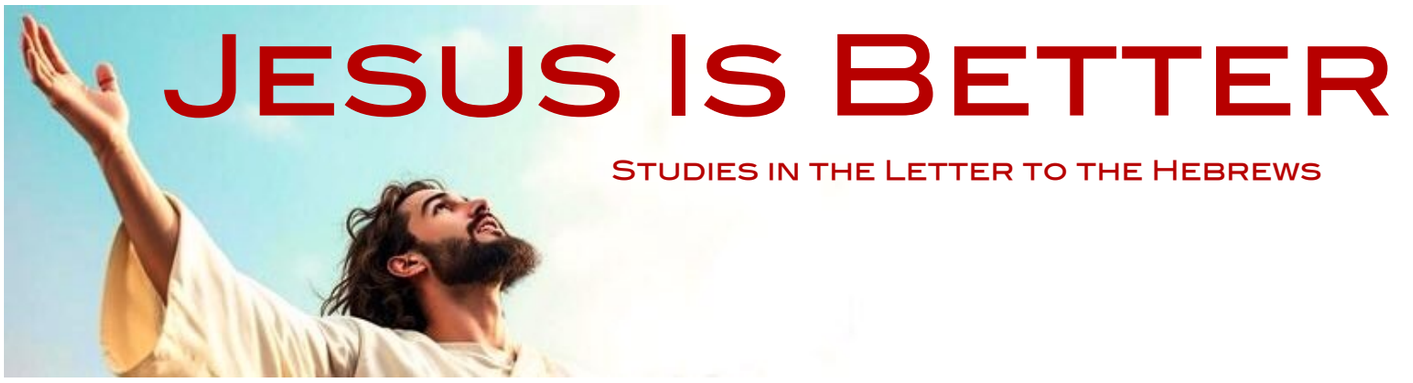


Jesus Is Better

Studies in the Letter to the Hebrews

Hebrews 8:1-13

1 The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest,
who sat down at the right hand of
the throne of the Majesty in heaven,
2 and who serves in the sanctuary,
the true tabernacle set up by the
Lord, not by man.

3 Every high priest is appointed to
offer both gifts and sacrifices, and
so it was necessary for this one
also to have something to offer. 4 If
he were on earth, he would not be
a priest, for there are already men
who offer the gifts prescribed by the
law. 5 They serve at a sanctuary
that is a copy and shadow of what
is in heaven. This is why Moses
was warned when he was about to
build the tabernacle:

"See to it that you make
everything according to the
pattern shown you on the
mountain."

Exodus 25:40

6 But the ministry Jesus has
received is as superior to theirs as
the covenant of which he is
mediator is superior to the old one,
and it is founded on better
promises.

7 For if there had been nothing
wrong with that first covenant, no
place would have been sought for
another. 8 But God found fault with
the people and said:

"The time is coming, declares
the Lord, when I will make a new
covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah. 9 It
will not be like the covenant I
made with their forefathers when
I took them by the hand to lead
them out of Egypt, because they
did not remain faithful to my
covenant, and I turned away from
them, declares the Lord.

10 This is the covenant I will
make with the house of Israel
after that time, declares the Lord.
I will put my laws in their minds
and write them on their hearts. I
will be their God, and they will be
my people. 11 No longer will a
man teach his neighbor, or a man
his brother, saying, 'Know the
Lord,' because they will all know
me, from the least of them to the
greatest. 12 For I will forgive their
wickedness and will remember
their sins no more."

Jeremiah 31:31-34

13 By calling this covenant "new,"
he has made the first one obsolete;
and what is obsolete and aging will
soon disappear.

LESSON 9

A New Covenant with God

The Priest of a New Covenant

▲ *Jesus' position of majesty*

8:1 The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,

▲ *Jesus' priestly ministry*

8:3 Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer.

- ► *Those priests offered something*
- ► *This Priest offered something supremely superior*

▲ *Jesus' place of ministry*

—*Other priests served at a replicated sanctuary – on earth*

8:4 If he were on earth, he would not be a priest, for there are already men who offer the gifts prescribed by the law. 5 They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

- ► *Moses' tabernacle was a meaningful copy*
- ► *Moses' tabernacle was a mysterious shadow*

—*Our Priest serves at the real sanctuary – in heaven*

8:1 We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, 2 and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man.

▲ *Jesus' preeminence in ministry*

8:6 But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

The Promise of a New Covenant

▲ *The new covenant was promised*

8:6 But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

▲ *The new covenant is preferable*

8:7 For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. 8 But God found fault with the people and said:

▲ *The new covenant is personal and powerful*

—*That covenant was pressed upon God's faithless people*

8:8 "The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. 9 It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

- ► *The LORD was very gracious at their deliverance*
- ► *The LORD was very grieved by their disobedience*

—*This covenant is personally powerful in God's faith-filled people*

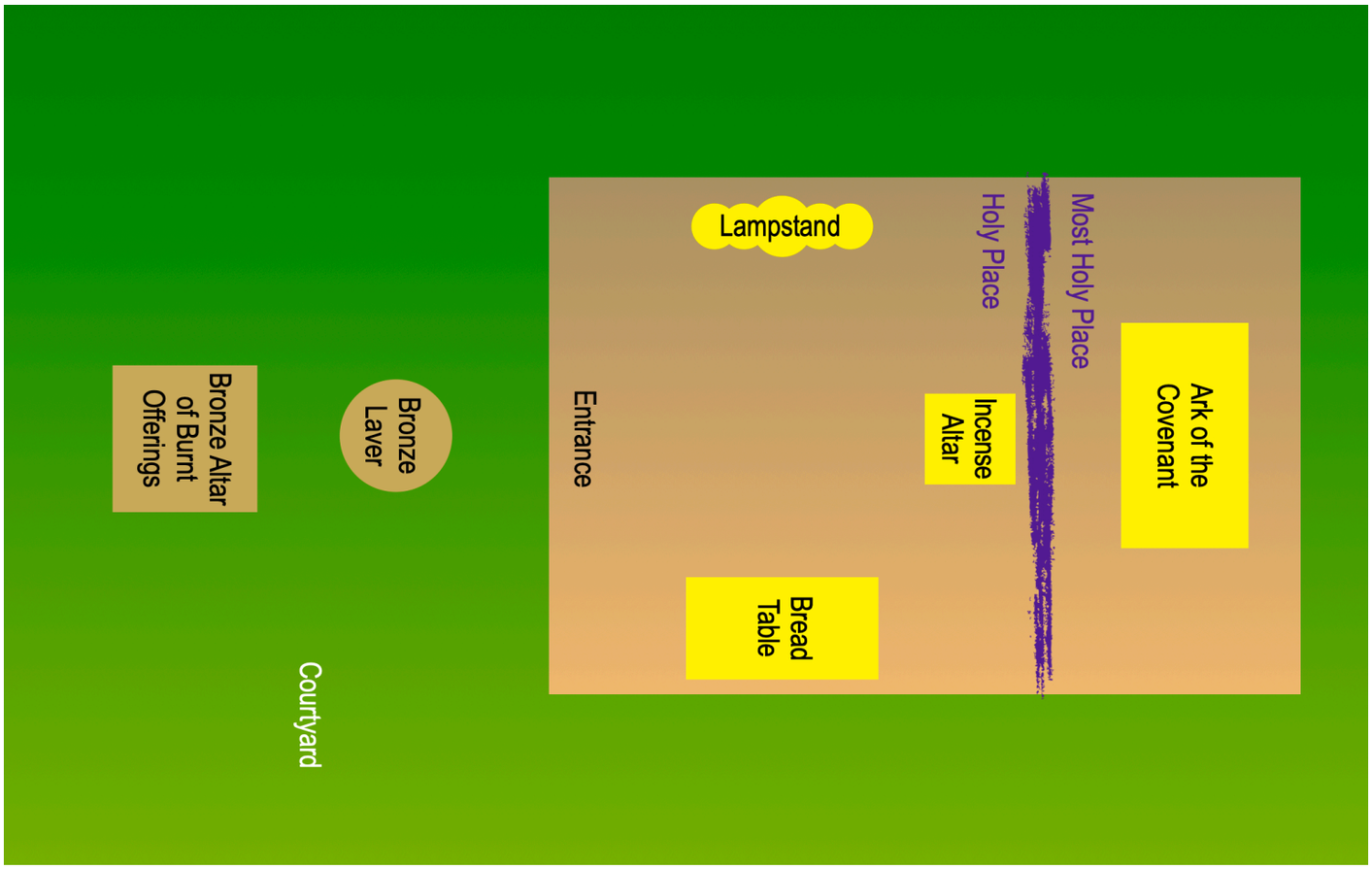
8:10 This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 11 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. 12 For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

- ► *This new covenant will bring clarity*
- ► *This new covenant will bring commitment*
- ► *This new covenant will bring cleansing*
- ► *This new covenant will bring closeness*

▲ *The new covenant is permanent*

8:13 By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.

- ► *Jesus ministers a permanent priesthood*
- ► *Jesus mediates a continuing covenant*



John Sees the Heavenly Temple in the Book of Revelation

Jesus' Letter to the Church at Philadephia

Revelation 3:12 Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name.

The Tribulation Martyrs in Heaven

Revelation 7:13 Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" 14 I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them.

After the Blowing of the Seventh Trumpet

Revelation 11:19 Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and within his temple was seen the ark of his covenant. And there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake and a great hailstorm.

Angels Commanded To Reap the Earth

Revelation 14:15 Then another angel came out of the temple and called in a loud voice to him who was sitting on the cloud, "Take your sickle and reap, because the time to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." 16 So he who was seated on the cloud swung his sickle over the earth, and the earth was harvested. 17 Another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. 18 Still another angel, who had charge of the fire, came from the altar and called in a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, "Take your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of grapes from the earth's vine, because its grapes are ripe."

The Seven Angels with the Bowls of Wrath

Revelation 15:5 After this I looked and in heaven the temple, that is, the tabernacle of the Testimony, was opened. 6 Out of the temple came the seven angels with the seven plagues. They were dressed in clean, shining linen and wore golden sashes around their chests. ——— 15:8 And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from his power, and no one could enter the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were completed. ——— 16:1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, "Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth." ——— 16:17 The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, "It is done!"