“A Change of the Law”
Heb. 7:12

Introduction:
A. Hebrews written to Christians under pressure to abandon Christ and return to Judaism.
   1. Affirms God no longer speaks through prophets, but His Son. (1:1-4).
   2. Affirms Christ is superior to angels or Moses.
   3. Affirms a change of the law. (Text).
      a. No need to turn down ham or catfish. (Cf. Deut 14:8-10).
      b. No need to fear death for working on Saturday. (Ex. 31:14,15).
   4. Affirms when the law changed. (Heb. 9:15-17).
      a. Thief and young ruler under old law.
      b. Jesus and disciples kept Sabbath under old law.
B. Hebrews gives three reasons why a change of the law was necessary.
   1. The Priesthood of Jesus.
   2. The Weakness of Humanity.
   3. The Sacrifice of Jesus.

Discussion:
I. The Priesthood of Jesus Demanded a Change of Law.
   A. Before the law Melchizedek was a priest. (7:1; Gen 14:18-20).
      1. Before Levi, Aaron, Moses or the Law.
      2. Greater than Levites, yet not under the law. (7:4-10).
   B. After the law Jesus is high priest. (7:15-17).
      1. Suited to our weaknesses. (4:15-16)
      2. Providing for our salvation. (5:6-11)
   C. During the law only Levites were priests. (7:11-14)
      1. Excluded both Christ and Melchizedek.
      2. Hence, a change necessary for Christ to be our High Priest.

II. The Weakness of Man Demanded a Change of Law.
   A. Law was good (cf. Rom. 7:12) — fault was with man inability to keep it. (8:7-8).
   B. Law was “weak through the flesh” in that it did not solve the problem of sin. (Rom 8:1-4).
   C. Law did not take away sin, but promised a New Covenant that would. (8:8-12).

III. The Sacrifice of Jesus Demanded a Change of Law.
   A. Blood of first covenant was the blood of sacrificed animals.
   B. Blood of new covenant is the blood of Christ. (9:11-28).

Conclusion:
A. If one insists on being under the law today, let him return to:
   1. The Levitical priesthood.
   2. The Animal sacrifices.
   3. The penalties of breaking it.
B. If wants to enjoy the blessings in Christ, let him obey New Covenant