between us and a holy & just God, and a once-for-all solution to keeping us forever in the arms of a loving God.
- Jesus is that perfect sacrifice, that eternal mediator and that preserving force we need for all eternity. To God be praised.

NEXT WEEK: Hebrews 9. The shadow of the Old Covenant Tabernacle with all of its temporal sacrifices and furnishings is displaced by the more enduring sacrifice made by Christ.

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Passage: Hebrews 8:1-6

Comments: A Better Ministry, a Better Covenant, and Better Promises

- v2. The “True Tabernacle” was not pitched by Moses and the Levites, but by God, Himself – A reference to the actual Throne Room of God where the Seven Spirits abide (Rev 1:4; 4:5); and where those who overcome sit with the God of Hosts (Rev 3:21); and where a rainbow surrounds the throne (Rev 4:3); and where 24 elders sit around the throne (Rev 4:4); and where a host of Angels abide (Rev 5:11); and great multitudes in white robes stand before the throne (Rev 7:9); and the prayers of all the saints reside upon the golden altar before the throne (Rev 8:3)

- v5. It is hard to comprehend that all the hard work it took to build the tabernacle and to learn the intricacies of all the required sacrifices (burnt offerings, sin offerings, wave offerings, peace offerings, grain offerings, etc.), and to be diligent in carrying out all the duties of the priesthood (or die) were nothing more than a shadow of better things to come at a later date

Sometimes I miss the Old Testament Days when we could smite them for that kind of behavior...

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