

Superior: Hebrews - New Covenant

Icebreaker: have you ever made a promise and didn't keep it? Flip that scenario around, has anyone made a promise to you that they didn't keep?

Hebrews 8-10 demonstrate how Jesus inaugurated a superior and new covenant...

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance – now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant. (Heb. 9:15)

“This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” Then He adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.” And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin. (Heb. 10:16-18)

With a good study Bible, while referencing its notes, read Hebrews 8-10 before moving on into this study. As a result of main point above, the following bullets are a true reality for the believer...

Therefore...

- **Draw near in faith** – “Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, His body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.” (Heb. 10:19-22)

‡ **Assurance fuels faith and faith fuels confidence** – “In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.” (Eph. 3:12) – In what ways is this statement contrary to a life that is motivated out of fear? In other words, what does a life built on fear look like? What does a life built on faith look like? Which type of life is rooted in words of Hebrews 10:19-22 above? In what areas do you live by faith? Fear?

- **Hold on in hope** – “Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.” (Heb. 10:23)

‡ **A promise is only as good as the character of the one giving it** – “God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should change His mind. Does He speak and then not act? Does He promise and not fulfill?” (Num. 23:19) – Where or to whom do you go, in place of God, in order to build hope?

- **Build up in love** – “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.” (Heb. 10:24)

‡ **Love and encouragement require consistency and proximity** – “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Heb. 10:25) – What does it practically look like to “build up” or “spur one another on toward love and good deeds”?

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love. (1 Cor. 13:13)

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Of the three bullets above, which communicates most to you today? Go back and look at the verses in order to memorize them. Commit to reciting them to yourself this week.