

(18) For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness (for the Law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

(20) And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, but this One was made a priest with an oath by the One who said to Him:

“The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind, ‘You are a priest forever.’”

(22) This makes Jesus the guarantor of a **better** covenant.

(23) The former priests were many in number because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, but He holds His priesthood permanently because He continues forever. Consequently, He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

(26) For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest: holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need --- like those high priests --- to offer sacrifices daily for His own sins, and then for those of the people --- since He did this once for all when He offered up Himself. For the Law appoints men in their weaknesses as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the Law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Think on these things:

- 1) The old covenant is described in Exodus 24-30, and the sacrificial offerings and priestly roles are explained in Leviticus 1-9. We don't have time to cover this much content in class. What do you recall about the former commandment regarding how a person deals with sin (skim Leviticus 4).

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- 2) Hebrews 7:18 says this old system has been set aside? Why? If you do a good job of keeping the Ten Commandments will you be perfect before God (see Romans 7:7-14 and Galatians 3:10-13)?

Why set aside? \_\_\_\_\_

Law makes perfect? \_\_\_\_\_

- 3) Jesus introduced a “better” hope. What is better about it (v.19)? See Romans 8:14-16 and Hebrews 10:19-22.

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- 4) Do you recall what the requirement was to be a Jewish priest? He had to be from whose family? If Jesus is not from this family, on what basis has He become a High Priest (v.21)?

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5) What is the assurance that we have a better covenant (v.22)?

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6) Why were the men of the Jewish High Priesthood incapable of continuing in office (v.23)? How long is Jesus expected to serve as our High Priest (v.24)?

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7) We have learned that God replaced the Law of the Old Covenant since it could not make us perfect – it only covered our sins. God promised a New Covenant that could save us completely (Jeremiah 31:31-34), promising to never hold our sins against us anymore. Who is capable of giving us this “complete” salvation? What does Jesus always live to do (vs. 24-25)?

Who gives complete salvation? \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus always lives to do what? \_\_\_\_\_

8) Does Jesus need to offer daily sacrifices, or sacrifices for Himself before He helps others (v.27)? What sacrifice did Jesus offer?

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9) What is the problem with human High Priests (v.28)? \_\_\_\_\_

People and situations I want to pray for this week: