

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What was the first or the old covenant?
2. What are people looking for in products and services today?
3. What is the second or the new covenant?
4. What are some of the differences between the old and the new covenants?
5. How is the new covenant better than the old?
6. Is it easier to be obedient to the new covenant? Why or Why not?

SUMMARY:

Our text today tells us the sum of our new covenant is Jesus Christ. As the only Son of God and as a man who walked here on earth He and He only is fit and fitted to bridge the gap [SoF:7] between sinful man and a God who cannot tolerate sin. [SoF:6]

God's chosen people through the ages looked forward to the promise of His coming. Many of them failed to greet Him and enter His covenant because they had their sights set too low. They felt fulfillment would be an earthly kingdom. God's plan, however, includes a spiritual kingdom available to each on an individual basis with its unspeakable joy. The final physical kingdom will come but only when God has called from the world those who would serve Him.

The sad part is many who want to take part in a physical kingdom rob themselves of the better part and instead will spend eternity apart from God. Our plea to all should be, "*Seek the Lord while he may be found.*"

NOTES:

[SoF:6] We believe that all are sinners and lost, awaiting the judgment of God, but God is not willing that any should be lost. [SoF:7] We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #8

August 25, 2019

Third Quarter

A BETTER COVENANT

LESSON TEXT: *Hebrews 8:1-13*

LESSON SETTING: Probably written from Italy by Paul to the Palestinian Jews.

TIME: Approximately 64 A.D.

I. THE MINISTER OF THE NEW COVENANT. Hebrews 8:1-5

- A. At the Throne of the Majesty. (vs. 1) Ephesians 1:20; Philippians 2:9
- B. Offers a Better Sacrifice (vs. 3) Hebrews 10:10

II. THE MINISTRY OF THE NEW COVENANT. Hebrews 8:10-13

- A. A Better Covenant (vs. 6) Romans 5:8, 9; 1 Corinthians 10:13
- B. Old Covenant not Sufficient (vs. 7-9) Hebrews 10:4

III. THE MEANING OF THE NEW COVENANT. Hebrews 8:10-13

- A. God Shall Bestow
 1. A Spiritual Mind (vs. 10) 1 Corinthians 2:16
 2. Spiritual Adoption (vs. 10) John 1:12; Romans 8:15
 3. Spiritual Knowledge (vs. 11) John 8:31, 32; 17:3
 4. Mercy (vs. 12) Micah 7:18; Titus 3:5
 5. Forgiveness (vs. 12) Acts 5:31; Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 1:9

GOLDEN TEXT: *I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MIND, AND WRITE THEM IN THEIR HEARTS.* Hebrews 8:10

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Hebrews 9:11-28

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Exodus 24:3-8; Leviticus 16:1-34

QUARTERLY THEME: BOOK OF HEBREWS

TOPIC: A BETTER PLAN

INTRODUCTION:

The old covenant, which required the shedding of the blood of animals, provided only for the forgiveness of past sins. This blood was not sufficient to make a man free from sin, that is, a man's conscience still bore this effect of sin (vs. 9). The blood of animals worked only to the purifying and sanctifying of the flesh.

Now comes the "better plan"—the new covenant—established through Jesus whose blood was shed not only to purify the flesh but also to purge or cleanse the conscience from the guilt of sin. Thus having our conscience freed from this guilt we are able to be freed also from dead works and to serve the living God.

We recognize too, that without the shedding of blood is no remission of sin. (Hebrews 9:22) Since His blood was shed for us it must possess the power to free us from future sinning, otherwise "*He would have suffered often since the foundation of the world, but now once in the end of the world hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself*" (vs. 26). So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Only through Christ's sacrificial death can we obtain eternal redemption.

GOLDEN TEXT: *CHRIST WAS ONCE OFFERED TO BEAR THE SINS OF MANY . . .*

Hebrews 9:28

Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many. Not offered each year. Not only going into the Holy Place every year to bring sacrifices for the continuing sins but providing with His blood as a sin offering, the power also to overcome sin. Our consciences are freed from the guilt of sin or dead works. It behooves us who have come under this influence of the Lord to walk uprightly before Him being obedient to His commands. The price that He has paid is an awesome price. We dare not treat it lightly or be flippant about that which He has done in our hearts. May we cherish and revere this precious gift and remember that having shed His blood once, He has also suffered for us. We cannot and dare not crucify our Lord afresh.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Aug 26 – Sept 1

M. In Grace. Romans 5:12-21

T. In Faith. Romans 10:8-18

W. In Love. 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

T. In Method. 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

F. In Message. 1 John 1:5-10

S. A Better Provision. Hebrews 9:1-10

S. *In Hope. Hebrews 9:11-28

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