Hebrews Chapter 1-7 Summary

- To summarize the first seven chapter of Hebrews
 - The superiority of Christ
 - To the prophets <u>Heb 1:1-3</u>
 - To angels <u>Heb 1:4-2:18</u>
 - To Moses <u>Heb 3:1-5</u>
 - To Aaron and his Levitical priesthood <u>Heb 5:1-10; 7:1-</u>
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Hebrews Chapter 1-7 Summary

• To summarize the first seven chapter of Hebrews

- the superiority of Jesus' priesthood

- Jesus is qualified to be a priest by virtue of His calling by God and His suffering - <u>Heb 5:1-8</u>
- He has been called to be "a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek" - <u>Heb 5:9-10</u>
- The priestly order of Melchizedek is shown to be superior by comparing Abraham and Melchizedek - <u>Heb 7:1-10</u>
- The Levitical priesthood could not make one perfect before God
- The Law upon which the Levitical priesthood was based has been annulled
- Christ now provides "a better hope, through which we draw near to God"

Hebrews Chapter 1-7 Summary

- To summarize the first seven chapter of Hebrews
 - Warning against apostasy Heb 2:1-4, Heb 5:11-14
 - Move on to maturity Heb 6:1-12
 - The certainty of God's promise Heb 6:13-20
 - Exhort, encourage one another <u>Heb 3:12-13</u>

- The Better High Priest of a Better Covenant (1-13)
- <u>1</u> Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven,
- 2 a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man.
- <u>3</u> For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer.
- <u>4</u> Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law.

- The Better High Priest of a Better Covenant (1-13)
- <u>5</u> They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, "See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain."
- <u>6</u> But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.
- <u>7</u> For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

- The Better High Priest of a Better Covenant (1-13)
- 8 For he finds fault with them when he says: "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,
- 9 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.
- 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

- The Better High Priest of a Better Covenant (1-13)
- <u>11</u> And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.
- <u>12</u> For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."
- <u>13</u> In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

- The point in what we are saying ...
 - In greek, the **major** point (*kephalaino*)
 - Of all the qualifications presented in chapter 7, Jesus meets them
 - Hebrews 7:26-27
 - 26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. 27 He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

– Why depart from the priest who supplies all we need?

- one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven
 - "Majesty in heaven" is a Hebrew circumlocution, or roundabout way of saying, "God".
 - Hebrews 9:24 --- For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

- In the true tent
 - The old tabernacle was not false, but it was only a shadow of the true tent.
 - The old tabernacle and the priests were earthbound.
 - The true tabernacle and our great high priest are in heaven.
 - The true tent is set up by God, not man.
 - There is no veil of separation in the true tent.
 - Hebrews 4:14 --- Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.
 - Hebrews 7:25 --- Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

- Every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices
 - Hebrews 5:1
 - For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.
 - Hebrews 9:11-12
 - <u>11</u> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation)
 - <u>12</u> he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.
 - The sacrifice always involved the shedding of blood.

- Every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices
 - He does not offer again His once for all completed sacrifice. But as the high priest did not enter the Holy Place without blood, so Christ has entered the heavenly Holy Place with His own blood.
 - 1 Peter 1:2 --- according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for **sprinkling with his blood**: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.
 - The term "consecrate" as a priest, is literally, to fill the hand, implying that an offering is given into the hands of the priest, which it is his duty to present to God. If a man be a priest, he must have some gift in his hands to offer. Therefore, Christ, as a priest, has His blood as His offering before God.

- Every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices
 - Hebrews 9:11-14
 - <u>11</u> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation)
 - <u>12</u> he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves **but by means of his own blood**, thus securing an eternal redemption.
 - <u>13</u> For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh,
 - <u>14</u> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

- Every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices
 - Hebrews 9:18-22
 - <u>18</u> Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood.
 - <u>19</u> For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,
 - <u>20</u> saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you."
 - 21 And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship.
 - 22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

- Every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices
 - Hebrews 9:23-26
 - 23 Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.
 - 24 For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.
 - 25 Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own,
 - <u>26</u> for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

- Every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices
 - Hebrews 10:19-22
 - <u>19</u> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,
 - 20 by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,
 - <u>21</u> and since we have a great priest over the house of God,
 - 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

- He would not be a priest at all on earth (4-5)
 - Not a priest under the law
 - Jesus was from the tribe of Judah, not Levi.
 - Priests under the law were a copy and shadow of the heavenly things – a picture for us of things to come.
 - A shadow cannot exist by itself.
 - A shadow is cast only when there is a form or reality from which the shadow could be cast.
 - Hebrews 10:1 --- For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

- Make everything according to the pattern (8:5)
 - Moses was not allowed to change anything.
 - Exodus 25:40 --- And see that you make them after the pattern for them, which is being shown you on the mountain.
 - There was a purpose for what God commanded
 - Any change made to the "shadow" would mean it was no longer a "shadow" of the real thing.
 - Similar warnings today
 - Galatians 1:6-9 --- a different gospel?
 - Some say there is no pattern.
 - How can we determine what is correct without a pattern?

- Ministry of Christ (as priest) is more excellent (6)
 - A heavenly ministry superior to the earthly ministry
 - Better sanctuary
 - Hebrews 9:11 --- <u>11</u> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation)
 - <u>12</u> he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

- Ministry of Christ (as priest) is more excellent (6)
 - Better covenant
 - 2 Corinthians 3:7-11
 - <u>7</u> Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end,
 - <u>8</u> will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory?
 - <u>9</u> For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory.
 - <u>10</u> Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it.
 - <u>11</u> For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.

- Ministry of Christ (as priest) is more excellent (6)
 - Better promises
 - Old covenant promised punishment, death
 - Romans 8:2 --- For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:56 --- The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
 - Leviticus 26:3-33 --- blessings for obedience; punishment for disobedience
 - <u>14</u> "But if you will not listen to me and will not do all these commandments,
 - <u>15</u> if you spurn my statutes, and if your soul abhors my rules, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant,
 - <u>16</u> then I will do this to you: I will visit you with panic, with wasting disease and fever that consume the eyes and make the heart ache. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.
 - <u>17</u> I will set my face against you, and you shall be struck down before your enemies. Those who hate you shall rule over you, and you shall flee when none pursues you.

- Better promises (continued)
 - 2 Kings 17:13-14
 - <u>13</u> Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah by every prophet and every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep my commandments and my statutes, in accordance with all the Law that I commanded your fathers, and that I sent to you by my servants the prophets."
 - <u>14</u> But they would not listen, but were stubborn, as their fathers had been, who did not believe in the Lord their God.
 - Israel (northern kingdom) into exile because they did not heed the warnings of the prophets

- Ministry of Christ (as priest) is more excellent (6)
 - Promises of the new covenant
 - Hebrews 8:12 --- For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."
 - Hebrews 8:10 --- I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
 - 2 Peter 1:3-4 --- he has granted to us his precious and very great promises,
 - 1 John 2:24-25 --- And this is the promise that he made to us—eternal life.
 - Hebrews 7:23-25 --- he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him,

- Fault with first covenant (7-12)
 - 2nd covenant necessary because of fault of 1st covenant
 - The fault of the people was that they violated the Law, and the fault of the Law was that it could not handle their violation by taking away the sins of the people.
 - Hebrews 7:11
 - Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

- Fault with first covenant (7-12)
 - 2nd covenant necessary because of fault of 1st covenant
 - Hebrews 7:18-19
 - <u>18</u> For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness <u>19</u> (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.
 - Galatians 3:21
 - <u>21</u> Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law.

- Fault with first covenant (7-12)
 - 2nd covenant necessary because of fault of 1st covenant
 - Hebrews 10:1-4
 - <u>1</u> For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.
 - 2 Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?
 - -3 But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.
 - <u>4</u> For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

- Fault with first covenant (7-12)
 - 2nd covenant necessary because of fault of 1st covenant
 - Romans 3:20
 - <u>20</u> For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
 - Romans 8:3-4
 - <u>3</u> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
 - <u>4</u> in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

- Fault with first covenant (7-12)
 - Jeremiah 31:31-34 --- a new covenant foretold
 - <u>31</u> "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,
 - <u>32</u> not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord.
 - <u>33</u> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
 - <u>34</u> And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."
 - New is kainos in Greek new in time and new in kind.

- Fault with first covenant (7-12)
 - 2nd covenant written on hearts; 1st covenant written on stone.
 - Will God be interested in restoring the imperfect types and shadows of the old covenant once the new covenant has been written on human hearts?
 - "Know the Lord"
 - the first covenant was entered into by birth, so there was a need for teaching as the child grew. (you were a member and had to be taught)
 - The second covenant is entered into by obedience to the gospel, in which hearing and believing precede obedience. (you were taught and then you became a member)

- Makes the old obsolete (13)
 - The death of Jesus rendered the sacrifices of the old covenant unnecessary and obsolete.
 - Colossians 2:13-14 --- became obsolete at the cross
 - A permanent high priest who lives forever makes the priests of the first covenant unnecessary and obsolete.
 - Destruction of the Temple in 70 AD completed the "vanishing" of the old covenant.

- Summary
 - A covenant requires two parties:
 - Israel was not faithful to the old covenant
 - 8:9 --- ... they did not continue in my covenant, ...
 - New ingredients of the new covenant
 - God will put His laws in their minds 8:10
 - God will put His laws in their hearts 8:10
 - God will have a new relationship with His people 8:10
 - God's people will know God 8:11
 - God will forgive their sins 8:12