

13 – A SUPERIOR MINISTRY (HEBREWS 8:1-13)

I. The New Ministry (Hebrews 8:1-6)

A. A Summary (Hebrews 8:1a)

- The writer wraps up his discussion concerning the issue of the priesthood of Melchizedek.

B. Our High Priest (Hebrews 8:1b-2)

- The writer states that we have a High Priest like Melchizedek.
- This High Priest is seated at the right hand of God's throne in heaven.
- He ministers in a spiritual realm where God's presence is.

C. His Purpose (Hebrews 8:3)

- It is the nature of priests to make an offering.
- The priests had to make offerings as atonement for sin.
- Therefore, it is necessary that our High Priest make a sacrifice as well.
- He did this when he sacrificed himself on the cross for our sins.

D. The Earthly Priesthood (Hebrews 8:4-5)

- Our High Priest would not be a priest according to the Mosaic Law.
- That system had its own priests to offer sacrifice.

E. A Better Ministry (Hebrews 8:6)

- The writer points out that our High Priest has received a better ministry.
- That ministry is because he is the mediator of a better covenant.
- This covenant was established on better promises.

II. A Superior Covenant (Hebrews 8:7-13)

A. The Old Covenant (Hebrews 8:7)

- The writer states that if the first covenant was perfect, there would be no need for the second.

B. The Promise of a New Covenant (Hebrews 8:8)

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- Because the first covenant had problems, the Lord promised a second covenant.

C. The Nature of the New Covenant (Hebrews 8:9-12)

1. Not Like the Old (Hebrews 8:9)

- The new covenant is not like the one he established with Israel.
- This is because Israel chooses not to continue in the covenant.

2. Within Us (Hebrews 8:10)

- The new covenant is established within the hearts of those who believe.

3. A Knowledge of God (Hebrews 8:11)

- The new covenant does not require instruction concerning the nature of God.
- Those who believe will have an intimate knowledge of God.

4. Forgiveness (Hebrews 8:12)

- The new covenant will bring forgiveness for sin and lawlessness.

D. New Supersedes the Old (Hebrews 8:13)

- The old covenant became obsolete and is vanishing away because of the new.