

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 12, 2006

Passage: Hebrews 8:1-13

Memory Passage: Acts 13:39

TODAY: From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 8:1-2.** Read through Hebrews 8. Make a list of all the things that are *better* in the priesthood of Jesus. Next to each one, note *how* it is better. Share what you have discovered.
- (b) What are some of the ways that the priesthood of Jesus is *different* from the Levitical priesthood?
- (c) What is the significance of the fact that Jesus has been *seated* (“is set”) at the right hand of the throne of majesty (also see Hebrews 1:3; 10:12; 12:2; Ephesians 1:21-22; Matthew 28:18-20)?
- (d) Why is this sanctuary *better* than the one that the Levites ministered in (Hebrews 8:2; 9:11; 9:23-24)?
- (e) What term or theme is repeated in this chapter that sums up the priesthood and ministry of Jesus?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 8:1-2 and Ephesians 1:21-22. Talk about the things a priest does. Why is the priesthood of Jesus so much better than the temple priests? What does it mean for Jesus to be seated? Spend time thanking God for providing such a perfect High Priest for us.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 8:3-6.** What is one of the primary responsibilities of a priest (also Hebrews 5:1)? What did Jesus offer (John 6:51; Ephesians 5:2; Titus 2:14)?
- (b) *Where* was the *appointed place* in the Old Testament (Deut. 12:13-14)? Did Jesus ever sacrifice there? Why might this concern these Jewish believers?
- (c) On what basis did Moses build the original tabernacle (Exodus 25:40; Acts 7:44)?
- (d) How are these things from the old covenant described in Colossians 2:16-17? What do these passages tell us about this comparison (Hebrews 10:1; 9:9; 9:23-24)?
- (e) How is Jesus described in Hebrews 8:6? What is the role of Jesus in this new covenant (Hebrews 9:15; 12:24; 1 Timothy 2:5)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 8:3-5. Talk about shadows. What are they? How are they produced? Are they accurate? Permanent? What is their value? How do the things in the OT temple function as shadows of what Jesus would do?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 8:7-8.** What is the first reason that the writer says that a new covenant was needed? What fault does he find (Galatians 3:21; 2:21)? What were the limitations of the old covenant?
- (b) Was there a problem with the law and the old covenant (Romans 7:12)? What could the law not do (See Galatians 3:21 again)?
- (c) What was the law intended to do (Galatians 3:21-25)? How has their previous relationship to the law changed (Galatians 4:1-7)?
- (d) Is the problem with the law (Romans 7:7-13)? Where does the problem lie –*with whom* did God find fault (Hebrews 8:8-9)?
- (e) *Where* does the writer find evidence of this new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)? Why would he make such a connection to Jesus (Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-27)?
- (f) *Family:* Read Hebrews 8:7-8 and Galatians 3:21-25. Discuss the importance of God’s law. How would we have been affected if God had not given us His law? Is His law all we need? What was the law intended to do? Read Psalm 19:7-11 and spend some time thanking God for His law.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Hebrews 8:9-10.** What was the failure of the old covenant according to Hebrews 8:9? How does God remedy this in the new?
- (b) What did God do for Israel in the old covenant? Did He leave them completely on their own? What does this tell you about God’s grace and mercy?
- (c) *Who* was the focus on in the old covenant (also Exodus 19:5-8; 24:3)? *Who* is the focus on in the new (Hebrews 8:10)?
- (d) How does He accomplish this (Romans 8:3-4; Ezekiel 36:26-27)? What have we been given according to 2 Peter 1:3-4? How does this help us to live out this new covenant (also see Titus 3:3-7)?
- (e) *Family:* Read Hebrews 8:9-10 and John 6:37-40. Talk together about how the old covenant is different from the new. Who did the old depend upon? *Who* does the new depend upon? Also read Philippians 1:6. Give thanks to God for His keeping power.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Hebrews 8:11-13.** What promises are given to believers in Hebrews 8:11-12? Is this for all believers or just some?
- (b) How do they “know him” (Luke 7:27-28)? What is the essence of eternal life (John 17:3)? How is this a fulfillment of Jeremiah 31:31?
- (c) What does it mean that God will “remember their sins no more?” Can God “forget” anything? What does Psalm 103:12 tell us about what He does with our sins? What does Acts 13:38-39 tell us?
- (d) In John 6:41-46, how did Jesus refer to this prophecy? Who does eternal life depend upon in these verses?
- (e) What conclusion does the writer reach in Hebrews 8:13? What does 2 Corinthians 5:17 tell us about every new Christian?
- (f) *Family:* Hebrews 8:11-13. What are some of the benefits of being a Christian? What are some of the things that all believers receive, regardless of age or spiritual maturity? Where is this included in this prophecy? Thank God for His complete forgiveness and pray for the salvation of someone that does not know the Lord.

DAY 6 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

Think back through what you have learned each day this week. Read Hebrews 8:1-13 and 2 Corinthians 3:3-11. How is the old covenant ministry described (verse 3)? How does it compare with the new? Make a list of all the reasons that the new covenant is much better than the old. Which gives you the greatest reason to rejoice? Pray for church services tomorrow, that God would be honored and that His Word would be clear.

DATE: February 12, 2006

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A Better Covenant!

“their sins and iniquities I will remember no more.”