

Hebrews 8

Jesus

Everything Almost World

Ch. 7 Earthly High Priests were stand-ins for the Heavenly Reality found in Jesus

Ch. 8 Thesis statement: This is not the true Reality. Heaven is the True Reality

I. Stand-ins for Reality

1 Now this is the **main point** of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is **seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty** in the heavens

The Main Point so far...

We have an Eternal High Priest in Heaven who...

- **Sympathizes** w/our Suffering
- **Sacrificed** Himself for our Salvation
- **Represents** us to God as our Redeemer
- **Ever Lives** as Sustainer of our Salvation

2 [Jesus who is also] ...a Minister of the [heavenly] sanctuary and of the **true tabernacle** which the **Lord erected**, and **not man**.

The earthly tabernacle built/served by men is a *Stand-in for the True Tabernacle*

The *True Tabernacle* of God is in Heaven...That is where Jesus is sitting

The tabernacle and the temple of the Old Covenant had beautiful furnishings, but no place for the priests to sit down because their work was never finished. The work of Jesus is finished; therefore, He is seated in heaven. [Guzik]

Newsflash: God does not dwell in man-made buildings

Acts 17:24 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, **does not dwell in temples made with hands.**

God does not dwell in a man-made structure, but...

The earthly Tabernacle *does symbolically represent* the true Heavenly Tabernacle

Acts 7:44 [Stephen] "Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as [God] appointed, instructing Moses to make it **according to the pattern** that he had seen, ⁴⁵ which our fathers, having received it [**blueprint of the Tabernacle**] in turn, also brought with Joshua into the land possessed by the Gentiles, whom God drove out before the face of our fathers until the days of David, ⁴⁶ who found favor before God and asked to find a dwelling for the God of Jacob. ⁴⁷ But Solomon built Him a house. ⁴⁸ **However, the Most High does not dwell in temples made with hands**, as the prophet says: ⁴⁹ 'Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. What house will you build for Me? says the Lord, Or what is the place of My rest? ⁵⁰ Has My hand not made all these things?'

The earthly Temple of God was a *stand-in* for the Heavenly Tabernacle of God

Earthly high priests were *stand-ins* for our Heavenly Eternal High Priest

IOWs The earthly things prescribed by of God are shadows/copies/pictures of reality
Symbolic of the of the alternate true reality found in Heaven

3 For every [earthly] high priest is appointed to offer both **gifts** and **sacrifices**. Therefore, it is **necessary that this One** [Jesus] **also have something to offer**. 4 For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; 5 who **serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things**

Since the earthly shadow/stand-in High Priest was required to bring a sacrifice
Jesus the heavenly reality of the earthly stand-in would also bring a sacrifice

IOWs OT Tabernacle/Priests were stand-ins according to a divine pattern
The pattern/blueprint was literally given by God to Moses on the Mountain...

5b ...as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "**See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.**"

Moses received a Divine Blueprint/Celestial Instructions
Specific details/dimensions for the Tabernacle structure/Priestly service on earth

Chuck Missler taught that the universe operates in ten dimensions, a concept he drew from a 13th-century Hebrew scholar Nachmonides and modern superstring theory, where **three spatial dimensions** and **time** are perceivable, and **six "curled-up" dimensions** are not directly observable. He speculated that these ten dimensions may have been "fractured" or separated into the physical and spiritual realms by the events described in Genesis 3.

Whatever the case...

Moses received divine blueprints within time from God outside of time

Exodus 24:9 Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 and **they saw the God of Israel**. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. 11 But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. **So they saw God**, and they ate and drank ...**16** Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day **He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud**. 17 The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. 18 **So Moses went into the midst of the cloud** and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Chapter 25 Describes the Blueprint/Instructions God gave Moses
Pattern symbolic of the reality in Heaven. Imitation...

Exodus 25:40 [God speaking to Moses] And see to it that you **make** [...the Temple articles] **according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.**

Exodus 26:30 And you shall raise up the tabernacle **according to its pattern** which you were shown on the mountain.

Numbers 8:4 Now this workmanship of the lampstand was hammered gold; from its shaft to its flowers it was hammered work. **According to the pattern** which the Lord had shown Moses, so he made the lampstand.

Curtain/Altar/Lampstand/Incense Stand/Showbread Table/Laver/Ark etc.,
All speaking of Jesus even the design/dimensions of the Tabernacle/Temple

1 Chronicles 28:19 "All this," said David, "the **Lord made me understand** in writing, by His hand upon me, all the **works [lit. details] of these plans.**"

v 5 Only earthly copies/shadows of the reality in Heaven
IOWs Symbols of the originals made by God in Heaven [More in Ch. 9]

The design was supernatural/Everything w/deep supernatural meaning
As are the plans in Ezekial of the future Millennial Temple of where Jesus will reign...

Ezekial 43:10 "Son of man, **describe the temple to the house of Israel**, that they may **be ashamed of their iniquities**; and **let them measure the pattern**. 11 And if they are ashamed of all that they have done, make known to them the design of the temple and its arrangement, its exits and its entrances, **its entire design** and all its ordinances, all its forms and all its laws. Write it down in their sight, so **that they may keep its whole design** and all its ordinances, and perform them.

Everything as per God's design/instruction has deep Spiritual Meaning
There is an alternate reality/Different dimension/Abode of God Almighty

Temple/Temple articles/Priests: Simply replicas of that reality

The earthly Temple of God was a *stand-in* for the Heavenly Tabernacle of God
Earthly high priests were *stand-ins* for our Heavenly Eternal High Priest
Our earthly bodies are stand-ins for the Celestial body that's coming

The Old Covenant of Law was *stand-in* for the New Covenant of Jesus Blood/Grace

Jesus operates in that alternate yet true reality of Heaven and thus...
He can be/is our mediator between God in Heaven and us on earth...

6 But now [Jesus] has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also **Mediator of a better covenant**, which was established on better promises.

Better than the earthly priests who could promise only a year of *covering for our sin*
Our heavenly Priest promised/does take away our sin for all eternity

Jesus is mediator of a Better Promise/Unilateral Promise
A New Covenant based on His faithfulness not our own works

2 Corinthians 3:6 [God] made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the **Spirit gives life**. 7 But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not

look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, 8 **how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?**

We Required a Better Covenant/Agreement than us trying to keep the Law...

II. A New Covenant Good News for Bad People

7 For **if that first** covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.

The Old Covenant of the Law was bilateral: If/Then transaction 2 party transaction
If you do right...then I will bless you/If you do wrong...then I will curse you

Exodus 19:5 Now therefore, **if** you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, **then** you shall be a special treasure to Me...

Yet Jesus calls us His Pearl of Great Price because out of love He bought us with His
blood
The fault found in the Old Covenant was us...

8 Because **finding fault with them** He says:

Author begins to quote Jeremiah 31:31-34
What does the New Covenant mean to us?

8b ..."Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when **I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— 9 **not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers** in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because **they did not continue in My covenant**, and I **disregarded them**, says the Lord. 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put **My laws in their mind** and write them **on their hearts**; and **I will be their God**, and they shall be My people. 11 None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. 12 For **I will be merciful to their unrighteousness**, and **their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.**"

Fault was found in the Old Covenant
A New Covenant was required...A unilateral Promise God fulfills Himself

No works required on our part for Salvation
Only to believe Jesus' work/words on our behalf: **It is Finished**

This promise of Grace draws the humble like a magnet
At the same time weeds out the prideful...

Matthew 9:9 As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." So he arose and followed Him. 10 Now it happened,

as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples. 11 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "**Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?**" 12 When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 13 But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For **I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.**"

You cannot rehabilitate the old [OC] ...It must be thrown away
We must be made new...

Matthew 9:16 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and the tear is made worse. 17 Nor do they put **new wine** into old wineskins, or else the wineskins break, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But they **put new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.**"

Jesus *calls* all bad people [Everybody]

Matthew 22:10 So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, **both bad** and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests ...**11** "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. 12 So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And **he was speechless.** 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 **"For many are called, but few are chosen."**

Jesus *calls* all bad people, yet...
Jesus only *chooses* bad people who admit it...Then He makes us new

13 In that He says, "**A new covenant,**" He has made the **first obsolete.** Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Old Covenant: That which could only bring death God says is now
Obsolete/Replaced!

Replaced by the New Covenant: Not new/improved but completely new!

▪ **Vv 8-12 New Covenant:**

1. **My law in your Mind:** Thoughts now directed toward God
2. **My law on your Heart:** Feelings now in submission to God

IOWs You will freely follow Me
An intimate relationship with our Creator

Psalms 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

3. I will be your God
4. You will be My people
5. My Spirit will dwell in you
6. My Spirit will teach/guide you

Your thoughts/desires will be to freely do my will
I will send My Spirit to enable you to do it

v 12 I Promise to be merciful to your unrighteousness
IOWs I will take away your sin simply because I love you

John 1:29 "Behold! The Lamb of God who **takes away the sin of the world!**

Our sins/lawless deeds I will remember no more

Isaiah 43:25 "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins.

Psalms 103:11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 As a father pities his children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him.

The New Covenant is Good News for Bad People

Romans 5:6 ...when we were still without strength, in due time **Christ died for the ungodly...** 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, **but Christ lives in me;** and the life which I now live in the flesh **I live by faith in the Son of God,** who loved me and **gave Himself for me.**

2 Corinthians 5:21 [He who knew no sin became sin for us] ...that we might become the **righteousness of God in Him.**

Our response to His grace?
Love others as he freely loves you

Ephesians 5:2 And **walk in love,** as Christ also has loved us and **given Himself for us,** an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.

Jesus our Eternal High Priest offered His life to the Father to save us for Himself
His blood to redeem us/Give sinners New Life/Purpose/Meaning/Hope

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners,** of whom I am chief. 16 However, **for this reason I obtained mercy...**

The Main Point so far...

Though we are working out what God has worked in us on earth
We have an Eternal High Priest in the true reality of Heaven who...

- **Sympathizes** w/our Suffering
- **Sacrificed** Himself for our Salvation
- **Represents** us as our Redeemer
- **Ever Lives** as Sustainer of our Salvation

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise
Be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.