

The Forgotten Jesus Podcast

S7E19

Hebrews in 40ish minutes - Hebrews 7:18-19

Description – Join us today as we examine the book of Hebrews and look at a couple of verses that seem to indicate the old law / covenant has been done away with. But is that really what's being said in these verses?

Last time we looked at abolishing and fulfilling from Matthew 5:17, today we're going to dive into the book of Hebrews.

Two key passages to understand the book of Hebrews, Hebrews 7:18-19 and Hebrews 8:13

To understand Hebrews 7 and Hebrews 8, you have to understand the book of Hebrews as a whole. It's predominantly Jewish and full of history

Hebrews 1 - The author is making the case that Jesus is both 1. Lord and 2. Savior.

Hebrews 2 - Jesus is superior to the Angels, but he lowered himself below them for a time (2:7-8) to take on the form of a man to become our substitutionary atonement.

Hebrews 3 - Warnings against unbelief - the Jews, but particularly the corrupt religious leaders. Jesus is the true high priest.

Hebrews 4 - Jesus is a high priest of the levitical system, as believers we should strive to enter the shalom rest of God in Christ.

Side note: nowhere in Hebrews does it say the law is done away with. Right in the middle of the corruption of the priesthood you have Hebrews 4:12,

Hebrews 4:12

¹²For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 5 - A comparison between the old corrupt priesthood and the new High Priesthood of Jesus.

Hebrews 6 - It's time to move on to maturity in the faith

Hebrews 7 - if the priestly line is done away with, then why does the author spend so much time showing Jesus as the great High Priest.

The sacrificial system was never abolished, it's just that the position of the High Priest was fulfilled perfectly in Jesus. He made a sacrifice one for all, and then sat down.

When Jesus came, the administrative duties of the High Priesthood were transferred to Him.

Hebrews 7:18-19

¹⁸ So the previous command is annulled because it was weak and unprofitable ¹⁹ (for the law perfected nothing), but a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

The author here isn't talking about the Law, or he would have said "Commands."

Jesus is both the perfect sacrifice for our sins, and he's also the one who's administering the sacrifice of himself, his once for all perfect sacrifice.

The one command is obsolete, that these old high priests could give us access to God, which they never could. God's plan is to establish Jesus as the great High Priest.

Hebrews 8 - Jesus is established as the High Priest of the heavenly tabernacle, the new covenant of his blood.

Hebrews 8:13

¹³ By saying **a new covenant**, he has declared that the first is obsolete. And what is obsolete and growing old is about to pass away.

Was the old covenant insufficient because of God's commands being wrong or faulty, or was it because of the people trying to carry it out, the earthly priesthood?

Hebrews 8:8-10

⁸ But finding fault with his people, he says: See, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ⁹ not like the covenant that I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt. I showed no concern for them, says the Lord, because they did not continue in my covenant. ¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

The new covenant was given to the people of God that would be written on their hearts.

Hebrews 8:13 is saying not that there will be a new "covenant", it says that the new is the new priesthood, the new High Priest, who has replaced the old, with the old fading away. In fact, in AD 70, the temple was destroyed and there's now no way the old priests can even offer their sacrifices.

Next week we'll look at Romans 10:4

Romans 10:4

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes,

“The Law is life, I love the law” - Paul.