

The Supremacy of Christ: In Ministry Heb 8:1-12:3

HEBREWS: THE “BETTER” LIFE:
ULTIMATE PRIEST
GOD OF COVENANT 8:7-13

Message so far...

- JESUS: BETTER IN MEDIATION [4:14-7:28]
- JESUS: BETTER IN MINISTRY [8:1-12:3]
 - 8:1-6 – introduction of 5 “betters” ... all expanded
 - Better Covenant – 8:7-13
 - Better Sanctuary – 9:1-12
 - Better Sacrifices – 9:13-10:18
 - Better Promises – 10:19-12:3

God of Covenant

- When you think of covenants, which are in your mind?
 - Adam, Noah, Abram, Moses, Passover, David...
 - Is there a New Testament covenant?? Mt 26:26-29?
- As we have already seen:
 - Covenants are the way GOD works with men...
 - The readers were looking to return to the old...
 - New Jewish/Messianic emphasis – prayer shawls, shofars, Gentiles acting Jewish... some is good, **most is....**
 - Jesus is the Better, so why go back?

Failed Covenant?

- If the first had worked, no need for another (7)
 - Similar argument to 7:11 on priesthood...
 - God does not fix if it is not broken... but makes NEW!
 - "It [the old covenant] could reveal sin but not remove it, and being defective it could not save or justify guilty sinners. It failed to meet the deepest needs of sinful man....sin had made it ineffective. The real cause of the covenant's weakness was man's sinfulness; therefore God finds fault with them." – Tyndale

Looking at the Covenant

- Series of OT quotes on the matter...
- Finding fault – God looked and saw the need
 - Jer 32:40; Ez 37:26 – other suggestions of new...
 - Jer 31:31-34 quoted (Note: context complaint in 29, 30)
 - Blaming others for their sins and state – so easy!!!
 - Are we **AFFECTED** by the sins of others? Yes...
 - Are we **CURSED** by the sins of others? **NO!!!!**

Better ways

- “days are coming” – they are here now! (8)
- The New was God’s idea; NOTE: not ‘fixed’, new...
 - Israel and Judah – a restored nation!
 - Israel (Northern tribes) had been in captivity since 722
 - Judah would go into captivity in 605
 - GOD, would restore both (Rev 7; Ezk 48 – even Dan)
 - “they did not continue” (9)

God's focus – restoration!

- Nothing that has the Life will be lost
 - Note: Covenant God looked at was that of Passover (9)
 - He led them, they did not keep the covenant...!
 - Many people today claim to be led... warning is needed
 - When we break His Covenant, He removes His care
 - God annulled the Old, focused promises to the New...

Differences New/Old (10)

- Not laws written on stone from a mountain
 - God's law can do nothing on walls and doors...!
 - Mind – *dianoia*, understanding, imagination
 - Heart – *kardia* – seat of personal life, will, passions
 - His Laws... Matt 5-7
 - The goal: RELATIONSHIP – GOD AND MAN
- Fulfillment of Ex 6:7...

Not a wish or teaching

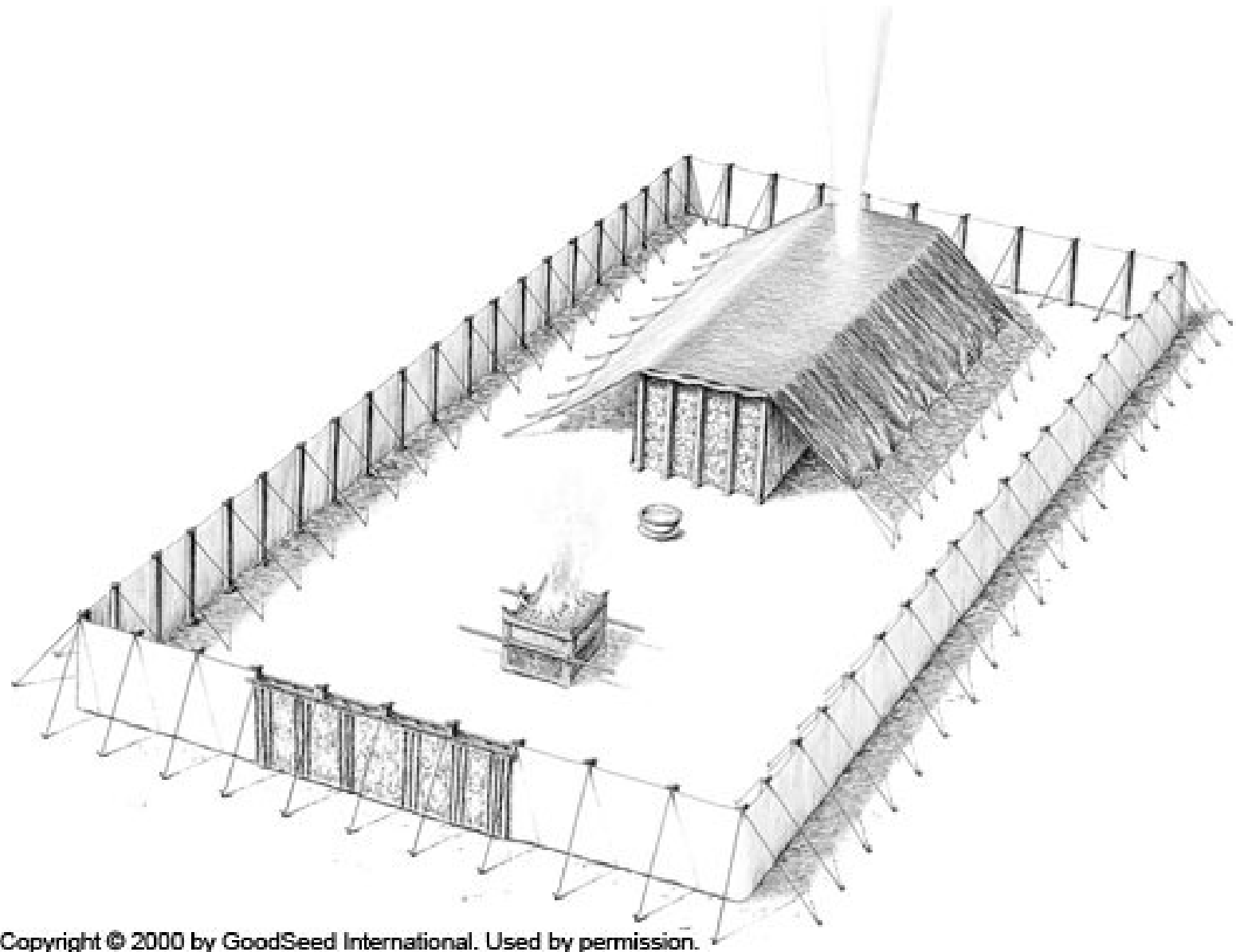
- A PROMISE based on God's plan!
 - Ideas of priesthood, intercession, mediation – gone!
 - We ALL stand before Jesus and KNOW Him!
 - Isa 54:13; Jn 14:5ff; 17:3; Phil 3:10
 - God put the power within us – minds and hearts
 - Thoughts and passions/will – desire to do right
 - ALL will know HIM! (11)

The New Focus (12)

- I will be merciful... hileos 2x
- An unusual word – God have favor on you...
- God looks to pour favor on His people...
 - Remember their sins no more... dbl negative in Greek
 - Oh the bliss of this glorious thought...
- This is a act of God's heart – by His choice

Cleaning up!

- The old is therefore gone along with all it held
 - Obsolete and growing old 2000 years ago...
 - Ready to disappear... Ro 8:3; Col 2:13,14; Ep 2:15
 - So, why would anyone want to look back???
- Next week: The Better Sanctuary (Tabernacle)



Copyright © 2000 by GoodSeed International. Used by permission.

The Tabernacle

Circa 1450 BC

