

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for October 18, 2015

The Superiority of the New Covenant
Hebrews 8:7-13

Having set forth the superiority of Christ to prophets, to angels, and to Moses, the author then set out to show the superiority of Christ's priesthood over all other priesthoods (Hebrews 5:1-10, 18).

This lengthy section of scripture can be divided into two main segments.

The Son's appointment as high priest according to the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 5:1-7, 28)

Christ's superior high priestly offering (Hebrews 8:1-10:18).

This segment dealing with the superiority of Christ's high priestly offering can be divided into three parts.

The superiority of Christ's high priestly ministry (Hebrews 8:1-6)

The superiority of the new covenant over the old covenant (Hebrews 8:7-13)

The quotation from Jeremiah 31:31-34 that was quoted by this author in Hebrews 8:8-12 has three parts.

In the first part of the quotation, the Lord promised that He would make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah (Jeremiah 31:31; cf. Hebrews 8:8).

In the second part of this quotation, the Lord made it clear that because the new covenant was not like the old covenant, God's response to them under the new covenant would be far better than it was under the old covenant (Jeremiah 31:32; cf. Hebrews 8:9).

In the third part of this quotation, the Lord identifies the better promises upon which the new covenant is based (Jeremiah 31:33-34; cf. Hebrews 8:10-12).

God has promised all those within the new covenant that He would place His laws in their minds and write them on their hearts (Hebrews 8:10).

God has promised that all those within the new covenant will know Him as a matter of personal experience (Hebrews 8:11).

God has promised that all those within the new covenant will have all their sins blotted out (Hebrews 8:12).

The author concluded that if God called the superior covenant “a new covenant,” it would mean that when it came into effect the old covenant would be rendered obsolete (Hebrews 8:13).

May God give us the grace to experience the reality of the new covenant promises, and may the blessedness of that reality fill our hearts with thanksgiving and praise.