

The Superior Covenant A More Excellent Ministry (Heb. 8:1-13)

Introduction

Jesus has been faithfully and adequately shown to be the “Superior Christ” in **Heb. 1-7**. It was absolutely fundamental for the author to do so in order to argue the *main* topic of the epistle...the superiority of His covenant over the covenant given through Moses (**chs. 8-11**). Throughout the first section of the book, the author relied heavily on Old Testament texts to prove his argumentation. Now, he will make the obvious conclusions that naturally flow from what he has presented.

The beginning statement of the book’s second section simply states Jesus’ covenant is “better” than that found in the Mosaic covenant. It is based on the “true” versus the “shadowed” (**8:2-5**), and was even foretold through one of God’s most faithful O.T. prophets – Jeremiah (**8:8-12**).

1. What is the “point” to which the author alludes in **8:1a**? Again, what is his emphasis (connecting back to the previous discussion)?
2. How is our High Priest described in **8:1b**? Where else has this been stated in the epistle?
3. What is emphasized in **8:2**? *Thought question*: given the way it is phrased, what do you see as the emphasis of this verse?
4. What was the function of a high priest, and how did our High Priest fulfill His duties? (**8:3**; cp. **7:27**)
What point does the author re-emphasize? (**8:4**; cp. **7:11-14**)

The Superior Christ & His Covenant

Lesson 5

5. How else does the author illustrate the inferiority of earthly (Aaronic) priests in **8:5a**? (**cp. v. 2**) To prove the “shadow” pointed toward the “true,” what historical fact is mentioned in **8:5b**? Where is this recorded in the Old Testament?

6. “But as it is...,” how does the author connect what he has just said to Christ and His covenant? (**8:6**) How is this covenant described? *Thought question:* in **8:6**, what one word would you select that emphasizes the superiority of Christ’s covenant?

7. What logical question is asked in **8:7**? How does the author prove the first (Mosaic) covenant was “faulty?” (**8:8-12**) From where does he quote?

8. Did the first (Mosaic) covenant fail because it was *inherently* faulty? (**cp. Rom. 7:6-12**) Why, then, did it fail? (**8:8-9**)

9. In the spaces below, write the 3 ways the second (Christ’s) covenant is shown to be superior to the first (Moses’) covenant, found in **8:10-12**.
v. 10 _____
v. 11 _____
v. 12 _____

10. To have emphasized a “new” or “second” covenant obviously implies what? (**8:13a**) What is to happen to the first (Mosaic) covenant? (**8:13b**)