

A More Excellent Ministry

(The Superiority of Jesus' Ministry)

Text: Hebrews 8:1-6

Main Idea: In contrast to the Levitical Priesthood, Jesus' ministry as our High Priest is a more excellent ministry in every way!

1. Jesus' ministry is more excellent because of the _____ of His atoning sacrifice: He _____ down! (v. 1, 3)
2. Jesus' ministry is more excellent because of His _____ dignity: He is ministering at the _____ hand of the Majesty. (v. 1)
3. Jesus ministry is more excellent because of the _____ where He serves His people: He is in the true _____ of heaven. (v. 2, 4-5)
4. Jesus ministry is more excellent because of _____ He is: He is the _____ of a better covenant! (v. 6)

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Application Questions:

1. The book of Hebrews helps us see the unity of the Bible as a whole. While the Old Testament is Act 1 of the unfolding of God's drama, the New Testament is Act 2. How should we read the OT? Read Luke 24:13-48 (emphasis in v. 25 & 44). What did Jesus do for these disciples? How should this instruction teach us to read the OT? In the passage of study (8:1-6), what illustration is given that shows us the unity of the Bible? (v. 2 & 5)
2. The whole point of what the author is trying to accomplish is show his readers that the ministry of Jesus as our High Priest is a "more excellent ministry" than the Old Covenant ministry. List the **four** reasons the writer gives to prove his argument (from the outline).
3. What is the significance of Jesus **sitting** down at the right hand of the majesty on high? Notice in v. 3 that the Levitical priests offered something and Jesus offered something. What is the difference in the offerings (Notice quantity & frequency, see 7:27)?
4. The writer says in v. 4 that if Jesus were here on earth, he would not be a priest at all. Why does he say this? How does this prove the superiority of Jesus' priesthood?
5. Why was it significant for Moses to erect the tabernacle in the Old Testament exactly like the pattern that God provided? Think about which tabernacle was the original – the one in the wilderness or the one in heaven?
6. What OT story foreshadows Jesus as our great deliverer who will sit at the right hand of the sovereign one with authority, privilege and honor? Read Genesis 41:37-46. What similarities do you see in Joseph's life that anticipated Jesus' life & ministry? (Go to biblecharts.org/oldtestament/josephatypeofchrist.pdf & see the similarities between Joseph & Jesus)

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