
New High Priest, New Covenant (8:1-9:10)

Copies & Shadows (8:1-6)

1. Jesus, our high priest, is depicted in 8:1 sitting in the heavenly tabernacle. What is he sitting on and why is he sitting rather than standing (Heb. 1:1-4; Heb. 7:27; Zech. 6:13; Jer. 30:21)? How does this compare with a Levitical high priest ministering in the tabernacle?
2. Describe general characteristics of a copy and shadow. What does the author imply when he defines the Mosaic system, specifically the tabernacle, as a “copy and shadow of the heavenly things”?
3. As “minister in the holy places” why is Christ’s ministry much more excellent than the old ministry?

New Covenant (8:7-13)

4. Define covenant (Deut. 29:10-15; Gen.15:7-21). What are some modern-day examples of a covenant?
5. What was wrong with the first covenant and why was it considered to be faulty (Heb. 7:11, 19; 8:9; 10:4)?

6. Jer. 31:31-34, a prophecy of the new covenant, is the longest Old Testament quotation in the New Testament. List characteristics of the new covenant. After considering the blessings of the new covenant, why does the author omit the curses of the new covenant? After enumerating the blessings of the new covenant, why is the first covenant considered to be obsolete?

Keep Your Distance (9:1-10)

7. Paradoxically, the tabernacle allowed people to live in God's presence but also separated them from his holiness at the same time. How would you describe access to God under the old covenant? Why was this the case?
8. Why does the author examine the Old Testament tabernacle rather than the temple in order to demonstrate the old covenant's inadequacies? Was the tabernacle structure designed by God to last forever (Jer. 3:16-17)?
9. In the old arrangement, what limitations were placed on gifts and sacrifices and how does this compare to the new arrangement (Ps. 51:10, 16-17; Micah 6:6-9; Rom. 8:1; 1 Pet. 3:21)?