

THE LETTER TO THE HEBREWS

Chapter 8:

*A New
Priest, in the
real Temple,
establishing
a new
Covenant*

*Temple in
Jerusalem
was a copy
of the
Temple of
Heaven*

*The first or
Old Cove-
nant was
faulty*

*See Jeremiah
31:31-34*

*The terms of
the New
Covenant
foretold in
Old Testa-
ment*

Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, ² a minister in the holy places, in the true [tabernacle] that the Lord set up, not man. ³ For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. ⁴ Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. ⁵ They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. **For when Moses was about to erect the [tabernacle], he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.”** ⁶ But as it is, Christ* has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. ⁷ For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

⁸ For he finds fault with them when he says: ^[c]

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,

when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel

and with the house of Judah,

⁹ not like the covenant that I made with their fathers

on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt.

For they did not continue in my covenant,

and so I showed no concern for them,
declares the Lord.

¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel

after those days, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws into their minds,

and write them on their hearts,

and I will be their God,

and they shall be my people.

Lesson 9

V1. Now the point in what we are saying is this— For people utterly dependent upon their priests and the Temple worship for their Atonement, the idea of turning to another priest who isn’t in the Temple of Jerusalem would be difficult to accept.

V.5 Shown you on the holy mountain—
Read Exodus 24:9-25:9

Note: Exodus 20-24:8 (4 chapters) discuss the Law given on the Holy Mountain. Exodus 24:9-31:17 (8 chapters) deal with worship and the building of the Tabernacle

V.8 For [God] finds fault with the [old Covenants]... Because this is such a radical change—a New Priest, in a new heavenly Temple, establishing a New Covenant, the writer of Hebrews shows that God had long ago exposed the failure of the Old Covenant and had promised a New Covenant that would accomplish its purpose.

Read Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Terms of the New Covenant

1. It will not be like the Old Covenant
2. God will put his laws in the hearts of his people (Pentecost)
3. He will be their God, and they will be his people (What does this common Biblical term?)

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¹¹ And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor
and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’
for they shall all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest.
¹² For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,
and I will remember their sins no more.”

¹³ In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

4. All God’s people shall know him
(What does it mean to know God?)
5. God will show mercy and will
“Remember their sins no more.”

Where does Jesus speak of establishing a New Covenant?

Read St. Luke 22:14-20