

The Better Covenant

Hebrews 8 :1 – 10:18, part one

A Biblical Covenant is God's solemn and binding arrangement with His people, built on His promises and defining their relationship with Him.

Gracious But Not Final

- It revealed God's holiness and exposed sin
- It commanded obedience but couldn't accomplish it

Always Promised

- God promised to do what people could not
- Based on His faithfulness, not ours

The Mediator and Guarantor

- Jesus both announces the promises and makes their apprehension possible
- It depends on Christ, not on our ability to obey
- Because of Jesus, we know God's promises will never fail

The Good News of the Better Way

- Able to accomplish what the old could not
- Rest in Christ, the author and finisher of our faith

For Life Group Discussion

Hebrews 8 :1 – 10:18, part one

1. Read Heb 10:19-24. What are the 3 "let us" statements in vv. 22-24? Do you need to grow in assurance, stability, or bold conviction? What are the promises in vv. 19-21 that should spur us on?

2. Read Exo 20:1-17. What is the basis of the relationship? Why does God deserve their gratitude and loyalty? What are the terms of the agreement, and what promises and penalties are included?

3. Read Exo 24:3. The people had committed to uphold their part of the covenant. But did they? How is this related to Heb 8:7? What was the "fault" in the Old Covenant? Read Rom 3:20 for additional insights.

4. Read Heb 8:8-12 and compare Jer 31:31-34.

- Are you surprised that the promises of the New Covenant were embedded in the Old Testament? What does that tell you about God's plan and purposes?
- Read also Deut 30:6 & Eze 11:19-20 (compare Rom 2:28-29) and Isa 55:3 (compare Acts 13:32-34). What do you learn?

5. Read Heb 7:21-22, 8:6. On what basis is our salvation secure? How can we rest in that? Do we sometimes seek to find approval from God in other ways? How? In what sense are we tempted to go back to the principles of the Old Covenant?