

The Epistle to the Hebrews

CHAPTER 8

April 11 2024

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Hebrews 8

“now of the things we have spoken this is the sum...”

- 1-4 (Christ's supremacy)
- 5-7 (a better priest)
- 9-10 (better than the law)
- 11 (way of faith)
- 12-13 (putting into practice)

A very short, general summation of the chapters

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Points for consideration

- A turning point in the epistle - where are we in the framework of Hebrews?
- A chapter of contrasts - 1,2,3,4!
- A time when all shall know God - when?
- The old way is ready to vanish...
- What about us?

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A turning point in the epistle...

- V.1 begins a summation of the letter to this point
- Growing transition to 'living by faith'

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A chapter of contrasts...

1. two tabernacles
2. heavenly and earthly high priests
3. old and new covenants
4. two hearts

A chapter of contrasts...

1. two tabernacles

‘A minister of the sanctuary, and of the **true** tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.’

‘True’ - Heb. 9:24, 10:22

True light -John 1:9 (in the beginning was the word -v.1)

True bread - John 6:32

The true tabernacle is the place of meeting in fellowship with the Father. Jesus has gone into the Father's presence; now "one" with the Father in every sense, by the transformation of his physical nature. But distance is no barrier to perfect fellowship; it is more a matter of state than place in the antitype. Anticipating the end of Mosaic age and worship, while yet admitting its divine origin, Jesus said that the true worship would be independent of an appointed centre such as Jerusalem, when the "true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth" (John 4:22-24).

-J. Carter "The Letter To The Hebrews" p.130

A chapter of contrasts...

2. heavenly and earthly high priests

v.3 - For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.

But at once the figure comes back to the Scripture parable of the priest, and the day of atonement. The high priest entered in beyond the veil to the presence of God; so Jesus has entered as High Priest to the Father's presence. "Within the veil" is the immortal state, and fulness of joy in the friendship and fellowship of God. Jesus has passed within the veil, and he has entered "into heaven itself." But the state represented by the Holiest of All is not dependant upon ascent to heaven. It is not a matter of place, but of physical nature and spiritual relationship to the Father.

What a difference between the Aaronic High Priest and Jesus is suggested by the word "forerunner." Jesus has entered as "forerunner" that others may follow. But Aaron and his successors in the ministry of the tabernacle entered the Most Holy alone, and none could follow. While the type pointed to an opening of the way, it also indicated that it was not the means of opening it, since others did not gain access by it.

-J. Carter "The Letter To The Hebrews" p.98-99

A chapter of contrasts...

3. old and new covenants

-An old covenant - which is the old?

God made covenants with:

-Adam and Eve - concerning the 'seed'

-Noah - 'everlasting'

-Abraham - 'everlasting'

-Restated to Isaac

-Re-stated to Jacob (Israel)

-The children of Israel through Moses' mediation (Ex. 19:3-6)

-Phineas the priest, son of Eleazar (Num.25:11-13) - 'everlasting'

-David - 2 Sam.23:5 - 'everlasting'

-others

The ten commandments - Deut. 9:11

The two commandments - Matt.22:36 - "Master, which is the great commandment in the law?"

A chapter of contrasts...

3. old and new covenants

See:

Gal. 3:13-19

Heb. 7:11

Gal. 3:20-27

Col. 2:17*

Jeremiah 31

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

Jer 31:32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

Jer 31:33 But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jer 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

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Heb 8:8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Heb 8:9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

Heb 8:10 For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

Heb 8:11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

Heb 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

A chapter of contrasts...

4. two hearts

v.10 - “I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts”

Ezekiel 36:24-28 - “a new heart also will I give you...”

Matt. 5:8 - ‘Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.’

Acts 2:45-47 - singleness of heart

Acts 4:32- “And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul...”

2 Cor. 3 - contrast of veiled and unveiled hearts

A chapter of contrasts...

4. two hearts

What about the veil?

- >The veil in the tabernacle - Ex.26:31-34 - the veil to divide the holy from the most holy place
- >The veil over Moses face - Ex. 34:29-35 - Moses face shone
- >The veil of the temple torn from top to bottom - Matt.27:51

A time when all shall know God - when?

Heb. 8:11 - “And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.”

Is. 54:10-

Micah 4:1-2

Is. 11:9 - They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

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The old way is ready to vanish....

V.13 - "...Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away."

What About Us?

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