The Better Covenant Hebrews 8:1-13 10-23-22

I. Jesus Ministers Under the New Covenant.

1. The New Covenant is **Unconditional**.

Hebrews 8:9 – "...not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord."

2. The New Covenant is <u>Internal</u>.

Hebrews 8:10 – "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel – after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Ezekiel 36:26-27 — "And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules."

3. The New Covenant is Relational.

Hebrews 8:11 – "And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest."

4. The New Covenant is Perfect.

Hebrews 8:12 – "For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."

II. CONCLUSION = The New Covenant is Better.

Hebrews 8:13 – "In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away."

GROWING DEEPER THIS WEEK

- 1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
- 2. In what ways is Jesus' priesthood better than the earthly priesthood? Why is it important for the author to show that Jesus is better?
- 3. Why do you think it would be important for the author to mention that Jesus is "seated at the right hand of the throne of the majesty in Heaven"? How does understanding this about Jesus help the argument He makes in the remainder of chapter 8?
- 4. How does better understanding the New Covenant give you confidence in your relationship with God? How does this confidence inspire you to live differently here on this earth?
- 5. How do the Old Covenant and the earthly priesthood anticipate the New Covenant and a superior priest? Why do we need a superior high priest like Jesus?
- 6. Why is it important that the New Covenant is an "unconditional" covenant?
- 7. The Old Covenant was built upon mankind's ability to keep it through their own power. What are some ways that people can have an Old Covenant mindset in church today? Why is this thinking so dangerous?
- 8. How could you use a passage like this to create a Gospel conversation with your "One"?