

# Guarantor of a Better Covenant

Life Groups; Week of Sunday, March 12, 2023; Hebrews 7:26-8:13; Steve Thiel

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**Sermon Theme: Jesus is the perfect priest that we need because He perfects for all time those who draw near to God through His once for all sacrifice. As a result, He is the guarantor of a better covenant with better promises, which brings the security we need to persevere through the most difficult of trials!**

## **I. A Better Priest – Read Hebrews 7:26-28**

- A. How does Hebrews 7:26-28 pick up from where we left off last week in Hebrews 7:1-25? How would you summarize the author's argument in chapter 7?
- B. What are some of the defining characteristics of Jesus and His priesthood? How are these characteristics connected to His ability to save to the uttermost and intercede on our behalf?
- C. What is the stark difference between Jesus and the priesthood of the old covenant? What things in particular were specifically lacking in the Levitical priesthood?
- D. Jesus is the exact priest that we need. In what kinds of scenarios are you most tempted to think that Jesus isn't sufficient to save you or strengthen you to persevere in the midst of difficulty?

## **II. A Better Ministry – Read Hebrews 8:1-6**

- A. How does the heavenly reign of the Lord Jesus at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven highlight that Jesus has a much greater ministry than that of the O.T. priests?
- B. According to Hebrews 8:3-5, what are the duties of every Levitical priest? What is the reason that there is no longer any need for the priesthood of the old covenant?
- C. Read Hebrews 8:5. How does the author use the language of "copy and shadow"? How does that language help us to think about the O.T. and all that Jesus has accomplished in the N.T.?
- D. In what ways does the shadow of the old covenant priesthood point us forward to the work of our great High Priest, the Lord Jesus? What comparisons and connections can you make?

## **III. A Better Covenant – Read Hebrews 8:7-13**

- A. According to the author of Hebrews, why do we need a better covenant? As you think about the old covenant, how would you describe what was wrong with it?
- B. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Ezekiel 36:26-28. What are some of the ways in which the promises of the new covenant are better than the old? In particular, how does the new covenant deal with our greatest problem of sin once and for all?
- C. How does the reality that Jesus is the guarantor of the new covenant strengthen your faith, bring comfort and stability, and cause you to persevere even in the midst of difficulties?