

Only God Part 1: Only God Had a Better Plan

*(Hebrews 11:40 NASB) "God had provided **something better** for us."*

Better: more useful, more serviceable, more advantageous, more excellent.

*(Hebrews 1:1-4 NLT/NASB) "Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his **Son**. God promised everything to the **Son** as an inheritance, and through the **Son** he created the universe. The **Son** radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven. This shows that the **Son is better than the angels**, just as He has inherited a **more excellent name** than they."*

1. Jesus is the better plan.

*(Hebrews 6:9 NASB) "Beloved, we are convinced of **better things** concerning you, and things that accompany salvation."*

2. Better Hope

*(Hebrews 7:18-19 NLT) "Yes, the old requirement about the priesthood was set aside because it was weak and useless. For the law never made anything perfect. But now we have confidence in a **better hope**, through which we draw near to God."*

*(Hebrews 6:19 NIV) "We have this **hope as an anchor** for the soul, firm and secure."*

3. Better Covenant

*(Hebrews 7:22 NLT) "Jesus is the one who guarantees this **better covenant** with God."*

(Numbers 23:19 NASB) "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"

4. Better Ministry

*(Hebrews 8:6a NLT) "But now Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a **ministry that is far superior** to the old priesthood."*

(2 Corinthians 5:18-21 NIV) "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the **ministry of reconciliation**: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, **not counting people's sins against them**. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

5. Better Promises

(Hebrews 8:6 NLT) "Jesus, our High Priest, has been given a ministry that is far superior to the old priesthood, for he is the one who mediates for us a far better covenant with God, based on **better promises**."

(2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV) "For no matter how many **promises** God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God."

6. Better Sacrifice

(Hebrews 9:23 NLT) "That is why the Tabernacle and everything in it, which were copies of things in heaven, had to be purified by the blood of animals. But the real things in heaven had to be purified with far **better sacrifices** than the blood of animals."

(Hebrews 11:4 NASB) "By faith Abel offered to God a **better sacrifice**."

(Hebrews 12:24 NASB) "To Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which **speaks better** than the blood of Abel."

7. Better Future

(Hebrews 10:34 NLT) "You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. You knew there were **better things waiting for you** that will last forever."

(Hebrews 11:16 NLT) "But they were looking for a **better place, a heavenly homeland**. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them."

(Hebrews 11:35 NLT) "Others were tortured, refusing to turn from God in order to be set free. They placed their hope in a **better life after the resurrection**."