

Hebrews teaches that through Jesus God has begun a greater connection with Him than was possible during the Old Testament times.

New Covenant vs Old Covenant CHURCH – ISRAEL

8:6 But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on better promises.

8:7 If the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need for a second covenant to replace it.

8:8 But when God found fault with the people, he said:

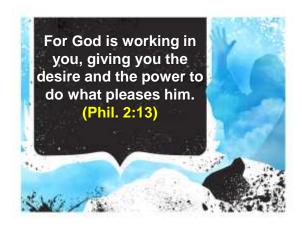
"The day is coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah.

8:9 This covenant will not be like the one
I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and led them out of the land of Egypt.
They did not remain faithful to my covenant, so I turned my back on them, says

the LORD.



But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day, says the LORD: I will put my laws in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. (8:10)



Close Friendship with God

8:10b ... I will be their God, and they will be my people.

8:11 And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the LORD.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already.

15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." 16 For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. (Romans 8)

Forgiveness Secured by God

8:11 And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their relatives, saying, 'You should know the LORD.' For (because) everyone, from the least to the greatest, will know me already.

The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship. (10:1)

If they could have provided perfect cleansing, the sacrifices would have stopped, for the worshipers would have been purified once for all time, and their feelings of guilt would have disappeared. (10:2)

But instead, those sacrifices actually reminded them of their sins year after year. For it is not possible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. (10:3-4)

Under the old covenant, the priest stands and ministers before the altar day after day, offering the same sacrifices again and again, which can never take away sins. (10:11)

But our High Priest offered himself to God as a single sacrifice for sins, good for all time. Then he sat down in the place of honor at God's right hand. For by that one offering he forever made perfect those who are being made holy. Then he says, "I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds."

(10:12, 14, 17)

And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices. (10:18)



Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. (9:14)

