

Sermon series: *Reminders for a Hard Season*

5/28/23 “Old Stuff,” Hebrews 8:13, NLT

INTRODUCTION: Ever eaten half a sandwich then found mold?

How do we come close to God? Dad: woods, me: on-campus Christian group; some: evangelists

Must we go somewhere? To someone? (cream egg: choc. & cream)

MAIN IDEA: Come to God His way.

I. First, to the REAL place (1-2)

NOTE: On earth, we gather with likeminded to worship God through song, prayer, preaching.

A. where THE High Priest (Jesus) intercedes for us (7:25)

1. who is perfect (7:28)
2. seated at right hand of God in the heavens

Right hand: symbolic of authority & power

B. in THE sanctuary

1. true tabernacle (tent)...meeting place with God
2. made by God, not man (like Moses' tent)

Take Away: It's not a place on earth.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. Second, through the BEST ministry (3-6)

A. He wouldn't be accepted as high priest here

1. earthly high priest protects his position
2. in a shadow of the real truth (5)

B. He mediates a superior covenant for us (between 2)

NOTE: Jesus restored harmony between God & individuals

superior: surpassing anything here, excellent

1. a perfect plan by a perfect God using a perfect Son
2. He is fully invested: created us, died for us

<u>Old</u>	<u>from LASB</u>	<u>New</u>
Gifts, sacrifices by the guilty		self-sacrifice by the guiltless
Focused on a building for worship		<u>focuses on Jesus in hearts</u>
People failed to keep agreement		Jesus keeps agreement
Limited access to God		unlimited access to God
Forgiveness earned		forgiveness freely given
Available to some		available to all

Take Away: We get there by talking to Jesus.

ILLUSTRATION:

III. Third, by God's FREE grace (7-13)

NOTE: We must accept His “ticket.” Grace (being given what we don't deserve) is beyond mercy (not being given what we deserve)

A. because we cannot be good enough; we fail (7-9)

B. so He does the work we cannot do (by Holy Spirit)

1. puts His laws (laws of Jesus) in our minds

Mind: ability to understanding, feeling, desiring –Thayer

2. writes them on our hearts

Heart: *kardia* = the soul, passions, desires, affections, purposes

3. enabling us to KNOW Him

Not **know:** *ginosko* = experientially

But **know:** *oida* = intuitively knowing

Acts 2:33, NLT: ³³ Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us

C. He is motivated by mercy (12)

1. forgiving our wickedness
2. & remembering our sins no more

Take Away: He gives us complete access when we accept His gift.

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION: Ahaz, 2Kings 16, “replace”