

# Better (Hebrews)

Sermon Questions | 04.12.15

## Opener

Describe something that you “upgraded” from a former model to a newer one (i.e. iPhone, TV, car). When you received the upgrade, how did it make you feel?

## Read

Hebrews 10:1-18

## Engaging with God in a Group

In Hebrews 10:1-18, the writer of Hebrews describes an “upgraded” covenant. Read Hebrews 10:1-4 and discuss how the old covenant is described.

In the Old Covenant, why were yearly sacrifices required over and over again? In Hebrews 10:1, the writer says the old covenant is a “shadow of the things to come.” Looking at both Hebrews 10:1-4 and Hebrews 10:8-12, what deficiencies do you see in the old covenant? How is the new, upgraded covenant described in Hebrews 10:11-18? How is Jesus’ sacrifice in the new covenant different from the animal sacrifices in the old covenant?

In what way do you typically live the Christian life:

- Continuing to base your relationship on God due to your “works” (i.e. prayers, service, tithes) to obtain a right standing with God?
- Continuing to base your relationship on Jesus’ perfect, once-for-all sacrifice in your life to obtain a right standing with God? What does this look like for you?

Jesus’ sacrifice makes you holy and perfect (Hebrews 10:10). Do you feel this way when you sin? Why or why not?

The old covenant resulted in guilt. Yearly, people were reminded of the guilt and that they did not have a right standing with God (Hebrews 10:3). In the new covenant, we

are seen by God as perfect and holy (Hebrews 10:10, 14) for all time. How does this reality impact your feelings when you sin?

## **Engaging with God Alone**

Prayerfully consider any ways in the past week in which your feelings show old covenant ways rather than the promise of the new covenant and Jesus' once-for-all sacrifice on the cross.

## **Closing thoughts and prayer**

Spend some time thanking God for his once-for-all sacrifice that makes us holy forever.