

The New Covenant: Lesson 3

We have noted there are basically Seven Covenants between God and man

- 1 Adamic covenant – promise of Salvation
- 2 Noahic covenant – no more destruction of the world by flood
- 3 Abrahamic covenant – unconditional; given to nation of Israel
- 4 Mosaic covenant – conditional
- 5 Palestinian – unconditional promise of the land of Israel
- 6 Davidic covenant – unconditional promise of king in line of David
- 7 New Covenant to Israel

Notice: There is **no covenant cut** between God and man **for the CHURCH Age.**

We are blessed under the first three covenants but there is no covenant mentioned in the New Testament for the Church.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Where we are learning almost all the aspects of the New Covenant.

31 **"Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make-cut- a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,**

1 The Time the Covenant will be enacted:
in future Days (Millennium)

2 The maker of the Covenant:
The Lord YHWH

3 The name of the Covenant:
New

4 The parties of the New Covenant:
House of Israel (Northern Kingdom)
and the
House of Judah (Southern Kingdom)

Again, not to all peoples, and not to the Church.

Next, we have the contrast of Two Covenants:

The **Old** and the **New**

Verse 32 the Old Covenant and

Verse 33 The New Covenant.

32 **not like the covenant which I made (cut) with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD.**

We spent much of last week noting from this verse why the need of a New Covenant with all Israel.

not like the 'old' covenant (the Mosaic covenant)

Which means this one is 'new'
when compared with the Mosaic covenant.

Why the need of a New Covenant?
Not just that **They broke the old covenant.**

But that the Lord took them as a husband and wife and then they broke that marriage Covenant.

The Mosaic Covenant was a Conditional Covenant. This means that both parties were under obligation to keep it.

Israel did not keep it but continually broke it and in detestable ways. Here we noted along with this verse, Ezekiel 16:15-34, to show how historically they '**broke**' or violated this Covenant.

The imagery used in the Old Testament is that the Lord was **married** to Israel by this Old Covenant. Then they **broke** the Covenant, which brought about a **separation** between God and Israel recorded in Isaiah 50:1; which lead to the **divorce** recorded in Jeremiah 3:6-10.

This brought about a great discipline from God on Israel and on Judah. Ezekiel 16:35-43; Hosea 2:6-13 and the Babylonian captivity against the Southern kingdom.

If God is going to continue to have a relationship with Israel, there must be a New Covenant. And that is what we are here studying. Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Ezekiel 16:60-63.

By the way, to answer those who think that the New Covenant is for the Church.

- 1 What is the '**old**' Covenant that is now replaced in the Church?
- 2 The relationship between JESUS CHRIST and the Church is not based in any way on the Law.
- 3 There are no scriptures that teach of a New Covenant for the Church. In fact, there are no scriptures that teach of any Covenant relationship between JESUS CHRIST and the Church.

The Church is divinely established as the bride of Christ and everyone who believes in JESUS CHRIST as Savior is baptized into Christ and becomes part of the Bride of Christ.

The marriage is conditioned only upon Faith in JESUS CHRIST and cannot be lost or divorced from Christ.

The marriage of the Old Testament and that of the New Testament are different in many aspects.

For example, in the Old Testament, since they were **first** married to the Lord and **then broke** the 'wedding vows' the Marriage Covenant—the Lord divorced Himself from them, which set up the need of a new Covenant.

Remember from last week,
the fault was not with the groom = **The Lord** for He is perfect;

The fault was not in the Covenant
for it also is perfect.

The fault was with the bride Israel,
for she broke the wedding Covenant.

The Mosaic Law was given to reveal the perfect Righteousness of God and of the Lord. God gave the Law so man would know that he is not perfect and not capable of being perfect before God. The Mosaic Law was given to show everyone who wanted to earn from Him, that they had to be perfect as He is perfect—this was the original plan of God in giving the Law.

Even now in the Church Age we are to keep the whole Law and we do when we are Filled by the Holy Spirit by Grace through Faith.
Romans 13:8

8 **Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another;
for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law.**

This is Spiritual Love that comes only by the Holy Spirit when we are Filled with the Holy Spirit.

The Law—the overt standard of the perfect Righteousness of God must always be met in order to have a relationship with God.

In the **Old Testament**, they broke it.

In the **Church Age**,
we are imputed with God's perfect righteousness
at the point of Faith in JESUS CHRIST
and we live in the fulfillment of that righteousness
in our daily lives by the Filling of the Holy Spirit.

But still we violate (or fail to maintain) this Righteous relationship with God and must be restored; and God in His Grace and Faithfulness set it up where we can be restored by Grace through Faith—in the Holy Spirit.

But then in the millennium God will set it up where every one of these believing Jews who enter the Kingdom will fulfill the Law by the Power of the Holy Spirit instinctively.

Now Verse 33 really adds some important details of this New Covenant.

33 **"But this is the covenant** (The New Covenant) **which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.**

But instead of destroying Israel, and in contrast to the Old Covenant **this is the covenant** another one, a new one, when considering the old one = Mosaic Covenant

which I will make—cut—with the house of Israel once again the Holy Spirit stresses the point that this is a national Covenant, not an individual Covenant.

after those days After what days?

Notice this is not translated **these days** as referring to days in or near the time of Jeremiah, but **those days** referring to two concepts:

1 Distant from the time of Jeremiah

2 Those—referring to days that the reader should know about;

So, what are those days?

The remainder of the 490 years God promised to Israel with seven of those years yet remaining before God can enact a New Covenant.

And, of course, those seven years are the seven years of the Tribulation.
Jeremiah 23:20

20 **"The anger of the LORD will not turn back Until He has performed and carried out the purposes of His heart; In the last days you will clearly understand it.**

"Those days" of Jeremiah 31:33 refers to ***the last days*** referred to here, in Jeremiah 23:20.

Jeremiah 31:33

33 **but this is the covenant which I will cut with the house of Israel in those days**

Declares the Lord Now we move to something very important; first we must not miss that this is an **unconditional covenant**.

The Lord is going to do this on His own account as per this New Covenant He is making with Israel.

I will put my Law within them and on their heart I will write it

OK, I don't want you to miss this:

Look at Deuteronomy 4:8

8 **"Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today?"**

Note carefully in Jeremiah 31:33.

The Lord will put this Law **in them, on their hearts** while in the Mosaic Law He simply sets the Mosaic Law **before them!**

Before them means that it is outside of them...

they have to learn them and then decide if they will do them.

Also note once again the absolute standard of God:

righteousness—And in the Church Age we can live a Righteous Life by knowing the Word of God and then living it by the leading and power of the Holy Spirit.

I hope you are gaining a new appreciation for the MINISTRY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Next Deuteronomy 11:32

32 **and you shall be careful** (volitional decision) **to do all the statutes and the judgments which I am setting before you today.**

Again, the contrast of setting the Mosaic Law before them, outside of them and putting them inside on their hearts.

Another strong passage 1 Kings 9:6-7

6 **"But if you or your sons indeed turn away from following Me, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods and worship them,**

7 **then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them, and the house which I have consecrated for My name, I will cast out of My sight. So, Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples.**

Which is exactly what Israel is to most of the world... a joke in their own way.

I hope you can see clearly from this passage in 1 Kings

DO & DO...DO & DO

If you will do this.... then.... I will do that!

**I will put my Law in them
is the opposite of
I will set my Law before them!
This is definitely a New Covenant.**

So, we learn something about God, regardless of the dispensation, God always demands perfect Righteousness.

This has been true from the garden to Abraham to JESUS CHRIST to the church... to the Tribulation... and into the Millennium.

**How can a Perfect God
have any intimacy with an imperfect creature,
whether angelic or human?**

He cannot!

**So, God in His Grace and Faithfulness
has set into every dispensation the Grace Way
of His creatures to be Righteous before Him
and live a Righteous Life in a manner compatible with Grace.**

**MESSAGE TO BE
CONTINUED AT
THIS POINT NEXT
SUNDAY**

People, I hope you can now see the all importance of passages like Colossians 2:13-14

¹³ **When you (as unbelievers, unsaved) were dead (spiritually) in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He**

made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

14 **having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, (Mosaic Law) which was hostile to us; (showed that we were not Righteous and condemned us to death) and He has taken it (Mosaic Law) out of the way, (of us having intimacy with God) having nailed it to the cross.**

So, before you start thinking it is unfair of God in the New Covenant to place the Law on their hearts, just remember,

He removed this barrier by the person and work of JESUS CHRIST on the Cross,

SO THAT THE MOMENT WE BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST AS SAVIOR, GOD IS FREE TO IMPUTE (TO EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES) HIS OWN PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Note carefully, in the 1 Kings 9:6-7, that the Lord is going to do this. There is nothing conditional about what God will do.

CONDITIONAL COVENANTS

Old Covenant:

If you (Israel) will obey the Mosaic law—I (God) will bless you.

Gospel:

If you (any member of human race) will believe on JESUS CHRIST as Savior, I (God) will save you.

UNCONDITIONAL COVENANT

God says “I WILL DO IT”!
In the **New Covenant,**

the Lord says that He will simply put the Law in them.
And write it on their hearts.

What is important to note here is that the Lord finds a **Grace Way** to bring these people under His Blessing; under a covenant they simply cannot break....; As they broke the Mosaic Covenant

- The **Old Covenant** was engraved on stone,
 - under this **New Covenant**,
 - the Millennium will start off with a dramatic and
 - wide-reaching change in the way Spirituality will work.
 - A transformation in volition, heart and even conscience.
- It will be revolutionary to any system in history to this point.
 - In effect, this will be
 - “an Internal Rather than an External Covenant”.

First: Exodus 31:18

18 **When He had finished speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, He gave Moses the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.**

Exodus 19:3-8

3 **Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel:**

4 **'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself.**

5 **'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine;**

6 **and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'** These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

7 **So Moses came and called the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the LORD had commanded him.**

8 **All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do!" And Moses brought back the words of the people to the LORD.**

For a moment, they desire to do all that the Lord commands.

Deuteronomy 4:13

13 **"So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, *that is*, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.**

Now we are going to look at another passage that will give us some clues as to why the New Covenant is mentioned in our Communion. Exodus 24:3-8

3 **Then Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; (The Old Covenant or The Mosaic Covenant) and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which /LORD has spoken we will do!"**

4 **Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. (Written externally) Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel.**

5 **He sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as peace offerings to the LORD.**

6 **Moses took half of the blood and put *it* in basins, and the *other* half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.**

7 **Then he took the book of the covenant and read *it* in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"**

8 **So Moses took the blood and sprinkled *it* on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."**

In the **COMMUNION TABLE OF THE CHURCH AGE** we have the words: **This cup is the New Covenant in my blood**

Remember that ‘**blood**’ refers to the **Spiritual Death** of JESUS CHRIST on the Cross.

But as we are seeing from Jeremiah 31:33, God will write these on their hearts... they will do these things of righteousness by the empowering ministry of the Holy Spirit—instinctively.

Ezekiel 36:24

24 **"For I will take you from the nations, (trumpet sounds the call at the beginning of the millennium) gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land.**

25 **"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.**

26 **"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**

27 **"I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.**

28 **"You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.**

Again, we still learn more and more about this New Covenant to Israel...—not to the Church.

So, Notice Two Vitals To... **The New Covenant**

1 Full knowledge

2 By the Power of the Holy Spirit they will do what they know they are to do.

As **Keil** (Karl Fredreich Keil) points out

"It thus appears that the difference between the Old and the New Covenants must be reduced to this,

that what was commanded and applied to the heart in the Old is given in the New,

and

the New is but the completion of the Old covenant."

and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

One of the most wonderful things a man can experience is that when everyone knows that his wife is his and he is hers.

So, it is with our God.

This was the objective of the Old covenant Leviticus 26:12

12 **'I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.**

I hope you can see how important it is to God that You and I Walk—Live by Faith in the Holy Spirit.

The Church Age is a great experiment by God.
Let us see, I gave them the Law in the Old covenant and they did not... could not keep it...

*So, **now** in this NEW DISPENSATION OF THE CHURCH I will give them the same standard of Righteousness to live by but I will set in them my Holy Spirit.*

We, in the Church Age are as a great grace experiment – and we are failing miserably as a world-wide Church.

But people, it is still going on, and you and I can reveal to the whole world that JESUS CHRIST is our God and Savior and We are His People—and we do this simply by **WALKING BY FAITH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.**