

The Promise: Christ is Better because He is Alive!
 Hebrews 9:15-28

INTRODUCTION

- I. A Better Priest (vv.15-22)**
- A. He is a Better Mediator**
1. There have always been mediators because holy God desires to bring people into His holy presence, and people aren't holy
 2. Better because His superior nature (angels, Moses, priests -- **Hebrews 1-4**)
 3. Better because the covenant is better
 - a) Based on the promise of God to make a nation
 - b) Secure the promise to those called
 - (1) Make them His own forever
 - (2) **Jeremiah 31:3-4 (Chapter 8)**
- B. He Lived a Better Life**
1. Christ was fully human
 - a) Every weakness
 - b) Every temptation
 2. Christ was fully God
 - a) No sin
 - b) No sin offering needed
 - c) **Hebrews 4:14-16**
- C. He Died a Better Death (vv.16-22)**
1. His death enacted a will for the children of the King
 2. His death spilled blood that would forever cover the sins of these heirs

- a) **Exodus 24:8 / Luke 22:20**
 - b) Offering a better forgiveness
 - (1) Conscience cleared (**v.14**)
 - (2) Forever (**8:12 / Jeremiah 31:34**)
- II. A Better Sacrifice (vv.23-26)**
- A. He Offered the Sacrifice in a Better Place (vv. 23-24)**
1. The Necessity
 2. The Heavenly things
 - a) Righteous requirements
 - b) Ransom paid
 3. In the Heavenly places
 - a) **Charles Simeon** (1759-1836, Pastor of Trinity Church, Cambridge England for 54 years), *"To obtain a just knowledge of the Gospel, we should view it in its connexion with the law; partly, in a way of comparison; and partly, in a way of contrast. From the comparison, we shall ascertain its nature: from the contrast, we shall learn its excellency."*
 - b) The throne of God
 - c) Holy
- B. He Offered the Sacrifice for a Better Duration (vv.25-26)**
1. Not offered repeatedly
 - a) By varied high priests
 - b) With sacrifices that would be dead
 2. Offered once
 - a) By Himself
 - b) With Himself

III. Because He's Alive, He is Better Forever (vv.27-28)

A. As it is for man...

1. Death is imminent (apart from Christ's return)
2. Life is paramount
3. Judgment is certain
 - a) By Christ
 - b) Based on God's standard in His court

B. So it is with Christ...

1. Death was for once
 - a) To bear the sins of many (not all)
 - b) Having lived life in righteousness
2. Return is imminent
 - a) He is alive, so He can & will return
 - b) How will you be found?
 - (1) In fear of judgment?
 - (a) On that day all will realize that Christ has not come to deal with sin
 - (b) On that day all will realize that their own righteousness of relative goodness and intention is not sufficient to save
 - (c) **Hebrews 10:27**
 - (2) In eager expectation?
 - (a) Waiting. Waiting. Waiting for what?
 - (b) Not what, Him! Waiting for the one who redeemed His own to realize the promised inheritance with Christ as the reigning King!

Application

- **Acts 3:17-26**