

# God Forgives & Forgets

Hebrews 8:1-13

# Our True High Priest (v. 1-2)

Now the main point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, <sup>2</sup> and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by a mere human being.

# Shadow Sanctuary (v. 3-5)

<sup>3</sup> Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer. <sup>4</sup> If he were on earth, he would not be a priest, for there are already priests who offer the gifts prescribed by the law. <sup>5</sup> They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: “See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

“Here is a clear word to any Christian in despondency or despair. We may feel crushed, dejected, bewildered or broken, but our eternal salvation has never depended on our vascillating moods or our changing circumstances. Christ has entered the heavenly sanctuary; ‘once and for all’ he offered his blood for us. There he has appeared for us and now he is praying for us. We are ever remembered at that throne and our names are enrolled in heaven. This is our confidence. Our faith is grounded not in what we are or what we have done, but ever and always in what he is, God’s perfect Son, and what he has done through his perfect, eternal sacrifice.” –Raymond Brown

## Better Covenant (v. 6-9)

<sup>6</sup> But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises.

<sup>7</sup> For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. <sup>8</sup> But God found fault with the people and said:

“The days are coming, declares the Lord,  
when I will make a new covenant  
with the people of Israel  
and with the people of Judah.

<sup>9</sup> It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their ancestors  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they did not remain faithful to my covenant,  
and I turned away from them,  
declares the Lord.

# Inward Change (v. 10-13)

<sup>10</sup> This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord.

I will put my laws in their minds  
and write them on their hearts.

I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>11</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbor,  
or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,'  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest.

<sup>12</sup> For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more."

<sup>13</sup> By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.