

When Covenants Collide

Learning to understand the Bible is a lot like learning how to swim: you never know how well you're doing until you jump into the deep end. Anybody can appreciate John 3:16, but when you wade into the deeper waters of Scripture, it's easy to feel like you're drowning. So it is with the middle section of Hebrews (chapters 5-10), which holds some of the most complex concepts in the Bible. Join us Sundays in October at The Story as we take a deep dive in search of profound truths about Jesus, the Gospel, and the shortfalls of human religion.

October 19, 2025 - Part 3 - Access Granted (Hebrews 8-9)

Perhaps you've heard it said that *God creates; Satan imitates*. What does the Bible say about that?

God creates; _____ imitates
Ecclesiastes 3:11 - God has set eternity in the human heart.

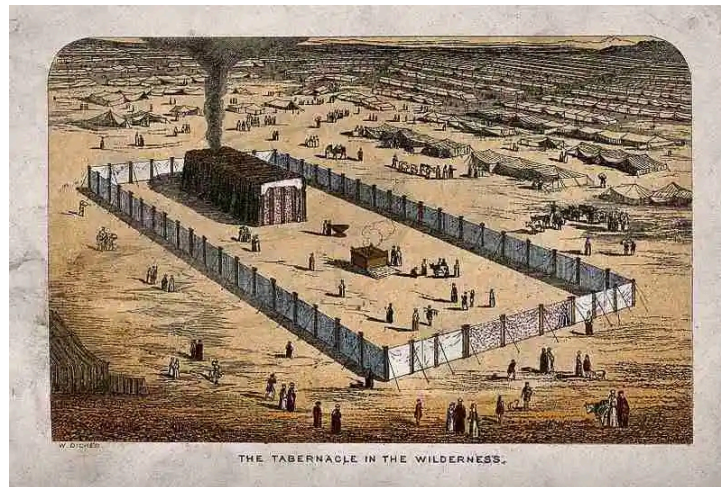
What evidence do you see of human beings imitating God (ex., in technology, religions, etc.)?

At what point do our attempts to imitate God become problematic?

God creates, _____ imitates, and _____

How does the Enemy fabricate counterfeits of the good things that God intends for us?

In the Old Testament, God instructed Moses to build a *tabernacle*. What was the tabernacle's purpose? Why were God's instructions to Moses about the tabernacle so specific?



Hebrews 8:1-3, 5-7 - 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, and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by a mere human being.* Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices... 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." 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. For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another.

What does this passage say about the tabernacle? Why does that matter?

How could ancient Israelites in the Old Testament times have known that their covenant was just a copy of something better that was still to come? (See Heb. 8:8-13 and Jeremiah 31:31-34)

What do these two passages about the end of Jesus' earthly life tell us about his role in the New Covenant that was foretold in the Old Testament?

Matt 26:28 - This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 27:50-51 - And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

In terms of people's access to God, what changed when Jesus died on the cross?

Hebrews 9:9-14 - ...the gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order. But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Why do you think people keep going back to lesser “copies” and even “counterfeits” of God's promises when we've already gained access to His better promises in Christ?

How - if at all - has today's message challenged you, altered your perception, or changed your mentality about God?

Your notes:



Serve Day at The Story

Sign up to join us on Saturday, November 15 for a special serve day at the church! This service opportunity is open to all ages. We will be completing projects to refresh areas, including our group rooms & LiftOff (3rd-5th) classroom. Register on: **thestory.church/events**



THIS SATURDAY: Fall Festival 2025

Join us on Saturday, October 25 (10am-Noon) for our annual Fall Festival in River Oaks! This event is open to families with children of all ages. Visit **thestory.church/events** to read more about reserving your FREE tickets and volunteering to help at the festival.



Next Partnership Course Starts 10/23

Come learn more about The Story's history, beliefs, and ministries, and become an official Partner (our version of membership) at our three-week Partnership Course. Learn more and register on **thestory.church/events**