

CAN'T STOP
CAN I STOP

WON'T STOP
WON I STOP

Sermon Notes

Can't Stop Won't Stop: Sermon Notes

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Design, layout, and illustrations by Christopher Wilson.

HEBREWS 8

SERIES MEDIA & RESOURCES

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TRUST THE BETTER HIGH PRIEST (v. 1–5)

¹Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, ²a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. ³For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. ⁴Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. ⁵They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.”

Hebrews 8:1–5

JESUS’ PRIESTHOOD VS. LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD

- Jesus is seated at the right hand of God
- Jesus is priest in the heavenly temple
- Jesus’ death on earth is the basis for his heavenly ministry

ENTER INTO THE BETTER COVENANT (v. 6–9)

⁶But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. ⁷For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second. ⁸For he finds fault with them when he says:

*“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah,*

*⁹not 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.*

Hebrews 8:6–9

WHAT IS A COVENANT?

A solemn commitment, guaranteeing promises or obligations undertaken by one or both parties, sealed with an oath.

Paul R. Williamson, *Sealed with an Oath*, 43

OLD COVENANT VS. NEW COVENANT

• Similarities

- Basis is the same (i.e., the grace of God)
- Purpose is the same ([1 Peter 2:9–10](#))
- Initiated by blood ([Hebrews 9:6–10:18](#))
- Character of divine instruction is the same ([Romans 13:8](#); [Galatians 5:14](#))

• Differences

- Better Mediator (without sin) ([Hebrews 8:6](#); [9:15](#); [12:24](#))
- Better Sacrifice ([Hebrews 9:6–10](#); [Isaiah 42:6](#); [52:13–53:12](#))
- Better Provision (i.e., the Holy Spirit) ([Ezekiel 36:24–28](#))
- Better Promise (i.e., impartation of a new heart) ([Ezekiel 36:24–28](#))

EXPERIENCE THE BETTER PROMISES (v. 10–13)

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.*

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.*

¹²*For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,
and I will remember their sins no more."*

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

Hebrews 8:10-13

WHAT ARE THE BETTER PROMISES?

- God will give us new hearts
- God will empower us to follow his law
- God will truly forgive our sin
- God will truly be our God, and we will be God's people

It is about the internalization of religion, not merely the external practice of religion (8:10). God's laws are written on the minds and hearts of true Christians. As such, transformation and intrinsic motivation form powerful, foundational elements of Christian life and living. The new covenant is about relationship with God (8:10-11), not merely service for God. Finally, the forgiveness of sins forms the basis for this new covenant relationship.

George Guthrie, *Hebrews*, 286

Trust our better high priest who offers better promises through a better covenant.

CONCLUSION

- Trust the Better High Priest
- Enter into the Better Covenant
- Experience the Better Promises