

## Hebrews 8:1-13 - The Superiority of Christ

\*How many of you enjoy working with things past their prime?

\***An inexperienced preacher** was to hold a graveside burial service at a pauper's cemetery for an indigent man with no family or friends. Not knowing where the cemetery was he consulted his Tomas guide map, forgetting his new directions app on his phone, made several wrong turns and got lost. When he eventually arrived an hour late, the hearse was nowhere in sight, the backhoe was next to the open hole, and the workmen were sitting under a tree eating lunch.

The diligent young pastor went to the open grave and found the vault lid already in place. Feeling guilty because of his tardiness, he preached an impassioned and lengthy service, sending the deceased to the great beyond in style.

As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the workman say to the other, "I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years and I ain't never seen anything like that."

### 1. The priesthood of Christ is superior to Aaron and the Levites

A. Two points - Backward is calamity, Christ is eternity

Christ sits on His throne in Heaven **(V1)**

B. The true tabernacle was built by God, and the earthly one is inferior to that one! **(V2)**

C. Jesus ministers with eternity in mind in the true tabernacle **(V3)**

D. Earthly priests minister according to the Law - with an earthly tabernacle that is but a shadow of the one in Heaven. **(V4-5)**

### 2. The Old vs the New Covenant

A. The Old Covenant always pointed toward the New Covenant **(V6)** - Descriptions of the Old vs. The New Covenant

B. The Old Covenant is inferior to the New.

- Why the LAW then? **(Galatians 3:19)**

It made a nation

It defined a people

It showed them purpose - pointing to Messiah - Jesus.

- C. The Old Covenant is but external demonstrations and patchwork
- D. The New Covenant is Eternal
  - The Fulfillment of Promise (***Jeremiah 31:31-34***)
  - The New Covenant is forever and gracious (***Ephesians 2:8-9***)
- E. The Old Covenant will fade away (**Vv 12-13**)

### 3. The Response of the Christian (1st Peter 2:5-9)

- A. Cling to the Superior Covenant
- B. “Hold Fast” to your relationship with God
- C. Hold others to account - The Body and the searching among us...

### Hebrews 8 Summary:

Hebrews chapter 8 continues the argument for the superiority of Christ and the new covenant He has brought. The argument centers on the Jesus’ role as the ultimate High Priest. He is superior to any human priest, sitting at the right hand of God in Heaven as He ministers in the true Tabernacle in Heaven - advocating for all who trust Him. Though every high priest offers gifts and sacrifice, Jesus’s sacrifice is superior. Not only because Jesus is completely righteous (as opposed to human priests) but also because His sacrifice is a once for all, not a once per year human offering. For everyone who believes can be justified by the sacrificial righteousness of Jesus Christ.

### Questions:

1. Why does Chapter 8 emphasize the role of Jesus as our High Priest? (Vv1-6)
2. In what ways did the Jews, “not continue in (His) covenant?” (Vv7-12)
3. What is the main point of verse 13? Do we still need to follow the Old Testament as Christians? Why or why not?

