

## **“SUPERIOR THANKSGIVING”**

**(Hebrews 8:1-13)**

*November 26, 2017*

**If you are a Christian, you know who deserves our thanks – God almighty, the three in one God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

*Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe ...*

*Hebrews 12:28*

### **The superiority of the New Covenant over the Old Covenant:**

#### **I. It's SANCTUARY is superior**

- **The PLACE is better**

**We are told the “true tabernacle” has been set up, erected by the Lord himself. And his workmanship is PERFECT, reminding us that:**

- **The PRIEST is better**

**And our High Priest is serving, ministering, in the HEAVENLY sanctuary.**

#### **II. It's SACRIFICE is superior**

- **The Levitical priests offered ANIMALS in an earthly sanctuary**

**The Levitical High Priests were given very explicit instructions about what was REQUIRED of them:**

*He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering of the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull's blood: he shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the Tent of Meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness.*

*Leviticus 16:15*

**The High Priest had to return year after year because the people continued to SIN.**

**Even if we have trusted in Jesus and asked him to become our Lord and Savior, WE continue to sin.**

- **The Lamb of God offered HIMSELF in the heavenly sanctuary  
Jesus Christ offered himself as the sacrificial Lamb whose blood COVERED all sins of mankind for all time:**

*Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.* *Hebrews 7:27*

**We can be most grateful for his superior sacrifice:**

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth... Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; **give thanks to him** and praise his name.*

*Psalms 100:1, 4*

### **III. It's SECURITY is superior**

- **The Old agreement was mediated by MOSES**

**-It was ruined by Israel's SIN. The people were disobedient to God and they paid the CONSEQUENCES. They were trying to find salvation in the LAW, but could never do so, because:**

**-It was written on dead STONES. The law of God was ignored by his chosen people, having no SAVING power.**

- **The New agreement is mediated by JESUS**

**-It is RESTORED by Jesus' sacrifice. Instead of dead stones:**

**-It is written on living HEARTS.**

**The New covenant, first offered to Israel, then to all mankind, is written in the minds and on the hearts of all who open those hearts to Jesus, who accept the gift of his life as the atonement for their sins, who ask him to become their LORD as well as Savior.**

**If that is you, God's promise applies to YOU today - "I will remember their sins no more."**

**I hope and pray that you are thankful for the greatest gift of ALL – the very Son of God and Savior of the world, Jesus.**

*Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. **And be thankful.*** *Colossians 3:15*