

Hebrews

5:11-14; 6:1-3

The New Covenant is better than the Old Covenant because:

1. The Priest is better.
2. The Priest brings a better sacrifice.
3. The Priest brings His sacrifice to a better place.
4. The Priest has perfectly represented us to God.

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However, Jesus was not from the priestly line of Aaron. He was from the priestly line of Melchizedek, but before the author can speak more about that he stops to dish out some scoldings.

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Does time alone cause Christians to mature?

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Should Christians mature over time?

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A church full of infants determined to remain infants is not a healthy church.

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What good can one baby do for another?

Not much.

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God has greatly blessed us with a people who do not have dull ears, but who have grown, are still growing, and are teaching others as they grow.

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Some Christians treat the gospel as the milk of Christianity and other more difficult theological matters as the meat.

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By constantly feeding on something other than the gospel, a Christian can become fooled into thinking that they are growing when they are actually not.

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Hebrews 2:1

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How do you determine how to live?

How do you determine what is
right and wrong?

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2 Timothy 3:14-17

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The better food you eat, the more
discerning you become.

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Ephesians 5:15-17

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Do you need more discernment?

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What doctrines should they not lay again as a foundation?

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Mark 1:15

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

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Philippians 3:3-8

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Matthew 23:25-26

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At the time the book of Hebrews was written, what would a Jew most likely think about when you mentioned "the laying on of hands?"

Most likely the temple, the priest, and the sacrifice.

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Leviticus 16:20-28

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1. The author of Hebrews pauses his message to call his audience “hard of hearing, milk drinking babies” (summarized). The author was certainly seen as a well-respected leader to the audience, whose comments were viewed as a loving rebuke. If you were led to confront a fellow Christian about ongoing spiritual immaturity, how would you balance truth with love? Read Colossians 3:12-17 and form a list of key points that you would need to keep in mind.
2. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-3? What does Paul call this church out for, and what are some consequences of their spiritual state?
3. Paul also has to rebuke the same people in 1 Corinthians 5.
 - a. What are they rebuked for?
 - b. Could their acceptance of this sinner and even boastful acceptance of him, be linked to their state of being spiritual babies?
 - c. How might the situation in 1 Corinthians 3 & 5 relate to Hebrews 5:13-14?
4. Have you ever noticed that a spiritually immature person or a spiritually immature church is not discerning about how to practically live out the Christian life and walk in righteousness? Feel free to discuss.
5. Have you seen an example of this in your own life, of how a lack of feeding on solid food caused you spiritual immaturity and a lack of discernment? Each person take a moment to reflect on your life, and perhaps a couple of people would not mind sharing an example from their past.
6. The church of Corinth and the Hebrews seemed to be quite content with their spiritual immaturity. What are some benefits of a church having a multitude of spiritually mature believers? List three.