

A Better Way
A Better Covenant
Hebrews 8.6-13

Hebrews is the book of the Better Way, in Hebrews we have seen,

- **Our Superlative Savior**

- Jesus Christ is not another way to heaven
- Jesus Christ is not a better way to heaven
- Jesus Christ is the **ONLY WAY** to heaven

John 14:6 - Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

- **Our Better Purgings** – We are fully Pardoned from our sins when Jesus Christ,

Hebrews 1:3 - . . . by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

- **Our Better “So Great A Salvation”** (2.3)
- **Our Better Word From God** – This King James Bible
- **Our Better Prayer** - Standing in the presence of God.
- **A Better Spiritual Maturity**
- **A Better Eternal Security**
- **A Better Ministry**
- **A Better Anchor of the Soul (Heb 6)**

Today we discover that there is a **Better Covenant.**

Read Text

A. A Better Covenant (Heb 8.6, 8-13)

1. Old Covenant

- Based on the written law – It was a law written on cold stone.
- Obedience to the law was required – There was one's **Duty**.
- Blessing resulted from ones obedience – God's promises were conditioned upon obedience; the obedience of the nation.

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A. A Better Covenant
1. Old Covenant – Duty
2. New Covenant – Heart or desire

*Hebrews 8:9 - Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; **because they continued not in my covenant,** and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.*

2. New Covenant – A Better Covenant (vs 6)

*Hebrews 8:6 - But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of **a better covenant,** which was established upon better promises.*

*Hebrews 8:8 - For finding fault with them, 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:*

*Hebrews 8:10 - For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts;** and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:*

This New Covenant does not nullify the law of God but it quickens the law of God. Instead of requiring the Duty of God's people, it requires the Hearts of God's people.

Matt 22.36

Under Mosses and the Old Testament law the laws of God were written on cold stone.

Under this New Covenant God writes His laws into their minds and hearts. Under our Lord Jesus Christ the law of God is written into the warm, vibrant flesh of the heart and mind.

The fulfillment of the Law of God is no longer based on one's sense of Duty but the fulfillment of the law and will of God is now based on one's Desire. The **"Have To"** of the Old Covenant becomes the **"Want To"** of the New Covenant.

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- A. A Better Covenant**
1. Old Covenant – Duty
 2. New Covenant – Heart or desire

The New Covenant people of God live the life they live, seeking to please God, because they want to not because they have to obey God.

While the old covenant was based on cold duty to a law written on stone the New Covenant is based on one's love for God and was written on the warm lively heart and soul of all who would love God.

Our Lord Jesus Christ said,

Matthew 22:36–39 - *Master, which is the great commandment in the law?* ³⁷Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.** ³⁸This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹And the second is like unto it, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

Rom 13.10

Those who love God with all their heart, soul, and mind will develop the desire to obey, honor, and serve God.

The word of God tells us,

Galatians 5:14 - **For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

Romans 13:10 - *Love worketh no ill to his neighbour:* **therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.**

If we love God with the love of God, then we will fulfill the law of God. If we love our neighbor with the love of God then we will fulfill God's law concerning our fellowman.

We must note and remember that these commands to love are not just any worldly type of love. This the “agape” love of the Greek New Testament. “Agape” love is exclusively God’s love it is so much more than the brotherly love of this world, which in the New Testament is the most common type of love.

We learn the love of God when the Holy Spirit of God teaches it to us and this requires the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit within us.

When this world tries to make worldly sinful lust appear as the New Covenant love of God they greatly err in their understanding of the Word of God and the way of God.

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- A. A Better Covenant**
1. Old Covenant – Duty
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This worlds mantra that **“Love has no labels”** while confusing sinful lusts for love, the love of God, is a great deceptive error. The love of God will never usurp the law of God, instead a great love for God will fulfill the law of God.

Our Lord said,

Matthew 5:17 - Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Romans 13:10 - . . . love is the fulfilling of the law.

When ones whole heart and desire are focused upon pleasing God, because one deeply loves God, that becomes a far more powerful and persuasive motivator than any sense of duty could ever be.

Hence the New Covenant is a powerful agent of change and transformation. We have a far better covenant through our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. Better Promises (Heb 8.6) – Our text reveals,

Hebrews 8:6 - But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

What are these better promises?

1. The Promised Indwelling (vs 10)

Hebrews 8:10 - For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws **into** their mind, and write them **in** their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

John 14.15

Our Lord said,

John 14:15–17 - **If ye love me, keep my commandments.** ¹⁶And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; **for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

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B. Better Promises

Rev 3.20

This is talking about the Holy Spirit of God, or the very presence of God being right inside the heart and soul of a person.

Jesus said,

Revelation 3:20 - Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, **I will come in to him**, and will sup with him, and he with me.

John 1:12 - But as many **as received him**, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

1 John 3.4

When the Lord Jesus Christ, Almighty God, comes into you, this is the moment when you receive Him and this is the occasion of your New Birth. This is when you become a child of God.

When a person has God dwelling within them they have a whole new way of thinking and doing things. Their sense of duty is transformed into a strong, supernaturally strong, sense of desire. **They no longer have to do for God they now want to do for God.**

This is why,

1 John 3:4–10 - Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. ⁵And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. ⁶**Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.** ⁷Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. ⁸He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹**Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.** ¹⁰In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

<p>A Better Way A Better Covenant Hebrews 8.6-13</p> <p>A. A Better Covenant 1. Old Covenant – Duty 2. New Covenant – Heart or desire</p> <p>B. Better Promises 1. The Promised Indwelling</p>
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A truly born again Christian does not sin because he, in his duty, has determined not to sin. A truly born again Christian does not sin **because his Lord is in him and he does not want to sin.** Your attitude about sin reveals whose you really are.

For this reason the Word of God says,

1 John 2:3–6 - And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: **hereby know we that we are in him.** ⁶He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Notice that our ability to stand against sin is not based on our knowledge of the Word of God and our personal fortitude and strength. It is based on having the Lord Jesus Christ in your heart and mind and loving Him greatly. If you love God the way you ought to love God you will not want to sin against him.

The Indwelling Presence of God in us seeks to develop and strengthen this great love for God, based on the extra worldly love God, in us.

It is this great love that will place within us the desire that has the power to transform your life and turn your cold dead sense of duty into a quickened lively heart frilled with a love toward God.

2. The Promised Intimacy (vs 10)

*Hebrews 8:10 - For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:***

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1. The Promised Indwelling

The truth about loving God and having an intimate relationship with God is the reality of the indwelling presence of God within you.

Obedying God vigorously is not a struggle to someone who is intimate with God. When you know God in your heart, mind, and soul you will have no trouble living for Him.

It is when you try to artificially conjure up a sense of the presence of God in your heart and life that you will find yourself struggling to live in God's way.

Religion and a sense of devotion toward God will never have the same effect that a real personal intimate relationship with God will have on a person.

From the very beginning of creation God wanted to have a real relationship with human beings. When **Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden** they were given a Perfect Place, with a Perfect Provision, and a Perfect Presence. They walked and talked with God in the cool of the garden. Until sin separated them from the presence of God.

We have the promise of a beautiful Spiritual relationship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ and the salvation He bought for us. With the promise of a restored physical intimate relationship with God in the near future. That is in heaven one day soon.

What a great promise God has given to all who will have this intimate relationship with God.

3. The Promised Illumination (vs 11)

Hebrews 8:11 - *And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: **for all shall know me**, from the least to the greatest.*

1 Cor 2.9

This is talking about all born again believers being indwelt and potentially filled with the Holy Spirit of God. What does the Holy Spirit's presence in a Born Again Christian do for Him?

1 Corinthians 2:9–10 - *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ¹⁰ **But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.***

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 - 1. The Promised Indwelling
 - 2. The Promised Intimacy

The Holy Spirit of God in you will teach you and illuminate you in the deep spiritual things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:12 - *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; **that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.***

There are many things that the Holy Spirit of God will give us through His spiritual illumination. The Holy Spirit gives us this deep spiritual illumination by taking the Word of God and making it come alive within you.

Notice in 1 Corinthians 2.12 that there is a Spirit of God and a Spirit of the world. The spirit of the world will claim to teach you the Word of God but it will always manipulate the Word of God. The Holy Spirit of God instead will spiritually illuminate the Word of God in you.

There are many in our world who are religious and will seek to influence you in the Word of God, but they will always fall short of the lively truth and spiritual illumination the Holy Spirit of God will provide for you.

It is incumbent on a Christian to be fully aware of the Holy Spirits illuminating power in contrast to the spirit of the world that will manipulate the Word of God.

4. The Promised Purification (vs 12)

Hebrews 8:12 - For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Never forget the purging we discovered in Hebrew Chapter one,

*Hebrews 1:3 - Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, **when he had by himself purged our sins,** sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;*

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1. The Promised Indwelling
2. The Promised Intimacy
3. The Promised Illumination
4. The Promised Purification

Our Lord again reminds us that through this “So Great A Salvation” that He has provided for us,

- A Promised Indwelling
- A Promised Intimacy
- A Promised Illumination

We again are assure that we have **A Promised Purification.** Our Lord will remember our sins no more. There is no more fear of the judgment for our sins if we are truly born again Christians.

The question before us today is,

What is in your heart and mind?

Is the Lord Jesus Christ in you and fully influencing you? Or are you still a child of this world trying to be religious enough to be right with God yet cleaving to some of your favorite sins while trying to convince yourself that you are good enough for heaven.

What does your life declare about you?

The New Covenant is about Loving God greatly. That is loving God so much that nothing matters as much to you as living in a way that honors and pleases God. This is what God brings into your heart in life through the new covenant we have through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Are you striving to live under the Old Covenant of Law and Duty or are you seeking the indwelling presence of God that teach you love and willful obedience.

CrossRoads Baptist Church, Sunday Morning, October 24, 2021

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