THE EMBODIMENT OF PERFECT OBEDIENCE

By living a perfect life, and then by dying in our place, Jesus mediated a new, better covenant between us and God. Through His death, Jesus canceled the penalty of death that our trespasses demanded and made possible to partakers of the new covenant.

This truth is explained in Hebrews 10:5–10, which identifies Jesus as having manifested the perfect obedience required by the covenant. It references Psalm 40, referring to Messiah's desire to render to God total obedience: “Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart” (Ps. 40:7, 8, ESV). “In the original context this phrase ['to do your will'] described moral obedience to the will of God. The author of Hebrews uses the phrase to show that the sacrifice of Christ fulfilled the will of God in providing an acceptable atonement, which the animal sacrifices had not provided.”—The SDA Bible Commentary, vol. 7, p. 460.

For Paul, this psalm acquired special significance with the incarnation of Jesus. Jesus embodied the obedience of the new covenant. He is our example. We have been saved, not only because of His death but also because of His perfect obedience.
Write out Hebrews 8:7–13 from the Bible translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out Hebrews 8:10–12. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/ phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/ phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Hebrews 8:7–13. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

Why can’t the law save us?

How has Jesus kept your part of the covenant with God? How have you?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/heb08-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

If Christ has satisfied the demands of the covenant for obedience, why is our obedience still so important?

Read more at [www.inversebible.org/heb08-4](http://www.inversebible.org/heb08-4)
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

Hebrews 7:11–19
Jeremiah 31:31–34
Deuteronomy 6:4–6
Deuteronomy 30:11–14
Exodus 24:1–8
Hebrews 10:5–10
Ezekiel 36:26, 27

What other verses come to mind in connection with the New Covenant?

Review your memorized verse from Hebrews 8:7–13.
Jesus, the Mediator of the New Covenant

Read more at www.inversebible.org/heb08-6

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Meditate on Hebrews 8:7–13 again and look for where Jesus is.

What is He saying to you through these texts?

What is the “written-in-the-heart” law experience like?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Meditate on Hebrews 8:7–13 again and look for where Jesus is.
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the passage, where are areas you want the love of God to work in?

What are convictions you know God is speaking to you about?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/heb08-7
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Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

Why is Jesus a Mediator of a better covenant?

How does obedience make manifest the reality of love?

If the closer we come to Christ, the more sinful we will appear in our own eyes, how do we not give up faith in despair?

How do Christ’s guarantee, surety, and better promises change your experience?

What does the law being written in our hearts look like for you?

How do we avoid legalism?

How do we avoid cheap grace?

How do we know if we are “balanced”?