

**Lesson 16 - Hebrews 8:1-13****Main Idea**

Jesus Christ ushers in a new and better priesthood as well as a new and better covenant which makes the old priesthood and old covenant obsolete.

**Study Questions**

1. What main point has the author been making up until now? How does Hebrews 8, particularly verse 1, connect to the previous chapter and summarize the author's main point?
  
2. How do the old covenant and earthly priesthood anticipate the new covenant and superior priest?
  
3. Where is the great high priest now located? What makes that seat so significant? How does Christ's position help you persevere here in your faith, particularly in times of trial and suffering?
  
4. What do the terms "copy", "shadow", "pattern" indicate to you about the Levitical priesthood (8:5)?
  
5. Hebrews 8:6 speaks of three things that are "better" than or "superior" to the former counterparts. How is each better than its predecessor?
  - Jesus ministry as high priest (7:11-28)
  
  - the new covenant (8:6)
  
  - the promises on which the covenant is based on (8:10-12)

6. God set the terms of both the old and new covenants. Why did he choose to initiate a new one (8:7-9)?
  
7. List the foundational blessings of the new covenant, and explain what they mean (see 8:10-12).
  
8. In 8:8-12, the author quotes Jeremiah 31:31-34 in its entirety. According to this Old Testament passage, what is the significant role of the Messiah in establishing the new covenant? According to Jeremiah, what are the implications of the work of the new covenant Messiah?
  
9. Write a summary of 8:1-13.

### **Gospel Glimpses<sup>1</sup>**

***New Hearts.*** The new covenant described in Hebrews 8:8-12 involved the writing of God's laws in people's hearts (not on tablets of stone, as in the Mosaic covenant). In this way, the relationship between God and people will be firmly established so that everyone within the covenant will know the Lord and his will in and from their hearts (vv. 10-11). As fallen human beings, our sinful hearts war within us against obedience to God's law. To be obedient, people need a new heart. In the new covenant, God's peoples hearts are changed through the gospel and continue to change through the work of the Holy Spirit.

### **Personal Reflection**

- What one truth from 8:1-13 would you like to take to heart this week?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- In what practical ways might this understanding of the new covenant affect your life?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What steps can you take to this become a reality?

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<sup>1</sup> Capps pg. 55