

Hebrews Lesson 35

Chapter 8

7 April 2025

Vs 6 “But now hath he **OBTAINED**—a more excellent ministry...”

- Jesus was not always the mediator of a better covenant. He obtained that more excellent ministry when He came to earth, shed His blood, and established the “**new testament in my blood**” (Luke 22:20).

Vs 7 “For if that first *covenant* had been faultless...”

- The new covenant was necessary because the old covenant was faulty.
- **Galatians 6:1**. We are instructed to restore brethren who are overtaken in a fault.
- **James 5:16**. We are to confess our faults (not sins, but weaknesses) one to another.
 - These are defects in your make up/character/personality.
 - Easily discouraged.
 - Easily angered.
 - Prone to gossip.
 - Prone to pessimism.
 - Overly optimistic.
 - Dark sense of humor. Etc.
 - We confess our faults so the church can properly pray for us.
 - We confess our faults so people won’t be easily offended when we slip up in that area. Knowing a brother’s/sister’s fault will help you to be prepared for it.
- Similarly, the Law has faults. It has built-in defects (weaknesses).
 - The Law cannot save your soul, give you a new birth, or make you a new creature.
 - The law did not have sufficient provision to meet the deepest need of mankind.
- **Exodus 34:1-6**. When God gave the Law, He prefaced it with His mercy, grace, and longsuffering (vs 6).
 - Many times, judgment did not come upon Israel until God endured their disobedience for hundreds of years.
- **Exodus 34:7**. Under the old covenant, God could forgive iniquity, transgressions, and sins, but He would not **clear** the guilty because there wasn’t a sufficient blood sacrifice to cover it.
 - **Example**: Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31).
 - Lazarus died before the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 - His sins were forgiven, but he was not cleared. He did not go to heaven.
 - He entered Abraham’s bosom until Jesus shed His blood to cover his sins.

- Everyone in Abraham's bosom had their sins cleared when Jesus died on the cross. Jesus **"led captivity captive"** (took them all to heaven). (Psalm 68:18, Ephesians 4:8).
- Paradise moved from the heart of the earth to the third heaven (compare Luke 23:43 with 2 Corinthians 12:2-4).
- Today, when a believer dies, they go directly to heaven (2 Cor. 5:8).

Vs 8 **"For finding fault with them..."** (plural, referring to Israel).

- The Law exposed men's defects. It revealed that they were unable to keep the Law.
 - The Law can't meet the needs of man.
 - Man can't meet the demands of the Law.

"...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." (Quoted from Jeremiah 31:31, a millennium ref.)

Vs. 9 God took Israel by the hand, He led them out of Egypt, they did not continue in God's covenant, and God regarded them not.

- Under the old covenant, you had to continue in that covenant to enjoy its benefits.
- Under the new covenant, the benefit is unconditional.

Vs 10 In the millennial kingdom, God will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and Judah.

- He will write His laws into their mind and in their hearts.
 - This does not apply to believers today.
 - Today we must teach, preach, witness, plead with, and invite people to know the Lord.

"...and I will be to them a God."

- Though Jehovah is their God, Israel does not enjoy and benefit from that relationship due to their unbelief and their unwillingness to allow Him to govern them.
 - That will change in the future.

Vs 11 **"...all shall know me, from the least to the greatest."**

- Cross-reference: Isaiah 54:13.
- **"Least to greatest"** indicates that people are not all equal, even in the millennium.