## **GUARANTEE OF A BETTER COVENANT**

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"If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron? For when the priesthood is changed, there is made, of necessity, a change also of the law. For He (Jesus) of whom these things are spoken pertains to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord rose out of Judah; of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident; for if after the likeness of Melchisedec there arises another Priest, who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. For He testifies, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec" (Psalm 110:4). For, on the one hand, there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness; for the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a **Better Hope** did; by the which we draw near unto God. And inasmuch as it was not without an oath he was made Priest. For those former priests were made without an oath; but this-One with an oath by Him who said unto Him, "The Lord swore and will not repent, You art a Priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. By so much more was Jesus made a Guarantee of a Better Covenant. And there were many priests, because they were prevented from continuing by reason of death. But this Man (Jesus), because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is able also to save those to the uttermost who come unto God through Him, seeing He lives forever to make intercession for them. (Hebrews 7:11-22-25)

**Guarantee:** from the Greek word *engyos* which means: <u>a surety</u>, security; or under good security, <u>a guarantee</u>.

**Surety:** <u>a person</u> who takes responsibility for another's performance of an undertaking, for example their appearing in court, or the payment of a debt.

**Better:** from the Greek word *kreittonos* which means: <u>better</u>; better because of being more fully developed so as to achieve the end objective; thus stronger and more excellent.

**Covenant:** from the Greek word *diatheses* which means: <u>a covenant</u>, a testament, a will; a covenant between two parties. 1. Properly, a set-agreement having complete legal terms determined by the initiating party, which also are fully affirmed by the one entering the agreement. An agreement that brings about a relationship of commitment between God and his people. 2. a disposition, or arrangement, of any sort, which one wishes to be legally valid: i.e. a last will and testament.

Jesus is the <u>Guarantee of a Better Covenant</u>, replacing the Old Testament Covenant, the Old Testament priesthood, and the Old Testament sacrificial system; and thus Jesus has brought in <u>a Better Hope</u> of perfection, and forgiveness, and righteousness, and holiness! Consider these verses:

"But now He (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much more also He is the <u>Mediator of a Better Covenant</u>, which was established upon <u>better promises</u>. (Hebrews 8:6)

**Mediator:** from the Greek word *mesites* which means: a mediator, an arbitrator, an intermediary, a go-between; an agent of something good. Properly, a mediator who guaranties the performance of all the terms stipulated in a covenant. The mediator intervenes to restore peace between two parties, especially as it fulfills a compact or ratifies a covenant.

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is My Body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink you all of it; for this is <u>My Blood of the New</u> <u>Covenant</u>, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." (Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:14-20)

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"For I have received from the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus in the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "Take, eat: this is My Body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me." After the same manner He also took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the New Covenant in My Blood; do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, you do proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

"But Christ having come as a High Priest of good things to come, from a greater and more perfect Tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He re-entered into the Holy Place just once, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctfied to the purifying of the flesh; How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason <u>He is the Mediator of a New Covenant</u>, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first covenant, they which are called <u>might receive the promise of eternal inheritance</u>. For where a <u>testament</u> is, there must also of necessity be the death of the <u>testament maker</u>. For a <u>testament</u> becomes valid after men are dead; for it has no strength at all while the <u>testament maker</u> lives. ...

Now Christ has not entered into the <u>holy places made with hands</u>, which are the figures of the true; <u>but into heaven itself</u>, now to appear in the presence of God <u>for us</u>. And not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest had to enter into the holy place every year with blood of others. Otherwise He (Jesus) would need to often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but now, <u>once</u>, upon the completion of the ages <u>He has</u> <u>appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself</u>. And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment; So Christ was just <u>once</u> offered to bear the sins of many; and for those who look for Him, shall He appear the second time, apart from sin, <u>but for salvation</u>. (Hebrews 9:11-17, 24-28)

The death of Jesus on the cross brought to completion, or consummation, the Old Testament Covenant. The New Covenant in Christ Jesus <u>makes Him</u> <u>our Guarantee</u> of a Better Hope of eternal salvation!

"Now may the <u>God of Peace</u>, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, <u>that Great</u> <u>Shepherd of the Sheep</u>, <u>through the blood of the **everlasting covenant**</u>, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

## JESUS IS...

### the Guarantee of a Better Covenant

and the Mediator of a New and Better and Everlasting Covenant, accomplished by His shed Blood on the Cross!

### <u>For Us!!!</u>

Lord Jesus, as often as I eat the bread, and drink of the cup, I remember You, and the great sacrifice of your death on the cross! I am reminded that by your death my sins are forgiven – forever and ever!

### Thank You Lord Jesus!!!