

Once for All

Hebrews 8:7-10:39

Does my life look like I have eternal life in Christ?

Living like a Sinner or Saint?

Living in Fear or in Faith?

Doubting or Sure and Certain?

Cowardly or Courageous?

Ashamed or Assertive and Bold?

Shaken or at Peace/Rest in Christ?

❖ A Superior & Eternal Covenant Ch. 8:6-9:28

Hebrews 7:22 *Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.*

Covenant – in a covenant a person makes a commitment to do for the other person 100% in good faith, while trusting God to help them, even if the other person does nothing. Their unfaithfulness does not cancel our faithfulness.

A true covenant takes the shape of the trinity in love (agape – sacrificial love as Jesus on the cross), oneness, and commitment. The Father loved the world and sent His Son. The Son gave his life in sacrifice. The Spirit testifies to the truth of salvation in Christ. A marriage covenant, or a church covenant, should take the same shape. Respect, love, and commitment reflect oneness.

Following, are two Biblical examples of statements about God's faithfulness even when we are unfaithful. It is not an excuse for sin or apostasy. Our unbelief will not cancel the faithfulness of God. We will not slip through his fingers. (Jn. 10:29)

Jeremiah 3:12 *Go, proclaim this message toward the north: "'Return, **faithless** Israel,' declares the LORD, 'I will frown on you no longer, for I am **faithful**,' declares the LORD, 'I will not be angry forever.*

2 Timothy 2:13 If we are **faithless**, He remains **faithful**, for He cannot disown himself. (Mt. 10:33)

Comparison of First Covenant of Law vs. 2nd Covenant of Grace

8:6-12 First Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 refers to a new covenant given after Jews returned from captivity. The old did not work based on their unfaithfulness. Cf. Ephesians 2:15

The law was not faulty, but their faith was, disqualifying the affect of the law. The new covenant was to be written not on tablets that could be pushed aside, forgotten, or destroyed, but upon the heart of the people so that it would be with them and remembered wherever they went.

8:9 The inevitable consequence of turning their back on God was that he paid no heed to them. Cf. Isaiah 1:2-4; 10-15 They made a mockery of their inheritance, their rituals, and prayers. 16-20 Forgiveness offered in a call to righteousness.

8:13 The New replaces the Old

Old Covenant under Moses

Gifts and sacrifices by those guilty of sin

Focus on a building

A shadow

Limited Access

External Standards

Legal Cleansing

Repeated Sacrifice

Obey the rules

Forgiveness earned

Human Effort

Limited Affect

New Covenant in Christ

Agape Sacrifice by the guiltless Christ

Focus on the reign of Christ in believer's hearts

A reality

Unlimited Access to God

Internal – a new heart

Personal Cleansing

Once for all Sacrifice

Serve the living God

Forgiveness graciously given

God's grace

Available to all

9:1-5 Description of Earthly Tabernacle

Hebrews 8:5 *They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven.* The tabernacle was a gift to show the presence of God with them, as it will be eternally. Revelation 21:22 There is no building called a temple in heaven. *".. the Lord Almighty and the Lamb are the temple."* Not needed, Jesus' once for all sacrifice eliminated the need for sacrifices. No building (2 Chron. 2:8-9), can match the glory of God.

9:6-10 Repeated Ministry of Aaronic Priesthood

9:6-8 Limited Affect – The law covenant was for Judah and Israel, but not for the Gentiles. The grace covenant included all. (Galatians 3:7-8, 28)

Limited Access – Only a High Priest goes into the Holy of Holies once a year. (Cf. 4:16, 10:19-20; Ephesians 2:18, 3:12; 1 John 5:14)

The sacrifices brought mercy, but not cleansing of conscience, so that we can live in faith's freedom (Gal. 5:1). That freedom is given through the forgiveness of our past. When Paul would give his testimony and refer to his past sins, even calling himself a wretch in his pre-Christ days, he ends his testimony telling that what Jesus did for him he will do for others, and gives Jesus honor and glory. (1 Tim. 1:12-17) He remembers, but it does not hinder him serving the Lord fully. Paul even turns the mention of his past sin to share the good news that Jesus saves even the worst of sinners. There is hope for all.

Walk free from fear of the past or of what man can do for you!

9:9-10 Limited Time → a new order in Christ (Cf. Acts 10:15, 34-35; 1 Tim. 4:4-5)

These verses speak of the tabernacle/temple as if still in place, but Christ has brought a new order as High Priest.

9:11-28 The New Covenant in Christ

9:11 Bad Things - Curses Deut. 28:20

Good Things – Romans 8:28

Earthly tabernacle - Temporal

Heavenly Temple - Eternal

9:12-14 Qualified to enter the Holy of Holies, not in fear with bells on the robe and a rope around a leg, but by his innocence, unblemished, once for all time. By his own shed blood of sacrifice (9:22). "By the Blood" Cf. Genesis 4:10 Jesus without sin – 1 Peter 1:19; 1 Jn. 3:5, 2 Cor. 5:21

The result is not just a moment of mercy given, but a cleansed conscience (1:7) to serve God fully and eternally. The past no longer controls the narrative of your life, but the future in Christ has reframed everything under God's covenant of grace. Instead of giving into sin, or feeling guilty because of past sin and never giving yourself fully to serving God, grace wins! Now even our past sins and our forgiveness of them becomes a testimony of the grace of God. That is what Romans 8:28 is about, with more yet to come in glory James 1:12.

9:15 A Mediator without sin of an eternal inheritance Rom. 8:14-17; Eph, 1:11. He died to make this inheritance possible, redeeming us = paid the price, 1 Cor. 6:20.

9:16-17 Jesus' Will - of eternal life was enacted by his death on the cross.

9:18-23 Washed clean, purified by the blood of Jesus (Cf. John 13:8b, 1 Cor. 6:11; Heb. 10:2,22; 2 Peter 1:9)

9:24-28 Once for All "entered into heaven for us" Not repeated over and over.

9:24 Appeared in the presence of God for us. 1 John 2:1

9:25-26 Only once required; suffered once for sin; one sacrifice

9:27-28 Died once, offered once – Done, Over, Finished! Cf. 10:10 First and only time Jesus came to give his life in sacrifice for sin. Now He will return to bring salvation to all waiting for Him. Cf. John 3:17; 12:47.

Next Week:

❖ **The Perfect Sacrifice Ch. 10**