

The New Covenant: Lesson 5

Before we move on from the clear declaration of the New Covenant in Jeremiah 31, let us be sure we understand what is going on historically.

Jeremiah 31:31-35

31 **"Behold, days are coming,"** (Millennium) **declares the LORD, (YHWH) "when I will make (cut) a New Covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,** not with the Church, not with all peoples but with all Israel.

It will be enacted on a special day at the beginning of the Millennium. This New Covenant will be new in content and in individual results.

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

(This was a conditional Covenant; The Covenant was perfect, the Lord is Perfect but Israel violated the Covenant, which ultimately resulted in Israel being taken out of the land (70 AD).

33 **"But** in spite of their failures & in contrast with the Old Cov't that is the Mosaic Cov't **this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel** again not with all people but just with the Jews **after those days,"** after the C-A and after the

Tribulation **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.** From God's perspective, He has always been their God and they have always been His people, but in the opening of the Mil. they—all Israel will live as though they are His people and He is their God.

34 **"They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."**

- 1 At the end of the Tribulation there will be the Baptism of Fire which will result in the removal of every unbeliever from earth.
- 2 This means that only believers will enter into the Millennial reign of JESUS CHRIST.
- 3 Several things will take place at the beginning of the Millennium.
 - a Marriage Supper of the Lamb will take place in Jerusalem,
 - b All believing Jews from all over the world will come to Israel.
 - c There will be a day much like the day of Pentecost which introduced the dispensation of the Church. Only this day will introduce **the enactment of the New Covenant.**

Every Jew of course will be saved already—during the Tribulation, but on this glorious day several things will be supernaturally accomplished, just as on the Day of Pentecost God Supernaturally Indwelt believers with the Holy Spirit, so on this day in the millennium every Jew will:

1. supernaturally receive the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the Filling of the Holy Spirit and
2. God will supernaturally write His Law on every heart of every Jew and they will not sin.

Then All the Gentile nations in the world (made up of believers) will know that the Jews are God’s people and God is their God.

Verse 35 declares the **Faithfulness of God**—the guarantee of the enactment of the New Covenant.

³⁵ **Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for light by day And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; The LORD of hosts is His name:**

Not only is the New Covenant given in Jeremiah 31 but also in Ezekiel 36:

Ezekiel means “**God strengthens**” or “**whom God makes strong**” or simply “**God is Strong.**”

I attended Dallas Theological Seminary at the same time as *Bruce Wilkenson*—author of “***Talk Thru The Bible***” I cannot improve on what he has to say about Ezekiel.

“Ezekiel prophesies among the Jewish exiles in Babylon during the last days of Judah’s decline and downfall, His ministry is in some ways similar to that of his older contemporary, Jeremiah. But while Jeremiah delivers a chilling message of destruction in Jerusalem, Ezekiel brings a warming message of reconstruction in Babylon.

Jeremiah is a man of tears;
Ezekiel is a man of visions.

And those visions stretch from horror to hope; from condemnation upon Judah’s faithless leaders and godless foes, to consolation regarding Judah’s future. Through it all, mankind would see the glory of Israel’s sovereign God and ‘they shall know that I am the Lord.’ (5:10)”

With this in mind let us look at the New Covenant as given by Ezekiel 36:22-23

22 **"Therefore say to the house of Israel, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went.**

This verse is packed with vital information.

- 1 First, this again is just to the house of Israel... not to all peoples.
- 2 It is not for Israel that God is going to restore all Israel in the Millennium but for His own names sake.
- 3 In the Age of Israel, God chose to work through a chosen race the Jews: to interpret the Scriptures, to proclaim the gospel and to live so as to attract all nations to YHWH —Now due to their great failure God is now in a **Great Experiment** in the Church Age, God has chosen to work through the “Body of Christ—the Church”, that is every born-again believer throughout the world.

This is why in the Great Commission—**go into all the nations, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you.**

Well the Great Experiment for the most part has been a great failure; with various periods of success—as in the history of early America where people—Christians of this country took the gospel into all parts of the world, even teaching some people their own language and then writing the Bible in that new language. Therefore, in the Millennium God is going to try something new in the New Covenant.

- 4 Instead of declaring the name of God to the nations of the world they **profaned** His name.

In the Hebrew **profane** means **to defile** or **to profane**; or **irreligious, to treat as ungodly, to demonstrate an unbelieving conduct toward God.**

To be disrespectful of His name.

This is the way Israel respected their God... no respect.

- 5 By this New Covenant nations around the world will know and worship the God of Israel as the only True God.

And what is the objective of the New Covenant?

23 **"I will vindicate the holiness of My great name** and there you have it! The King James has this Hebrew word more accurately translated: **I will sanctify My great name.**

The Hebrew means just that: **to sanctify** or to **set apart which has been profaned among the nations**, by His chosen people, Israel. **which you have profaned in their midst.**

Then by this New Covenant the nations will know that I am the LORD," declares the Lord GOD, "when I prove Myself holy among you in their sight.

If a wife does not respect her own husband;
others will not respect him either.

By God's own people respecting Him
and worshipping Him
and having fellowship with Him,
the rest of the nations will also worship Him!

By the way we learn from this what we are to be doing in the world.

If we do not worship and revere the name of Jesus, how can we expect others around the world to worship and revere His name?

If we do not respect and study His Word, it is no wonder that the world (even here in the United States) do not respect and study His Word.

If we do not hold His Word up as Authoritative, it is no wonder that our own nation does not respect the Word of God.

The beginning of the enactment of the New Covenant is given in verse 24

²⁴ **"For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land.** This will begin at the end of the Tribulation. JESUS CHRIST will even send out His elect angels to regather Israel.

Matthew 24:31

³¹ **"And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.**

So, the Millennial reign of JESUS CHRIST will begin with a supernatural regathering of all Israel... Jews from all over the world. (What we do not know about the regathering of Israel is to what degree one has to be a Jew.

[DNA] 100%? 50%? 25%? Or one %?—leave this up to God.)

Then after regathering of all Jews from all over the world He will supernaturally make them experientially righteous.

25 **"Then I will sprinkle clean water on you,** (supernaturally) **and you will be clean;** (experientially, they are already Justified) **I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.**

With a close study of Deuteronomy and other passages in the Old Testament this is a picture of ceremonial cleaning. Referring to their being cleansed and ready to be used by God as ceremonial cleanliness was necessary for all the utensils of the Tabernacle.

Next, we have what we have studied in Jeremiah 31:33

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

I envision this to be much like the Day of Pentecost which kicked off the Church Age where God Supernaturally Indwelt every believer with the Holy Spirit.

As to the last phrase: **I will give you a heart of flesh.**

This is very important connecting what is said in verse 26 with what is going to happen in verse 27.

God does not want them to think that they will be turned into 'supernatural beings' something like angels. No! They will continue being human—**heart of flesh.**

And, therefore, even though they will have the Law written on their hearts... (written within them) **they will still be in need of the Holy Spirit in order to live a Holy Life.**

This should once again remind us of how important it is for us to be constantly Filled with the Holy Spirit.

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.**

Even though they will have experiential cleanliness; even though they will have a new heart and a new spirit and even though they will have the Law written on their new hearts (Jeremiah 31:33) they are still a creature, they are still human and therefore are in need of the empowering ministry of the Holy Spirit to live a Holy Life. Nothing done outside of the power of the Holy Spirit is acceptable to God...regardless of the dispensation.

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.**

Abraham will rejoice, Moses will rejoice –for this is what they both looked forward to. This will not be a small section of the middle east or a small section of Jerusalem as today, no, this will be all the land promised to them in the Palestinian Covenant... Unconditional Covenant of the Promise land.

29 **"Moreover, I will save you from all your uncleanness; and I will call for the grain and multiply it, and I will not bring a famine on you.**

30 **"I will multiply the fruit of the tree and the produce of the field, so that you will not receive again the disgrace of famine among the nations.**

- 1 The New Covenant dispensation will be accompanied with personal cleanliness of all the people.[FOR ISRAEL]
- 2 With economic prosperity. [FOR ISRAEL]
- 3 Along with God being praised at the beginning of the Millennium. His people will share in that respect around the world. For now, over 2000 years the Jews have been ridiculed and suffering from anti-Semitism, but in the Millennium this will all be over and Israel will be respected by all the nations of the world

31 **"Then you will remember your evil ways and your deeds that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and your abominations.**

While we forget those things that are past—so as not to be hindered by them—we should never forget our tendencies to sin and what kind of sins besiege us.

So, under the dispensation of the New Covenant Israel will maintain the memory of their past in the Old Testament and throughout their being cast around the world during in the Church Age. To get an idea of what this is all about, go to Hawaii — and visit the Arizona Memorial... what is this about... it is to remind us, never to let our guard down and to always remember those who died... same with the 9-11 memorial.

Therefore, Israel is to remember: **their evil ways.**

Evil is not just sins but sins that are abominable to God. Then they are to remember their deeds which were not good... that is... not according to the statutes given to them by God.

and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and your abominations.

Many people today will not understand the value of 'loathing'. One of the problems in America is that there is very little that this nation **loathes**.

The word means to have **intense dislike** or **disgust** for something even to have hostility toward something.

We should **loathe** immorality, homosexuality, adultery but we don't. We should **loathe** any loss of our freedom but we don't and, therefore, we are losing our freedom.

But the point God is making in the New Covenant is that if a people '**loathe**' something they will not allow it to occur in their land. **Loathing** protects the person and the nation.

We have already seen their evil ways
and how they were not good in their dealings;
but they will also **loathe** their past iniquities:

We have studied this word before, this word means **to twist, to pervert the statutes of God**, even the Word of God; even the Gospel. And then they will loathe their **abominations** this word adds to the meaning of sin, those sins that actually counter God's design and plan:

Example.

- homosexuality (Leviticus 18:22) differs from adultery or fornication in that these sins do not pervert God's design in male and female, whereas Homosexuality perverts the design of God when He created them male and female.
- Idolatry (Isaiah 41:24) for Idolatry shuns God as the only True God.
- Child Sacrifice (Deuteronomy 12:31) perverting the very design of the responsibilities of a parent
- Plus breaking the 4th commandment.
Thou shall not murder.

And just in case someone has problems with **loathing**...
God **loathes**. Psalm 95:10.

32 **"I am not doing *this* for your sake," declares the Lord GOD, "let it be known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel!"**

God desires that these people do not become arrogant and think they deserve this new exalted state of existence in the Millennium. Not only are they **to remember** their past history; not only are they to **loathe** their idolatrous past, but they are to be **'ashamed'**.

Again, this is like **loathing**.

If you are ashamed of some conduct –means that you will strive to never do it again. This is when shame is not a sin. But they

are also **to be confounded** over their past. This means to find disgust in past history.

33 **"Thus says the Lord GOD, "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places will be rebuilt.**

The New Covenant will bring in national prosperity.

34 **"The desolate land will be cultivated instead of being a desolation in the sight of everyone who passes by.**

This is economic prosperity that will get the attention of the whole world so that they will want to serve the Lord your God.

35 **"They will say, 'This desolate land has become like the garden of Eden; and the waste, desolate and ruined cities are fortified *and* inhabited.'**

The New Covenant will bring in perfect environment.

36 **"Then the nations that are left round about you will know that I, the LORD, have rebuilt the ruined places *and* planted that which was desolate; I, the LORD, have spoken and will do it."**

37 **'Thus says the Lord GOD, "This also I will let the house of Israel ask Me to do for them: I will increase their men like a flock.**

38 **"Like the flock for sacrifices, like the flock at Jerusalem during her appointed feasts, so will the waste cities be filled with flocks of men. Then they will know that I am the LORD."**

**We know from the Ezekiel description
of the New Covenant
that we certainly are not
under the enactment of this covenant.**