
Why Christ is the *true* high priest

Hebrews 8:1 thru 9:22

Week 8

Review

Spiritual Predicament

They were facing a trial that was challenging their belief in the goodness and power of God.

Review

Faith was drifting away

- Dull of hearing
- Chose path of least resistance
- Go on to maturity

Review

Affairs of the heart –

Therefore, I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their **heart**; . . .’ Heb 3:10.

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, **unbelieving heart**, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. Heb 3:12–13.

Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your **hearts** as in the rebellion.” Heb 3:15.

Review

And with whom was He provoked for forty years?

Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness?

¹⁸And to whom did He swear that they would **not enter His rest**, but to those who were disobedient?

¹⁹So we see that they were unable to enter **because of unbelief**.

Hebrews 3:17–19 (ESV)

Review

Spiritual reminders

Let us then with **confidence** draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Heb. 4:16

And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the **full assurance** of hope until the end, ¹² so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. Heb. 6:11 – 12

And this is the **confidence** that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 1 John 5:14

Review

Let us go on to maturity . . .

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Romans 5:1–5 (ESV)

Review

The argument so far:

- Son of God – the radiance of the **glory of God**
 -
 -
 -
- He had to be made like his **brothers** in every respect, . . .
source of eternal salvation
 -
 -
 -
- A **fitting and eternal high priest** . . .
guarantor of a better covenant

Overview of Chapter 8

- v. 1 provides the summation of the *entire* argument up to this point
 - Primary theme: High priestly ministry of Jesus Christ
 - Ties 7:26, 27 together with Heb 1:3 & Ps 110:1
- vv. 2 – 6 introduce a new argument – minister in the true tabernacle
- vv. 7 – 12 declare the fulfillment of the prophecy in Jer. 31:31 - 34
 - “. . . I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel.”
- v. 13 announces the dissolution of the old covenant

Hebrews 8

Now the **main point** of what we are saying is this: We have such a high priest, one who *sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,*² a minister in the sanctuary and the true tabernacle that the Lord, not man, set up.³ For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices. So this one too had to have something to offer.

Hebrews 8:1–3 (NET 2nd ed)

Hebrews 8

⁴ Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest, since there are already priests who offer the gifts prescribed by the law. ⁵ The place where they serve is a sketch and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary, just as Moses was warned by God as he was about to complete the tabernacle.

For he says, “*See that you make everything according to the design shown to you on the mountain.*”

⁶ But now Jesus has obtained a superior ministry, since the covenant that he mediates is also better and is enacted on better promises.

Hebrews 8:4–6 (NET 2nd ed)

Hebrews 8

For if that first covenant had been faultless,
there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

⁸ For he finds fault with them when he says:

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah, ⁹ not like the covenant that
I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to
bring them out of the land of Egypt.

For they did not continue in my covenant,
and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.

Hebrews 8:7–9 (ESV)

Hebrews 8

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws into their minds,
and write them on their hearts,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.

¹¹ And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

Hebrews 8:10–11 (ESV)

Hebrews 8

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,
and I will remember their sins no more.”

¹³ In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete.
And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Hebrews 8:12–8:13 (ESV)

Overview of Chapter 9

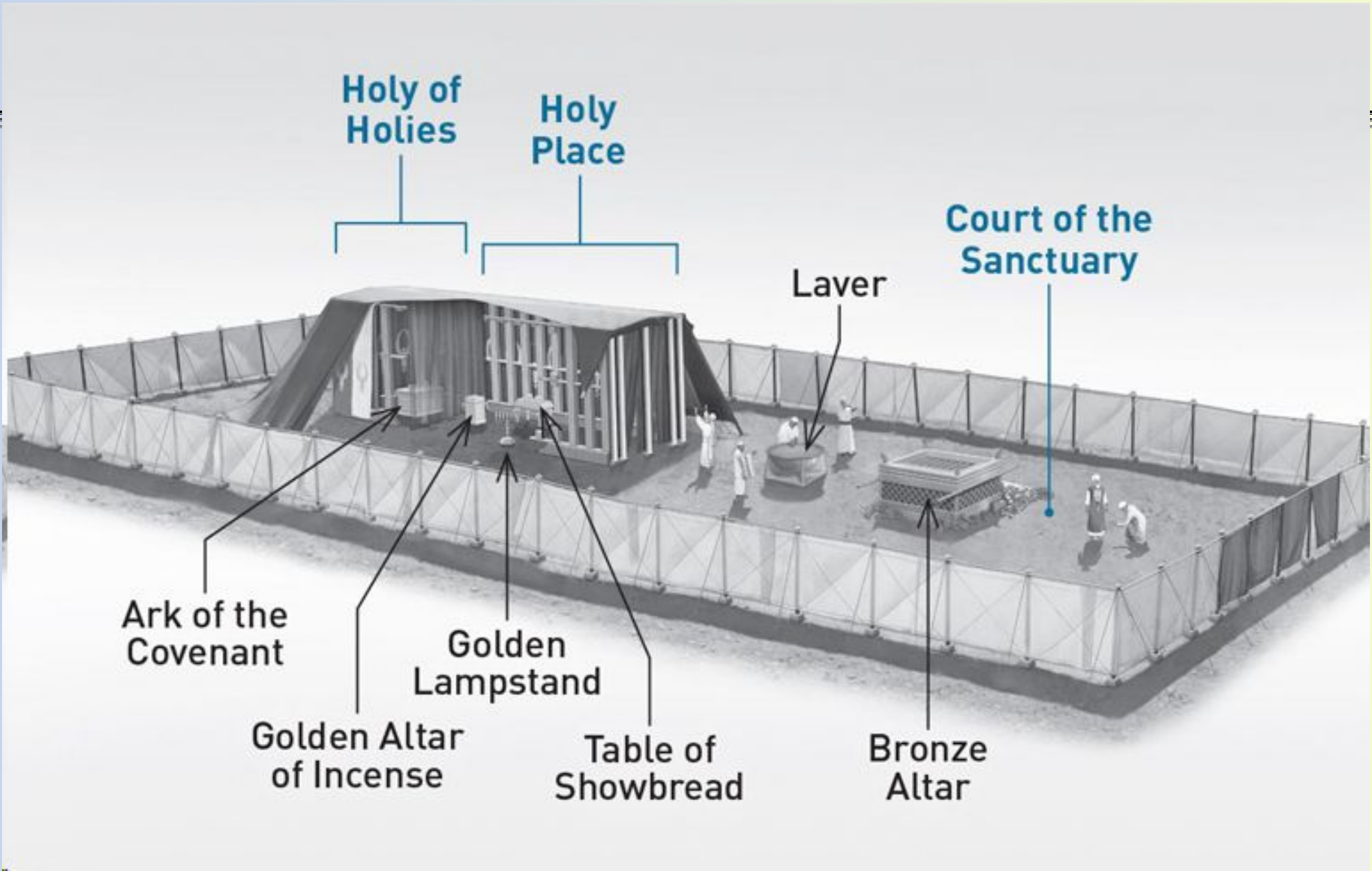
- heavenly tabernacle was superior to the earthly one
 - Shadow vs. reality*
 - Eternal vs temporary*
- blood sacrifices offered by earthly high priests cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper
- Christ, the perfect high priest, by offering Himself as a blood sacrifice, secured eternal redemption and purification of our consciences
- There is no forgiveness without the shedding of blood

Hebrews 9

Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness. ² For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place. ³ Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place, ⁴ having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant. ⁵ Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

Hebrews 9:1–5 (ESV)

Hebrews



Hebrews 9

These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties,⁷ but into the second only the **high priest goes**, and he but **once a year**, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people.

⁸ By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the **holy places** is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing⁹ (which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper,¹⁰ but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

Hebrews 9:6–10 (ESV)

Hebrews 9

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹²He entered **once for all** into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of **His own blood**, thus securing an eternal redemption.

¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴**how much more** will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Hebrews 9:11–14 (ESV)

Hebrews 9

And so [*for this reason*] He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the *eternal inheritance* he has promised, since He died to set them free from the violations committed under the first covenant.

¹⁶ For where there is a will, the death of the one who made it must be proven.

¹⁷ For a will takes effect only at death, since it *carries no force* while the one who made it is alive.

¹⁸ So even the first covenant was inaugurated with blood.

Hebrews 9:15–18 (NET 2nd ed)

Hebrews 9

For when every commandment of the Law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,²⁰ saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you.”

²¹ And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship.

²² Indeed, under the Law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

Hebrews 9:19–22 (ESV)

Regarding Sacrifices

For in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, I did not speak to your fathers or command them concerning burnt offerings and sacrifices. ²³ But this command I gave them: ‘Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.’

²⁴ But they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.

Jeremiah 7:22–24 (ESV)

Regarding Sacrifices

And Samuel said, “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD?”

Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
and to listen than the fat of rams.

1 Samuel 15:22 (ESV)

Regarding promises

H
e
b
r
e
w
s

He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the *eternal inheritance* He has promised Heb 9:15

And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised; who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Romans 8:34