*Wednesday, June 4, 2014*

**Once Upon a Time**

Hebrews 8:1-3 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; 2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. 3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man has somewhat also to offer. (KJV)

One of the themes of the book of Hebrews is to point out the new covenant that we are in now compared with the old one which is no longer in play. Once upon a time we had carnal priests who were ordained for carnal ordinances which could never take away sin, but instead would only cover it up like a deodorant.

Hebrews 8:4-6 For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law: 5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount. 6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. (KJV)

Once our Lord offered up a perfect sacrifice which was accepted by God, it provided mankind with a much better and simpler covenant established upon much better promises. Our Lord has made His plan of salvation evident to His church which is why, in Christ, there are no gray areas or shadow of turning when looking at His promises. The confusion comes in when man gets a hold of things and tries to add works back into the mix.

Hebrews 8:7-9 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. (KJV)

You certainly wouldn’t want to go back to the way things used to be would you, building alters and stoning people when they sinned? So why does the Church today put so much merit on their works instead of learning to walk by faith and believe that our Lord has already done a completed work on our behalf? God sent the perfect solution for the perfect sacrifice, and He is seated on the right hand of God making intercession for His people; what could possibly go wrong?

Hebrews 8:10-13 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 In that he saith, a new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayed and waxes old is ready to vanish away. (KJV)

When you are in Christ you are a new creation because old things are passed away and all things have become new. Your relationship with the Father is through His Son and not man.

God bless dearly loved and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.