

The Superior Covenant Privileges & Obligations Of The Second Covenant And The Need For Endurance Through Faith (Heb. 10:19-39)

Introduction

The author has successfully presented the gospel of Christ ("2nd covenant") as vastly superior to the Law of Moses ("1st covenant"). It is the "more excellent ministry" (8:6). Jesus presides as Priest in the "true Holy Place, not made with hands" (9:24-25). His death was the "single offering that perfects for all time those who are being sanctified" (10:14). Except for another short comparison in ch. 12, these arguments will not be made again in this epistle. The writer has sufficiently made his case in defense of the gospel.

The remainder of Heb. 10 (vv. 19-39) will be devoted to what are the *privileges* of Christ's great covenant as well as our *obligations* to it (vv. 19-25). Those in covenant with Christ are always in need of *enduring faith*, and the author will exhort his readers to that end (vv. 26-39). With such words, the stage will be set for one of the Scripture's most grand treatments of faith...what some call "Faith's Hall Of Fame" (Heb. 11).

Privileges & Obligations Of The 2nd Covenant (Heb. 10:19-25)

1. In the spaces below, list the 2 "privileges" of the 2nd covenant mentioned in 10:19-21.

Privilege

1

Privilege

2

2. Again, what is the "holy place?" (10:19; cp. 9:24) How should we enter? How has our entrance been made possible? (10:20; cp. Jn. 14:3, 6) What allusion to the Law does the author make?

3. How does Jesus serve as our "Priest?" (10:21; cp. 7:25) What is the "house of God?" (cp. 3:1-6)

4. In the spaces below, list the 3 "obligations" of the 2nd covenant mentioned in 10:22-25.

Obligation

1

Obligation

2

Obligation

3

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Lesson 7

5. Be able to define "true" or "sincere" heart. (10:22) Consider Mt. 5:8; 6:19-23; Jas. 4:8 in your answer.

6. Who are those who may draw near to God? (10:22) How does this verse harmonize with the general N.T. teaching re: how one "draws near" to God? (cp. Jn. 6:44-45)

7. Why would saints always need to "hold fast without wavering?" (10:23a; cp. 2 Pet. 3:3-4) What incentive do we have in holding fast? (10:23b; cp. 6:17-18)

8. How is assembling a "practical way" to help saints "hold fast without wavering?" (10:25) Be able to define these words: "provoke" or "stir up" and "forsaking."

9. Along with Heb. 10:24-25, show how 1 Cor. 11:17, 33 and 14:26 illustrate the impact assembling has on edification.

10. What was already happening to some believers? (10:25) What "looming fact on the horizon" should motivate Christians to not neglect this obligation? (10:25)

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Lesson 7

The Need For Endurance Through Faith (*Heb. 10:26-39*)

11. How does the writer begin to show the need for endurance through faith? (10:26) Be able to define "sinning willfully." How might this connect back to what he just finished saying?

12. What 2 terrible realities await us if we do not endure in faith? (10:26-27; cp. 10:10) From where does the author quote? Do these verses help us understand what "day" was under consideration back in 10:25?

13. How does the writer use the Mosaic covenant to prove his point? (10:28) What phrase describing the Law illustrates its harshness? *Thought question*: what verses from ch. 2 do you remember that spoke a similar truth?

14. Re: those today who would "set aside" the 2nd covenant...what awaits them? (10:29) With what 3 graphic descriptions does the author describe "willful sin" by a Christian under Christ's covenant?

15. How is God's judgment against such actions guaranteed? (10:30) From where does the author quote? What sobering reminder does the writer give his readers in 10:31?

The Superior Christ & His Covenant

Lesson 7

16. What past events does the author mention to his readers that would remind them (*and us, too*) just how faithful and committed to Christ they had been? (10:32-34)
17. Thought question: what 1 abiding truth kept these saints faithful, especially during their sufferings? (10:34b) Where else in the N.T. is such a statement expressed?
18. How does the writer exhort them in 10:35-36? To support his exhortation, from where does he quote? (10:37-38) How does “the just one” live? What does enduring faith do? (10:39)
19. Thought question: how does this serve as a “springboard” into Heb. 11?