

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

March 2014

## *Hebrews*

The Preeminence of Jesus Christ

### **Lesson #10: The New Covenant**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Why do people write a new will?

#### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION**

##### **Read Hebrews 8:1-13**

*Note: The right hand of the king represented a place of honor and power. In the Sanhedrin, the Jews ruling council of seventy elders, the person on the chief priest's left side wrote condemnations, the person on his right wrote acquittals. There was no place for the priest to sit in the holy of holies because his work was never done (complete). Jesus was able to sit because He said, "It is finished." Jn 19:30*

1. What was significant about Jesus being *seated* on the *right* hand of the throne? Jn 3:17, Rev 3:21
2. Where is God's sanctuary, the true tabernacle? 8:2; Heb 9:11

*Note: Gift offerings were given to represent personal dedication, commitment and thanksgiving to the Lord. Sacrifices (blood offerings) were for cleansing from sin.*

3. How is the thanksgiving, dedication and commitment of "His redeemed" used by Jesus as a priest?
4. If Christ's (blood) sacrifice and atoning work is finished, what is He doing?
5. What change has taken place that makes it possible for God's law to be written in believer's minds and hearts instead of on their doorposts and tablets? 8:10; Eze 11:19-20, Jn 14:15-18

*Note: At the time Hebrews was written, the Jerusalem temple apparently still existed. In A.D. 70, however, the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the temple, and the old system in fact "vanished away."<sup>1</sup>*

6. How did the splitting of the veil in the holy of holies (Matt 27:50-51) and the physical destruction of the temple (70 A.D.) combine to make the new covenant necessary? 8:13
7. How does the new covenant affect Jews that have *not* accepted Christ as the Messiah?
8. How does it affect Gentiles who *have* accepted Christ as their savior?

#### **APPLICATION**

What evidence is there that the Holy Spirit has written God's laws into your heart?

*God's change in the system is a simple one. He takes the laws which express righteousness and puts them, not in external commandments, but on inner tablets of mind and heart. Notice that two things are necessary. We must know what God's righteous standards are and how to translate them into personal experience. The Law can tell us what the standards are. But only a changed heart will enable us to live by those standards.*

*This is what is so exciting here. God now puts His laws in our minds and writes them in our hearts. It is through the Bible that we come to understand the will of God. And it is here we find the principles that show us how to live a righteous life. But it is only the transformed heart, which spontaneously responds to God and His Word that will move us to righteousness.<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Stanley, C. F. (2005). *The Charles F. Stanley life principles Bible: New King James Version* (Heb 8:13). Nashville, TN: Nelson Bibles.

<sup>2</sup>Richards, Larry ; Richards, Lawrence O.: *The Teacher's Commentary*. Wheaton, Ill. : Victor Books, 1987, S. 1002