

Lesson 9: Hebrews 8

The covenants are among the most important topics in the Bible. Studying the covenants will help you tie together the Bible, as you never have before. In fact, Testament is just another word for covenant. And our Bible contains both the Old and New Testaments, or Covenants. So, what is the Old Covenant, and what is the New Covenant? We'll see this week!

Day 1

1. Pray!
2. Read **Hebrews 8**, marking key words and phrases. As you mark covenant in this chapter, you'll need to distinguish between two covenants. You could mark the same way each time but then add a 1 or 2 over it to show which covenant it refers to... the old (1) or the new (2).
3. **Hebrews 8: 8-12** quotes **Jer. 31: 31-34**. Read these verses again. Then go to **Ezekiel 36: 24-28** and read it. The words *New Covenant* do not appear in Ezekiel, but the text refers to the same things. List what you learn about the New Covenant in **Ezekiel**.

Day 2

Jesus Christ is God's superior Priest; but is there anything that can minimize this superiority? Nothing! He ministers on the basis of a better covenant (**Heb. 8**), in a better sanctuary (**Heb. 9**), and because of a better sacrifice (**Heb. 10**). It is the better covenant that is the theme of this chapter. The writer presented three evidences for the superiority of this covenant.

1. Pray!
2. Read **verses 1-2**. He begins by saying "Now this is the main point of the things we are saying" about Jesus being a superior High Priest.
 - a. "We have such a High Priest refers back to **Hebrews 7: 22-28**. Read those verses.
 - b. We have a High Priest "fitting for us." (**Heb. 7: 26**) How so? What is the main point?

c. Our High Priest is “seated at the throne” implies what? (Hint: Is He still working for the salvation of sinners?)

d. Jesus is not just seated. Where is He seated?

e. He is enthroned! Next to whom?

This adds glory to His person and work!

f. And consider this: Only a priest “after the order of Melchizedek was both _____ and _____. (**Heb. 7: 1**)

3. Read **verses 3-5**. In these verses the writer expounds on the wonderful truth that Jesus Christ minister in the heavenly sanctuary. What does “minister” mean?

4. In this letter, the reason for this discussion was important to those he was writing. His readers knew that there was a real temple in Jerusalem, and that in the temple, there were priests offering gifts and sacrifices. How easy it would be to go back to the Mosaic system.

a. In **verse 3**, what is the logical truth given?

b. According to **verse 4**, if Jesus were here on earth, why would He not be a priest? See **Heb. 7: 11-14**.

5. In verse 5, we have a “type”. The Greek word for “pattern” in this verse is “tupos”, from which we get the English word “type”.

a. The priests serving in the tabernacle (or temple) were actually serving in a sanctuary that was a copy of the true heavenly tabernacle.

The earthly priesthood and sanctuary seemed quite real and stable, and yet they were but “copies” of the true! See the following verses:

Col. 2: 17

Hebrews 10: 1

b. So, what is the argument here, for not going back into Judaism?

6. So far, the writer has given two evidences of the superiority of the New Covenant. What are they?

a. Verses 1-2

b. Verses 3-5

Tomorrow we will begin to look at the writers third evidence!!

Day 3

1. Pray!

2. Read **Hebrews 8: 6-13**. Mark all time phrases if you have ot already done so. Also, mark all the “I will(s)”. List below, everything God “promises” to do.

I will

3. **Verse 6** is the key verse in this chapter. But “now”(present, as author is writing), Jesus Christ has obtained what?

How so? “Inasmuch as He is also _____ of a better _____.

And this covenant was established on what?

The better promises are God’s “I will” statements!

4. **Verses 7-8a** tell us why God gave a second covenant? Why?

5. According to **verse 13**, when God speaks of, "A new covenant," how does that affect the old covenant?

6. The better covenant that is referred to in these verses, was announced by the prophet Jeremiah. (**Jer. 31: 31-34**) The promise was given in a prophecy that assured the Jews of future restoration. It was a time when Israel's future seemed completely destroyed.

To close out today, **review** what you learned from **Ezekiel 36: 24-28... Day 1 #3**.

Day 4 & 5

1. Pray each time you sit down to study!
2. When we read Jeremiah and Ezekiel, we see that the New Covenant appears to be for the Jews... the nation of Israel. Hebrews is written to Jews who have believed in Jesus and entered into the New Covenant. But I'm not Jewish, and most of you are not Jewish. **So how does the New Covenant apply to us?**

Spend the next 2 days looking at some other New Testament passages to answer this question. Underline and mark up and write on these worksheets as you desire. Remember, what do you learn about the New Covenant and how it applies to us, as well as Jews.

[Luke 22:1-20] 1 Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover. 2 And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill Him, for they feared the people. 3 Then Satan entered Judas, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve. 4 So he went his way and conferred with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray Him to them. 5 And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. 6 So he promised and sought opportunity to betray Him to them in the absence of the multitude. 7 Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. 8 And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." 9 So they said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare?" 10 And He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. 11 "Then you shall say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?" ' 12 "Then he will show

you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready." 13 So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover. 14 When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. 15 Then He said to them, "With [fervent] desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; 16 "for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." 17 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide [it] among yourselves; 18 "for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." 19 And He took bread, gave thanks and broke [it], and gave [it] to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 20 Likewise He also [took] the cup after supper, saying, "This cup [is] the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.

[Acts 11:1-18] 1 Now the apostles and brethren who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. 2 And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those of the circumcision contended with him, 3 saying, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!" 4 But Peter explained [it] to them in order from the beginning, saying: 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me. 6 "When I observed it intently and considered, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. 7 "And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.' 8 "But I said, 'Not so, Lord! For nothing common or unclean has at any time entered my mouth.' 9 "But the voice answered me again from heaven, 'What God has cleansed you must not call common.' 10 "Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven. 11 "At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea. 12 "Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. 13 "And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter, 14 'who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.' 15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. 16 "Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 "If therefore God gave them the same gift as [He gave] us when we believed on the

Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?" 18 When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."

[Acts 13:44-49] 44 On the next Sabbath almost the whole city came together to hear the word of God. 45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul. 46 Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 "For so the Lord has commanded us: 'I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, That you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth.' " 48 Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. 49 And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region.

[Acts 28:23-28] 23 So when they had appointed him a day, many came to him at [his] lodging, to whom he explained and solemnly testified of the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus from both the Law of Moses and the Prophets, from morning till evening. 24 And some were persuaded by the things which were spoken, and some disbelieved. 25 So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: "The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, 26 "saying, 'Go to this people and say: "Hearing you will hear, and shall not understand; And seeing you will see, and not perceive; 27 For the hearts of this people have grown dull. [Their] ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with [their] eyes and hear with [their] ears, Lest they should understand with [their] hearts and turn, So that I should heal them." ' 28 "Therefore let it be known to you that the salvation of God has been sent to the Gentiles, and they will hear it!"

[Romans 1:16] 16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

[Romans 11:7-13] 7 What then? Israel has not obtained what it seeks; but the elect

have obtained it, and the rest were blinded. 8 Just as it is written: "God has given them a spirit of stupor, Eyes that they should not see And ears that they should not hear, To this very day." 9 And David says: "Let their table become a snare and a trap, A stumbling block and a recompense to them. 10 Let their eyes be darkened, so that they do not see, And bow down their back always." 11 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, salvation [has come] to the Gentiles. 12 Now if their fall [is] riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness! 13 For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry,

[Romans 11:1] 1 I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, [of] the tribe of Benjamin.

[Ephesians 2:13-22] 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, [that is], the law of commandments [contained] in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man [from] the two, [thus] making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. 19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner[stone], 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

[Ephesians 3:4-6] 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: 6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

