

The Superior Sacrifice

Hebrews 8 – 10

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There have always been plenty of priests here on earth, serving under the Law, a reproduction patterned after the true worship practices of heaven. But Christ is in heaven, serving in a superior ministry. He mediates a superior covenant, based on superior promises. The original covenant, the Law, proved inadequate for ridding us of our guilty conscience. So a superior covenant was instituted.

The old system involved sacrifices, which provided only temporary results. Under the new system, the results are eternal. For Christ has become the superior High Priest; he has entered the superior place of worship in heaven; and with his own blood he has offered the superior sacrifice, securing our redemption forever.

The Law produced only a dim shadow of the benefits Christ has brought. The constantly-repeated sacrifices required by the Law have never provided true cleansing. If they had, the sacrifices would have stopped. When sins have been forgiven, there's no more need for sacrifices. What the sacrifices actually accomplished was to remind us of our sins. Only through the obedience of Christ could sins be taken away.

Let's hold tightly to the hope we profess without wavering in the slightest. God's promises can be trusted. Let's do our best to motivate one another to love and good deeds. Let's continue to meet together. And as we see the final day drawing ever nearer, let's do all we can, earnestly encouraging one another in our faith.