

YAG

5 September 2015

Text: Hebrews 7:20-28

THE LIMITATIONS OF THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD

1. It is imperfect Hebrews 7:11
2. Human priests cannot continue forever Hebrews 7:23

AN APPRECIATION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

1. He is our great High Priest
 - a) He is of the order of Melchizedek
 - b) A higher order than the order of Aaron Hebrews 7:11
(sometimes called the Levitical priesthood) Hebrews 7:11
 - c) It is an unchangeable priesthood Hebrews 7:24
2. He is the surety (guarantee) of a better covenant Hebrews 7:22
 - a) The old covenant has been annulled Hebrews 7:18
 - i) Weak
 - ii) Unprofitable
 - b) He has ushered in a better hope Hebrews 7:19
Through which we draw nearer to God
3. He is our Great Saviour
 - a) He is able to save to the uttermost Hebrews 7:25a
 - b) All who come to Him Hebrews 7:25b
 - c) He lives to make intercession Hebrews 7:25c
4. The Person of the Lord Jesus, our great High Priest
 - a) Holy
 - b) Harmless
 - c) undefiled
 - d) Separate from sinners (untainted)
 - e) Higher than the heavens Hebrews 7:26

f) Who offered up Himself once and for all Hebrews 7:27

g) The Son who has been perfected forever Hebrews 7:28

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

NO MEETING ON 12 September 2015

Pastoral Team in Perth, celebrating Bethel's 21st Anniversary

AN APPRECIATION OF THE COVENANTS OF GOD

INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION

1. The Concept of a Covenant

- a) Two types of Covenant mentioned in the Scriptures
 - i) Parity Covenant (Between equals)
 - ii) Suzerainty Covenant (Between God and man; King and subjects)
- b) Covenants are like “treaties”
- c) Features of Covenants given by God
 - i) Preamble
To tell us who God is and what He has done
 - ii) Laws stated
These laws govern relationships between God and man
 - iii) Promises of blessings are attached
 - iv) Penalty is also described if the laws are broken

2. Many Covenants mentioned

- a) Noahic Covenant Genesis 8
- b) Abrahamic Covenant
- c) Mosaic Covenant/ Sinaitic Covenant (Different terms have been used)
- d) The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31-33)

THE MOSAIC COVENANT

- 1. It is called “the first covenant” Hebrews 8:9, 13
- 2. It is another term for the Mosaic Covenant
 - a) It included the Tabernacle/ Temple Worship
 - b) The Levitical Priesthood
 - c) The Law

- i) Civil
- b) Ceremonial
- c) Dietary

3. The significance of the First Covenant

- a) It symbolized the relationship between God and the nation of Israel
- b) The laws taught Israel how to fear the Lord and to relate to Him

4. The sad and grim reality

- a) Israel had failed to keep the laws of God
- b) It had broken the covenant of God
- c) The penalty of the law would have to be exacted

5. Comments about the First Covenant

- a) It had its limitations
 - i) Limited to Israel
 - ii) It was temporary
- b) It has been made obsolete Hebrews 8:13
- c) It was ready to vanish away Hebrews 8:13

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 8:13

In that he says, "A new covenant, He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

THE ESTABLISHING OF THE NEW COVENANT

1. It was prophesied by the prophets

- a) Isaiah (References to the Messiah and His ministry)
- b) Jeremiah (Jeremiah 31-33)

2. It is established by the Lord Jesus Christ

- a) The High Priest of the New Covenant Hebrews 8:1
- b) He is seated at the right hand of the Throne of Majesty in the heavens Hebrews 8:1
- c) Mediator of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle Hebrews 8:2
- d) "This is the blood of the new covenant" Matthew 26:28

3. Names

- a) A better covenant Hebrews 8:6
- b) A new covenant Hebrews 8:8, 12
 - i) Based on better promises Hebrews 8:6
 - ii) New practices (Baptism, The Lord's Supper)
 - iii) New focus: The Church
 - iv) New ministry

4. Special features of the New Covenant

- a) It involves Israel
Judah and Israel would no longer be separate kingdoms Hebrews 8:8
- b) Not old Covenant terms
 - i) Not based on the old terms Hebrews 8:9
 - ii) Israel did not keep the Old Covenant Hebrews 8:9
 - iii) God disregarded them Hebrews 8:9
- c) New Covenant terms
 - i) The laws will be written on the heart and mind Hebrews 8:10

- ii) He will be the Lord God Hebrews 8:10
- iii) Believers will be His people Hebrews 8:10
- iv) All may know God significantly Hebrews 8:11
- v) God will be merciful to His people and not remember their sins Hebrews 8:12

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 8:6

But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.