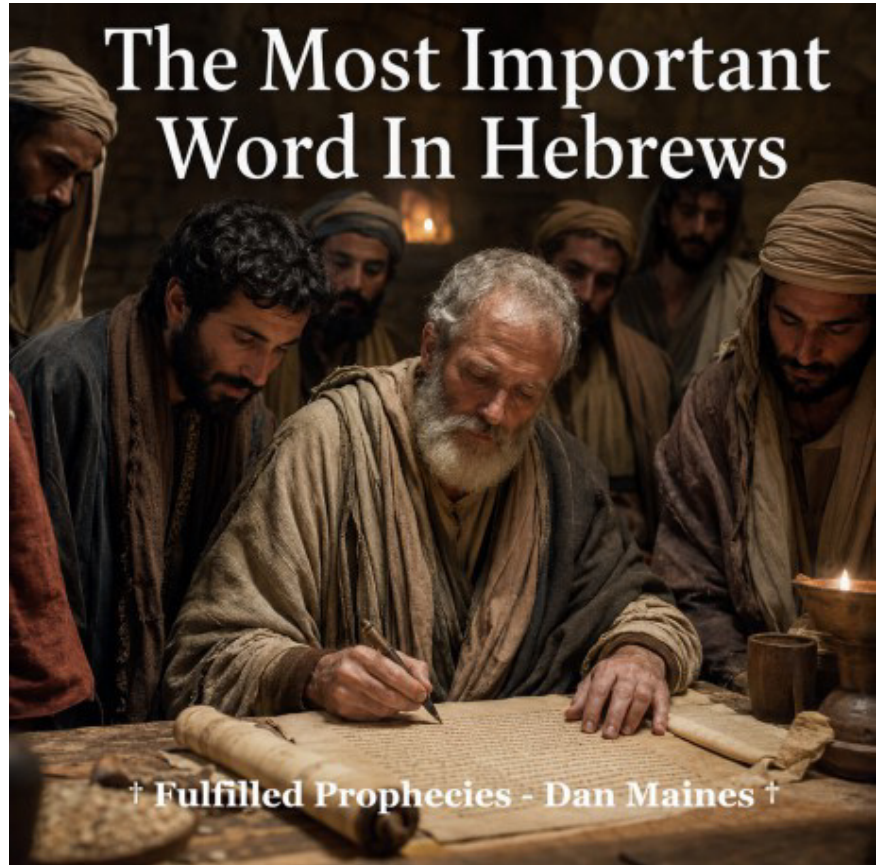


The Most Important Word In Hebrews "Better"



By Dan Maines

The Most Important Word In Hebrews "Better"

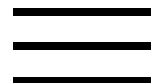
Introduction

† One of the greatest themes running through the book of Hebrews is found in one simple word: **Better**.

† The writer repeatedly contrasts the Old Covenant with the New Covenant, showing that everything established through Jesus Christ is **Better** than what came before.

† This isn't because the Old Covenant failed in God's purpose. It accomplished exactly what God intended, preparing the way for the

greater covenant established through Christ.



† The wow moment is that the entire book of Hebrews is built around one word. **Better** covenant. **Better** promises. **Better** sacrifice. **Better** priesthood. **Better** hope. **Better** country.

† Once you notice the repeated use of the word **Better**, you'll begin to see that Hebrews isn't a collection of unrelated teachings. It's one continuous argument proving that everything found in Christ is superior to the Old Covenant system. (Hebrews 1:1-4; Hebrews 12:24)

Better Covenant **Hebrews 8:6**

But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, to the extent that He is also the mediator of a **Better** covenant, which has been enacted on **Better** promises.

† Jesus didn't improve the Old Covenant, He established a completely new covenant that surpassed it in every way. (Hebrews 8:6; Hebrews 8:13)

† The New Covenant provides direct access to God through Christ instead of the temporary system of priests, sacrifices, and earthly ordinances. (Hebrews 10:19-22)

† The word **Better** shows that God's plan always pointed beyond the Old Covenant to its perfect fulfillment in Christ. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

Better Promises **Hebrews 8:6**

But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, to the extent that He is also the mediator of a **Better** covenant, which has been enacted on **Better** promises.

† The **Better** covenant is founded upon **Better** promises because ~~cause~~
God's promises reached their fulfillment in Christ rather than ~~_____~~
remaining shadows of things to come. (Hebrews 8:6; 2 Corinthians 1:20)

† Under the Old Covenant, many promises looked ahead. Under the New Covenant, believers live in the reality those promises anticipated. (Hebrews 10:1)

† The word **Better** reminds us that God's plan was always moving toward fulfillment, not postponement. (Hebrews 8:13)

Better Hope **Hebrews 7:19**

(for the Law made nothing perfect); on the other hand, there is the introduction of a **Better** hope, through which we come near to God.

† The Law could reveal sin, but it couldn't bring complete access to God. Christ introduced the **Better** hope that the Law anticipated. (Romans 3:20; Galatians 3:24)

† This **Better** hope is the confidence believers have because Jesus has fully accomplished redemption. (Hebrews 6:19-20)

† We don't wait for another covenant or another sacrifice because our hope has already been established through Christ. (Hebrews 10:23)

Better Sacrifice **Hebrews 9:23**

Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these things, but the heavenly things themselves with **Better** sacrifices than these.

† Animal sacrifices had to be repeated continually because they couldn't permanently remove sin. (Hebrews 10:1-4)

† Christ offered Himself once for all, accomplishing what countless animal sacrifices never could. (Hebrews 10:10-14)

† His sacrifice completely fulfilled the sacrificial system, bringing the Old Covenant offerings to their intended completion. (John 19:30)

Better Priesthood **Hebrews 7:22**

by the same extent Jesus also has become the guarantee of a **Better** covenant.

† Jesus serves as the eternal High Priest after the order of Melchizedek rather than the temporary Levitical priesthood. (Hebrews 7:11-17)

† Unlike earthly priests who died and had to be replaced, Christ's priesthood continues forever. (Hebrews 7:23-25)

† Because our High Priest lives forever, His intercession never ends and His work never needs repeating. (Hebrews 7:25)

Better Resurrection **Hebrews 11:35**

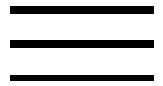
Women received back their dead by resurrection; and others were tortured, not accepting their release, so that they might obtain a **Better** resurrection;

† The **Better** resurrection wasn't a return to mortal life like Lazarus experienced, but participation in the everlasting life secured through Christ. (John 11:43-44; Hebrews 11:35)

† The faithful endured suffering because they looked beyond temporary deliverance to God's final covenant fulfillment. (Hebrews 10:35-39)

† Hebrews points believers toward the completed work of Christ rather than merely another physical restoration to earthly life.

(Hebrews 12:22-24)



Better Possession

Hebrews 10:34

For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a **Better** and lasting possession.

† The first-century believers could endure earthly loss because they understood that the New Covenant inheritance couldn't be taken away. (Matthew 6:19-21)

† Their confidence rested in the kingdom Christ established rather than in earthly wealth or the Temple system. (Hebrews 12:28)

† What Christ provides is permanent because it belongs to the everlasting kingdom. (Daniel 2:44)

Better Country

Hebrews 11:16

But as it is, they desire a **Better** country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

† The faithful weren't ultimately seeking an earthly nation but the heavenly city God had promised. (Hebrews 12:22-24)

† That city is the New Jerusalem, where God dwells with His redeemed people. (Revelation 21:2-3)

† The promises made to the faithful reached their fulfillment through Christ and the establishment of His everlasting kingdom. (Galatians 4:26)

Jesus Is Better Than Everything That Came Before

Hebrews 1:1-2



God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom He also made the world.

† Hebrews doesn't simply present **Better** things, it presents a **Better** Person.

† Every "**Better**" in Hebrews points to Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of everything the Old Covenant anticipated. (Colossians 2:16-17)

† The covenant is **Better** because Christ is **Better**. The sacrifice is **Better** because Christ is **Better**. The priesthood is **Better** because Christ is **Better**. Everything centers on Him. (Hebrews 1:1-4)

Historical References

† Josephus describes the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple in AD 70, marking the end of the Old Covenant order. (The Wars of the Jews, Book 6)

† Tacitus records the Roman siege and destruction of Jerusalem, confirming the historical events surrounding the close of the Old Covenant age. (Histories, Book 5)

† Eusebius records that the Christians remembered Jesus' warning and departed Jerusalem before its destruction. (Ecclesiastical History, Book 3, Chapter 5)

† Irenaeus affirmed that Christ fulfilled the Law and brought the New Covenant promised by the prophets. (Against Heresies, Book 4)

How It Applies To Us Today

† We live under the **Better** covenant established by Jesus Christ.

† We trust the **Better** sacrifice that was offered once for all.



† We rest in our **Better** High Priest who forever intercedes for His people.

† We live by a **Better** hope because Christ has fulfilled His covenant promises.

† We belong to the **Better** country, the heavenly Jerusalem, where God dwells with His people.

Q & A Appendix

Q: Why does Hebrews keep using the word "**Better**"?

A: Because the book is demonstrating that everything accomplished through Jesus Christ surpasses the temporary provisions of the Old Covenant. (Hebrews 7:19, 22; 8:6; 9:23; 11:16)

Q: Does "**Better**" mean the Old Covenant failed?

A: No. The Old Covenant fulfilled God's purpose by pointing forward to Christ and preparing the way for the New Covenant. (Galatians 3:24; Hebrews 10:1)

Q: What is the greatest "**Better**" in Hebrews?

A: The **Better** covenant established through Jesus, because it includes the **Better** promises, **Better** priesthood, **Better** sacrifice, **Better** hope, and **Better** inheritance. (Hebrews 8:6; Hebrews 7:19-22)

Q: Are believers today still waiting for something **Better**?

A: No. We already live under the blessings of the **Better** covenant established through Christ, and we continue to enjoy its blessings as God's people. (Hebrews 12:22-24; Ephesians 2:18-22)

Q: Why does Hebrews use the word "**Better**" so many times?

A: Because the Holy Spirit is showing that Jesus fulfilled and surpassed every temporary provision of the Old Covenant. The repeated use of "**Better**" is one of the main themes holding the entire book together. (Hebrews 1:1-4; Hebrews 7:19, 22; Hebrews 8:6; Hebrews 9:23; Hebrews 11:16, 35)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies. †

© Fulfilled Prophecies - Dan Maines.

Source Index

† Hebrews 1; Hebrews 7; Hebrews 8; Hebrews 9; Hebrews 10; Hebrews 11

† Josephus, The Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Tacitus, Histories, Book 5; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3, Chapter 5; Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book 4

Share on Facebook

Links

Facebook Link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/posts/2081353369419460/>

Fulfilled Prophecies <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/>

Dan Maines

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1349070089314462/user/100001027365819/>

You may share this article freely without permission as long as you include credit to Dan Maines and/or a link to the Fulfilled Prophecies Group.

Comments



Enter your comment here



Disabled (Publish First!)

Add Image



Not using [Html Comment Box](#) yet?

No one has commented yet. Be the first!

