

Session 8

Hebrews 8:1-10:18 Christ Performs a Better Ministry

This is a summing-up of the full nature and ministry of Jesus Christ. What was He here for? To do ministry on our behalf of the world. So how does a young Jewish man work out a ministry on behalf of the whole world? The answer lies not only in terms of what kind of priest He is, but also in terms of what kind of service He performs. This is a long section, but it all has to do with one thing—the difference Christ makes in the grand scheme of atonement to God.

Question: What do we need a priest for? And what does a priest need in order to do it?

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| A. Christ Ministers in a Better Tabernacle | 8:1-5 |
| 1. Christ's sanctuary is in heaven | 8:1-3 |
| 2. The sanctuary on earth is a simulation of that in heaven | 8:4-5 |
| B. Christ Mediates a Better Covenant | 8:6-13 |
| 1. The first covenant (Sinai) was inadequate | 8:6-9 |
| 2. The second covenant was God's intent | 8:10-13 |
| C. The Old Ministry Cannot Perfect the Conscience | 9:1-10 |
| 1. The way of the old sanctuary was earthly | 9:1-5 |
| 2. Access to the Holy Place was limited and mysterious | 9:7-8 |
| 3. The priestly ministry could not bring about permanent mercy | 9:9-10 |
| a. The earthly Holy Place was only symbolic | |
| b. The rituals pertained to earthly, temporary stipulations | |
| D. The New Ministry of Christ Provides for Permanent Mercy | 9:11-10:18 |
| 1. Christ entered the <i>real</i> Holy Place | 9:11 |
| 2. Christ offered His blood for <i>absolute</i> atonement | 9:12 |
| 3. The earthly blood of animals sanctified the external | 9:13 |
| 4. The blood of Christ sanctifies the internal | 9:14 |
| 5. The Old Covenant demanded routine life-blood for cleansing | 9:15-22 |
| 6. The New Covenant demands blood only once | 9:23-28 |
| 7. Recurring guilt proves the temporary value of the old ministry | 10:1-4 |
| 8. God has said He does not desire the temporary sacrifices | 10:5-8 |
| 9. Christ made the perfect sacrifice one time | 10:9-11 |
| 10. Christ's present session proves His work to be permanent | 10:12-14 |
| 11. The Holy Spirit bears witness that the atonement is final | 10:15-18 |