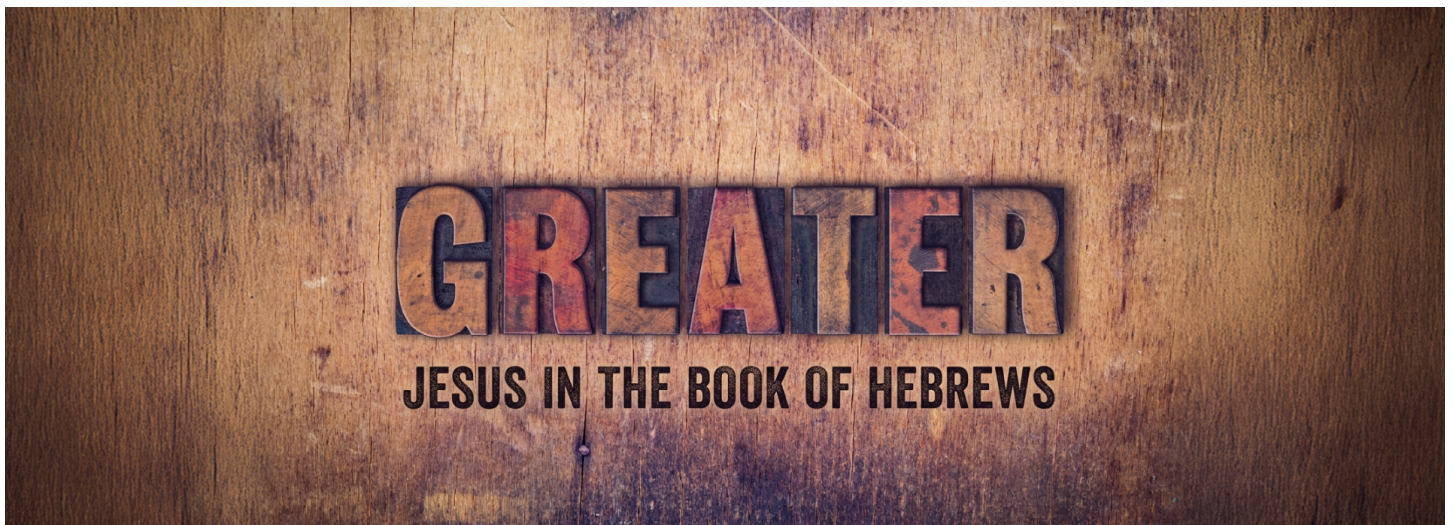




GREATER: JESUS IN THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

When life is uncertain and faith is tested, Hebrews calls us to fix our eyes on Jesus. Throughout this series, we'll see that Christ is greater than every prophet, priest, sacrifice, and hero of faith who came before Him. Because of His finished work, we have an unshakable hope, a better covenant, and the promise of eternal life. Discover the greatness of Jesus and be encouraged to follow Him with enduring faith.

GREATER - WEEK 4

GREATER MINISTRY

Hebrews 8-9

Series Theme

What does Hebrews teach us about Jesus?

Previous Weeks

- **Week 1:** Jesus is Superior
 - **Week 2:** Jesus the Builder
 - **Week 3:** Jesus the Great High Priest
 - **Week 4:** Jesus and the Greater Ministry
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Introduction

"But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood..."

Hebrews 8:6

The writer of Hebrews shifts from proving that Jesus is our High Priest to explaining what His priesthood accomplishes.

Jesus' ministry is greater because He:

- Lived perfectly
 - Died innocently
 - Rose victoriously
 - Reigns eternally
-

1. A BETTER COVENANT

Hebrews 8:6-13

"Jesus... mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on better promises."

What Is a Covenant?

A covenant is a formal, solemn, and binding agreement between two parties.

Unlike a contract, a covenant is built on relationship and commitment rather than performance alone.

The Old Covenant

- Revealed God's holiness
- Exposed humanity's inability to keep God's law
- Required continual sacrifices

The New Covenant

God promises:

- His law written on our hearts
- A personal relationship with His people
- Complete forgiveness of sin
- A covenant secured through Christ

Key Truth

Jesus is our mediator.

He stands between a holy God and sinful people, making peace through His sacrifice.

We are not innocent people needing a better defense. We are guilty people receiving a better covenant.

2. A BETTER SANCTUARY

Hebrews 9:1-22

The earthly tabernacle was designed by God, but it was only a shadow of a greater reality.

The Old Sanctuary

- Located on earth
- Access was limited
- Only priests could enter certain areas
- The Most Holy Place was entered only once a year

The Greater Sanctuary

"He entered that greater, more perfect Tabernacle in heaven..."

Hebrews 9:11

Jesus did not enter a structure made by human hands.

He entered the true heavenly sanctuary in the presence of God Himself.

The Importance of Blood

Hebrews 9 reminds us that purification and forgiveness required sacrifice.

The blood of animals pointed forward to something greater:

The blood of Jesus Christ.

Key Truth

The earthly tabernacle pointed to the heavenly reality where Christ now ministers on our behalf.

3. A BETTER SACRIFICE

Hebrews 9:23-28

The sacrifices of the Old Covenant had to be offered repeatedly.

They covered sin but could never fully remove it.

Christ's Sacrifice

"Once for all time, He has appeared... to remove sin by His own death as a sacrifice."

Hebrews 9:26

Jesus offered:

- A perfect life
- A perfect sacrifice
- A perfect payment for sin

What Makes His Sacrifice Greater?

- It was offered once for all time.
- It never has to be repeated.
- It provides eternal redemption.
- It completely satisfies God's justice.

Key Truth

Jesus has already accomplished what no earthly priest or sacrifice ever could.

"Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe."

Conclusion

What Does Ministry Mean?

At its core, ministry simply means:

To serve.

Jesus' Greater Ministry is His ongoing service to His people through:

- His intercession
- His covenant
- His sacrifice
- His promise of salvation

Because of Jesus' Greater Ministry:

- We can walk in forgiveness.
- We can approach God with confidence.
- We can trust His promises.
- We can live with hope.

Our Blessed Hope

"So also Christ was offered once for all time as a sacrifice to take away the sins of many people. He will come again... to bring salvation to all who are eagerly waiting for him."

Hebrews 9:28

Main Idea

Jesus serves through a Greater Ministry because He established a Better Covenant, ministers in a Better Sanctuary, and offered a Better Sacrifice.