

2022 R12.2 Conference  
Callaway Gardens

# The Superiority of Christ's Priestly Ministry

Allen Cheatham

# Chapter 8:1-6

The main point:

- we have such a high priest v1
- He sits at the right hand of God v1
- He ministers in the true tabernacle v2

Earthly high priests

- offer gifts and sacrifices v3
- serve as a copy and shadow v5
- tabernacle is based on a pattern v5

He has obtained a more excellent ministry v6

- mediator of a better covenant v6
- better covenant enacted on better promises v6

# Chapter 8:7-10

If the first covenant were faultless (it wasn't), then why have a second? v7

- Author takes us to Jeremiah 31:31-34
- New covenant with Israel & Judah v8
- Not like Mosaic covenant (two sided) v9
- “I will put My laws into their minds” v10
- “I will write them on their hearts” v10
- “I will be their God” v10
- “They shall be My people” v10

# Chapter 8:11-13

- “All will know Me from the least to the greatest” v11
- v12 refers to Isaiah 43:25
- “I will be merciful to their iniquities” v12
- “I will remember their sins no more” v12
- “New covenant” makes the first obsolete v13
- First covenant is becoming obsolete → is growing old and ready to disappear v13
- Important to understand the new covenant and old covenant will not stand together. The new is replacing the old

# Chapter 8 -- Questions

What are the promises of the New Covenant (Hebrews 8:10-12)?

Why would the Jews want to hold on to the Old Covenant when the New Covenant made such great promises?

Do we hold on to old traditions that are outdated in our lives today?

What are some of those traditions?

# Chapter 9:1-7

First covenant had rules of divine worship v1

- Outer tabernacle; Holy Place v2

- Inner tabernacle; Holy of Holies v3-5

- Priests are constantly entering the outer tabernacle v6

- Holy of Holies entered one time a year and only by the high priest—not without blood for both his sins and sins of the people v7

## Chapter 9:8-10

The Holy Spirit is telling us the way to the holy place has not been disclosed while the outer tabernacle is still standing (v8)

It is a symbol for the present time (v9)

Gifts and sacrifices cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience (v9)

They relate only to food and drink...until a time of reformation (v10)

# Chapter 9:1-10 -- Questions

How often did the average Jew enter the presence of God under the Old Covenant?

What (or who) was their connection to God?

Why would they want to hold on to the Old Covenant?

What was one of the biggest (if not THE biggest) shortcomings of the Old Covenant? See the end of verse 9.



# Chapter 9:11-12

But when Christ appeared...

- high priest of good things to come v11
- He entered through the greater/more perfect tabernacle v11
- not made with hands (not created) v11
- not through blood of goats/calves v12
- but through His own blood v12
- He entered holy place once for all v12
- He obtained eternal redemption v12

# Chapter 9:13-14

- v13 If the blood of goats and bulls sprinkled on the defiled can sanctify for cleansing of the flesh...
- v14 How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself w/o blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God v9

## Chapter 9:15-18

- He is the mediator of a new covenant
- His death redeemed the transgressions under the first covenant who have been called to receive the promise of eternal inheritance (Rom 3:25; Eph 4:8-9).
- A will (New Covenant) is only valid when the maker is dead
- Even the first covenant (Old) was inaugurated with blood

# Chapter 9:15-18

- A will demands death (v16)
- Forgiveness demands bloodshed (v18)
- Salvation demands substitution (v22)
- John MacArthur

Can you negotiate with the maker of a will?

# Chapter 9:19-22

- Moses sealed the first covenant by sprinkling the blood of calves and goats on the book and all the people
- He also sprinkled the tabernacle and all of the vessels of the ministry with the blood
- Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness (v22)

# Chapter 9:19-22

- Have you ever, at the end of a long day, put your head on the pillow and asked God to forgive your sins? Have you ever fallen asleep recounting your sins?
- It hit me as I read this passage over and over am I taking seriously the enormous cost of my sin? My sin cost God His only Son.
- Chapter 10 will talk about what it means to trample under foot the Son of God. Romans 6:1-2 says, "Shall I go on sinning...May it never be!"
- Every time I sin and then confess my sin am I seriously considering the shed blood of Jesus? 1 Peter 1:17-21
- If I am forgiven, it is because someone died.

# Chapter 9:19-22

- Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness v22
- The volume of blood shed in the OT was unable to do what the power of Jesus blood did in the NT.
- You can have blood without forgiveness but you cannot have forgiveness without blood.

# Chapter 9:23-28

- Copies had to be cleansed with blood (v23)
- Heavenly things cleansed with a better sacrifice (v23)
- Christ has entered to heaven to appear in the presence of God for us (v24)
- He only had to offer Himself once (v25)
- Otherwise He would have suffered over & over since the foundation of the world but now just once at the consummation of the ages (v26)



# Chapter 9:23-28

- He sacrificed Himself to put away sin (v26)
- It is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment (v27). That is one appointment we will all keep.
- Christ, who offered Himself once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him (v28)

# Chapter 9:11-28 -- Questions

- In v26 -- Christ came to earth and offered Himself without blemish to God. In v11 (and v24) Christ appears in heaven entering through the more perfect tabernacle. In v28 Christ will appear a second time to us without reference to sin.
- Question: Why are all three appearances important? What does each one mean to us?
- In verses 11-22, what are some of the key differences in the Old and New Covenants (i.e. Old Covenant—Animal blood, New Covenant—Jesus blood)
- How would you summarize verses 23-28? If you had to summarize those verses in one sentence, what would you say?

# Chapter 10:1-18

- The Law is a shadow, not the very form (v1)
- The Law can never, by the same sacrifices, make us perfect (v1)
- If the Law could make perfect, the sacrifices would have ceased (v2)
- In 8:5 and here we see these words used about the Law and its sacrifices: copy, shadow, pattern. None of them were the original.

# Chapter 10:1-18

- Sacrifices were reminders (v3)
- It was impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins (v4)
- David wrote Psalm 40:6-8 but the author of Hebrews says it is Jesus speaking to God.
- In verse 5 Jesus acknowledges that sacrifices and offering were not enough. God prepared a body for Him to come to earth.

# Chapter 10:1-18

- Jesus reiterates offerings and sacrifices bring God no pleasure (v6)
- He then says, “I have come to do Your will, O God.” (v7)
- When Jesus said the above, He was taking away the Old Covenant to establish the New Covenant (v8-9)
- Jesus willingly offered His body as an offering once for all (v10)

# Chapter 10:1-18

-The author repeats a common theme in these chapters:

- priests stand daily ministering
- time after time the same sacrifices
- those sacrifices can never take away sin (v11)

-But Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins for all time (v12)

# Chapter 10:1-18

- Jesus is sitting at the right hand of God  
(Heb 8:1; Psalm 110:1; Mark 14:60-62; Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33; Romans 8:34; 1 Peter 3:21-22)
  - Jesus is waiting for His enemies to be made His footstool (v13)
  - By one offering Jesus has perfected for all time those who are sanctified (v14)
  - Holy Spirit inspires the author to repeat Heb 8:10,12 (v15-17)
- He finishes with this: “Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin.” (v18)

# Chapter 10:1-18 -- Questions

-What was wrong with the Law and its sacrifices, etc (v1-4)?

-Christ willingly came to do God's will (Luke 22:19). When we accept Christ as Savior, what does He expect from us?

What are the differences between the sacrifices the priests offered and the sacrifice Christ offered?

What do the awesome promises of the New Covenant mean to us today (v16-17)