

Bible Trek 3

THE MOSAIC AND DAVIDIC COVENANT AND NEW COVENANT



The Mosaic Covenant

- **Q. WHY IS IT CALLED THE MOSAIC COVENANT?**
- **A. IT WAS GIVEN TO MOSES** - it consisted of the LAW and the Levitical System

IT IS THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THE BEHAVIOR OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

EXODUS 19:5-8

Now IF you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, [6] you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

[7] so Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words that the Lord had commanded him to speak. [8] the people all responded together, "we will do everything the Lord has said." So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord.

MOSES WAS GIVEN THE LAW



MANY OF THE LAWS DEALT WITH HYGIENE

- It was not until the 1880's that medical science figured out the importance of personal hygiene
- The Jewish people were largely spared of the Black Plague in the Middle Ages due to these laws and so they were **BLAMED FOR IT** and tortured and killed!

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/jewish/1348-jewsblackdeath.asp>

- **We will do everything the LORD has said.** --This is their agreement with the covenant!
- ***IT IS A CONDITIONAL COVENANT- IF YOU DON'T OBEY I WILL NOT BLESS YOU. . THIS IS THE STANDARD BY WHICH GOD JUDGED THEM YEAR AFTER YEAR.***
- ***IT IS A TEMPORARY COVENANT – IT CEASES AT THE DEATH OF JESUS (EPH 2:14,15).***

How do we know that???

Eph. 2:14-15

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,

EXACTLY WHAT DID JESUS DO?

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Destroyed the <u>Barrier</u> | • Our Sin separates us- God |
| • <u>Abolishing</u> in his flesh | • The law -required death as the penalty |
| • <u>One new man</u> out of the two | • All Christians: (Messiah believing Jews and Gentiles) |

DEUT.28:15
 However, **IF** you do not obey the Lord your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:

(ALSO IN DEU 28:25 DEU 28:32)



Corpses in mass graves at Auschwitz

UT. 28:33
 t you do not know will and and labor produce, have nothing but cruel on all your days.

UT. 28:37
 you will become a thing of horror and an object of scorn and ridicule to all the nations where the Lord will drive you.

- ***Has this happened? Think of Hitler? Why is their anti-Semitism worldwide?***

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS ARE PART OF THE COVENANT (PLUS 360 MORE- EXODUS 20).

- ***By JESUS day the religious leaders had added enough to be almost 1,000!***

WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW?

Romans 3:20

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin.

Righteous = Right Standing with God not necessarily GOOD!

*Once we know that something is wrong, we are then on the hook to choose to **Not** do it or **rebel** and continue to do it.*

*For some reason, we have a tendency to **Major** in the Law of the Old Testament and not what the Bible Says about the Law **AFTER** Jesus came.*

We major in the THOU SHALT NOT ...

Here is also what the Bible Says about the Law

Romans 4:15
because law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Romans 5:13
for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law.

ANSWERS TO BIG QUESTIONS?

• Where did Cain get his wife?

• *Answer: his sister*

• It was not yet against God's law. With a perfect gene pool the problems of incest wouldn't show up for a about 3,000 years.

WHAT ABOUT THE NATIVES IN SOME ISOLATED AREAS OF THE WORLD?

- God is fair, just and merciful
- According to the Bible "sin is not taken into account when there is no law"
- God will not hold them accountable for what they don't know
- *However...*

THEY ARE STILL ON THE HOOK...

Psalms 19:1

"... the heavens declare the Glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands"

THEY ARE STILL ON THE HOOK...

Romans 1:19-20
...For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Acts 17:26-28 (NIV)

²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.



Then this verse seems to contradict that...

ACTS 4:10-12 (NIV)
**Then know this, you and all the
people of Israel: it is by the name of
Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you
crucified but whom God raised from the
dead...**

**[12] salvation is found in no one else, for
there is no other name under heaven
given to men by which we must be
saved."**

Illustration: Man in China.

There were two young missionaries in China who one day passed an old man on the side of the road. Sensing that they should stop and talk to him about Jesus, they never the less continued on their way. Both were stricken with the conviction to speak with him so they made a deal with God.

If he was still there when they returned, they would stop and tell him about Jesus (note: telling people about Jesus is a capital offense in communist China).

Sure enough, when they returned the man was still there, so they stopped and through their translator told him about Jesus. The old man started to cry and then thanked the missionaries for telling him.

He said ***"I have worshiped Him my whole life, I just never knew His Name".***

DON'T READ BUT BE AWARE OF!!!!

The question has been raised concerning the above verses: They actually might be better off if we don't go and tell them about Jesus.

The answer to this is the following:

- Jesus himself told us to go into all the world and preach the gospel (Matthew 28:19)
- This world presently belongs to Satan, who has and will do everything to blind the eyes of all who live in this world (Luke 4:5, John 12:31 , John 14:30, John 16:11)
- The reality is that very few people will resist the peer pressure of their society and chose to worship a God they do not even know his name, nor that has been revealed to them.

WHY HAVE A SET OF LAWS?

Your God is... whom you obey!

Galatians 3:19

What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator.

Big Word here!

- Who is the seed?
- What is a mediator?
- According to this verse, Man was to be under the Law until the Seed or Messiah came!

GALATIANS 3: 23-25

Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed.

So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

- Note: The word Justified can be thought of as: **Just As If I'd Never Sinned!**

The purpose of the law then and now is to point people to God!

The law :

- **The Law convicts men of sin.** Unless you have a standard you will not know if you are in the wrong.
- **God's standard doesn't change... Man's law is a moving target.**

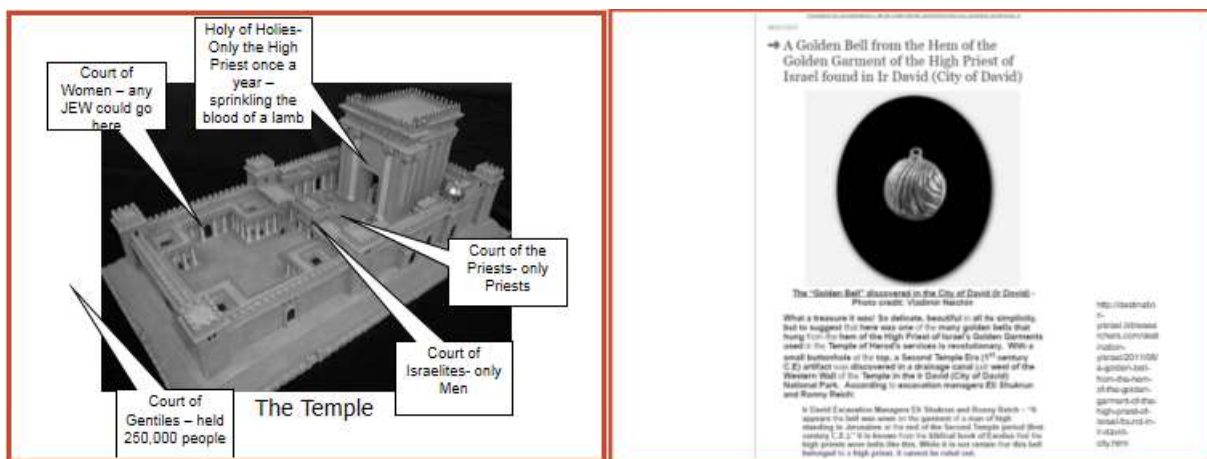
THE LAW:

- 10 commandments + 360 primarily dietary laws. - **By Jesus day these had become almost 1,000! (story of Jesus spitting on the ground to heal the blind man.)**
- The Ten Commandments were fulfilled at the cross **however...** Before you rejoice, **all but keeping the Sabbath are repeated in the New Testament.**
- In the OLD and NEW Testament we are told that the penalty for sin is DEATH. **But the NEW TESTAMENT declares something INCREDIBLE.**

ROMANS 8:1
Therefore, there is now *no* condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

That was the Law part of the Mosaic Covenant – next it the Levitical part or how God said to worship him.

First in a tabernacle in the desert and then a sanctuary in Jerusalem



The Levitical System – Priests and Sacrifices

- **Holy of Holies** only the high priest could enter 1 day a year ONLY on the **Day of Atonement** and he must be sprinkling blood!
- This is where the Jewish people found out if the **if** under the Mosaic covenant the nation of Israel would be found acceptable.
- Outside the Holy of Holies is **The Holy Place** (only priests were allowed, the sacrifices were done here).

- **Outer Court** where any Jew could go (women and children and believers who were then called God fearers or Gentiles)

LEV. 1.... IF YOU UNDERSTAND THIS CHAPTER YOU WILL HAVE THE THEME OF THE BIBLE UNDERSTOOD!!!

- It is the window through which we can look and understand the bible.

There were 5 sacrifices that are offered on the brazen altar by the priest (burnt, grain, peace, sin, trespass offering).

LEVITICUS 1:1-3
The Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting. He said, [2] "speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'when any of you brings an offering to the Lord, bring as your offering an animal from either the herd or the flock.
[3] " 'if the offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he is to offer a male without defect. He must present it at the entrance to the tent of meeting so that it will be acceptable to the Lord.

Why only your best? Humans would cull their flock!

OK, so why is this the key to the whole bible?

Symbolically they transferred their sin to the animal

ILLUSTRATE IT!

This is how it had to be done:

- *When you would bring your sacrifice in to the Priest you would acknowledge your sin and then symbolically transfer it to the animal. You did this by placing your hand on the head of the animal and then laying your head alongside the animal. The priest would then reach under your animal and take the knife and draw it across your neck – **BUT HE WOULD NOT CUT!** As he passed the knife under the neck of the animal he would cut and the animal would die in your place.*
- ***If you had to do this each time you sinned you would definitely understand how vile your sin is to God. (Lev 1-4)***
- ***(Ironically, they could save up their sins against God and sacrifice them ONE time on Yom Kippur – THE DAY OF ATONEMENT)***

- **The penalty for sin is Death!**

SO...In the Bible, was there a sacrifice....

- Who was a male,
- Who was perfect (had no sin),
- Who was brought before the temple,
- Was acceptable by God
- And sacrificed by spilling his blood??



Remember on the Day of Atonement, the high priest entered the Most Holy Place of [The Tabernacle](#) to offer ceremonial sacrifices for the forgiveness of the people (Hebrews 9:7). That Old Testament observance was a direct fore-picture of Jesus Christ, our High Priest (Hebrews 9:11), Who, after His Sacrifice, entered the very Throne Room of God The Father in heaven to make atonement for all humanity (Hebrews 9:11-12)

Q. WHAT DID THE TABERNACLE AND LATER TEMPLE LOOK LIKE...

A NICE STAINED GLASS AREA WITH PRETTY FLOWERS AT THE PULPIT????



NO...It was a horrendous smelly place like stockyards and every day they offered their sacrifice and were mentally and physically reminded of how vile a group of people they were. Only because God called them by name "his people" was there any hope.

**THIS SYMBOLISM IS
PORTRAYED THROUGHOUT
THE OT....**

- 1 animal per person covered the sin of Adam and Eve.
- 1 animal per family covered the mantle at the Passover.
- 1 animal covered the entire nation of Israel - One day per year on The Day of Atonement.

**1 HOLY GOD,
SACRIFICED ON
A CROSS TOOK
AWAY THE SINS
OF THE WHOLE
WORLD - ON ONE
DAY IN ALL OF
HISTORY!**



This is why the NT writers wrote this way about Jesus....

1 COR. 5:7

Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast-- as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

HEBREWS 10:4

Because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

1 PETER 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, [19] but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

JOHN THE BAPTIST CALLED JESUS

John 1:29



*The next day
John saw Jesus
coming toward
him and said,
"Look, the Lamb
of God, who
takes away the
sin of the world!"*

Q. WHY DID JOHN THE BAPTIST CALL JESUS "THE LAMB OF GOD"

A. HE WOULD BE **THE SUBSTITUTIONARY SACRIFICE** FOR YOU AND ME.

THE ULTIMATE LAMB!

- We are ***sinners by birth, by nature, by choice.*** When we put our faith in Jesus we also ***symbolically transfer our sins*** to the "lamb of God".
- ***It is not enough to be found only forgiven because that implies only the sins of the past.***
- To be found ***righteous*** is to be ***forever forgiven - blameless..***
- HOW ARE WE FOUND ACCEPTABLE NOW IN GODS EYES?
- When we symbolically transfer our sin to the LAMB OF GOD, the righteousness of Jesus is also transferred to us. God calls us righteous, blameless and forever forgiven or **JUSTIFIED!**

Q. OK, does going to church make you acceptable? How about being really good? How about giving lots of money to the church? NO NO NO

- For some this is a miraculous occurrence, for other it is a gradual acceptance, but in God's eyes the only question to be settled is where you are on this subject. It is not important whether you have a great story to tell about this decision, ***it is only important that you have made this decision.***

A non-decision is still a decision – it is a decision to stay right where you are...Which is?

- Already separated from God.

IF you die in this state you will get your wish FOREVER – YOU WILL BE FOREVER SEPERATED FROM GOD!

TODAY...AFTER CHRIST-WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR OUR ACCEPTANCE BY GOD?

There are 3 possible opinions... And only one is correct!

#1

THE LAW:

Man is responsible (by working, being religious) to make himself acceptable to God. You are acceptable to God according to what you do...

Jesus was asked by his Jewish disciples who were "**doing the Law**" this question ...

THE APOSTLES -LIVING UNDER THE LAW ASKED "WHAT IS THE WORK OF GOD"?

John 6:28,29

"The work of God is this 'believe in the one he has sent'".

PERIOD!

#2

GRACE:

God is responsible to make us acceptable by a gift In order for this to be grace, man cannot contribute to this in any way or we would have an ... "If"

Ephes. 2:8-9

For it is by *grace* you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

#3

- The last one was so prevalent **AND STILL IS** ...that Paul wrote a whole book (Galations) to the people in Galatia who were trying to live this way.
- The "religious leaders" would say
- ***You accept Jesus and then you must live like a Jew – keeping the Law.***
- It is called....

GALATIONISM:

... summed up as "God's grace has made it possible for man to work his way into acceptance"-- or "God loves unconditionally-- "if"

...we keep his rules.

We know that our Salvation is a GIFT OF GOD so ...

*How can you
WORK
for
a free gift?*



- **Dog in the City:** *locked up, fenced in – the minute he can run he does. (Picture of the LAW).*
- **Dog in the country:** *can go wherever he wants – not fenced in. Where do you find him? Close to his master on the back porch. (Picture of GRACE).*

RELIGION locks people up – RELATIONSHIP frees them!

RELIGION VS. RELATIONSHIP

- Have you been hurt by the church or some people of the church?
- You saw RELIGION
- RELIGION hurts people but...
- RELATIONSHIP HEALS !



So what does the Bible really say or SOLA SCRIPTURA?

GALATIANS 3:13-14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." [14] he redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the spirit.

ROMANS 5:18-20

Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was *justification* that brings life for all men. [19] for just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. [20] the law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, *grace* increased all the more,

OF THE THREE POSSIBLE ANSWERS WHICH IS CORRECT?

- The Law
- Galationism
- Grace **GRACE!**

KING RANCH NOT KING JAMES

- Cowboy's Ten Commandments posted on the wall at Cross Trails Church in Fairlie, Texas.

- (1) Just one God.
- (2) Honor yer Ma & Pa.
- (3) No telling tales or gossipin'.
- (4) Git yourself to Sunday meeting.
- (5) Put nothin' before God.
- (6) No foolin' around with another fellow's gal.
- (7) No killin'.
- (8) Watch yer mouth.
- (9) Don't take what ain't yers.
- (10) Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff

II. 950 BC THE DAVIDIC COVENANT (THE #2 MOST IMPORTANT COVENANT TO THE JEW)

- *It is also the answer to the question "How did the Jews miss it"????*
- The Davidic Covenant has to do with Israel's **King and HIS Kingdom.**
- **It is eternal, literal and unconditional.**

<p>2 SAMUEL 7:8</p> <p>"Now then, tell my servant <u>David</u>, 'this is what the Lord almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel.</p>	<p>2 Samuel 7:11-13</p> <p>" 'the Lord declares to you that the Lord <u>himself</u> will establish a house for you: [12] when your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your <u>offspring</u> to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. [13] he is the one who will build a house for my name, <u>and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.</u></p>
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- **WHO IS THIS? Jesus the Messiah**
- The great hope of Israel, this Descendant (the Messiah) **will establish a throne or kingdom forever.**
- *Every time Israel was in trouble they Remembered this promise ...*

The Star of David is the LITERAL symbol of this Covenant!



Jesus is called in the New Testament the "*Son of David*".


- This literally meant he was the King, the Descendant, and quite possibly the Messiah.
- We don't understand this from a Gentile perspective but from the Jewish perspective this was the most important factor.
- **Was his genealogy correct?**

- This is why the bible has all these "**begets**" in it. Remember the census at Christ's birth. **Mary and Joseph were of "the house and lineage of David."**
- ***HERE'S THE DILEMMA: THERE WERE TWO PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE MESSIAH!***

He was to be ...

<p style="text-align: center;">A CONQUERING MESSIAH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 9:6-7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. <u>He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,</u> establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness <u>from that time on and forever.</u> The zeal of the Lord almighty will accomplish this.</p>
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And he was to be ...

<p style="text-align: center;">A SUFFERING SERVANT AND MESSIAH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 52:13-15 & 53:1-12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">From THE MESSAGE TRANSLATION</p> <p>Written 700 years before Jesus Christ!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">ISAIAH 52:13-15</p> <p>“...At first everyone was appalled. <u>He didn't even look human— a ruined face, disfigured past recognition.</u></p> <p>Nations all over the world will be in awe, taken aback, kings shocked into silence when they see him. For what was unheard of they'll see with their own eyes, what was unthinkable they'll have right before them.”</p>
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Look for clues as to how to
recognize the Messiah from
these verses.

ISAIAH 53:1-12

Who believes what we've heard and seen? **Who would have thought God's saving power would look like this?** The servant grew up before God—a scrawny seedling, a scrubby plant in a parched field.

There was nothing attractive about him, nothing to cause us to take a second look. He was looked down on and passed over, a man who suffered, who knew pain firsthand.

One look at him and people turned away. **We looked down on him, thought he was scum.** But the fact is, it was our pains he carried—our disfigurements, all the things wrong with us.

ISAIAH 53:1-12

He took the punishment, and that made us whole. Through his bruises we get healed. We're all like sheep who've wandered off and gotten lost. **We've all done our own thing, gone our own way. And God has piled all our sins, everything we've done wrong, on him.**

He was beaten, he was tortured, but he didn't say a word. Like a lamb taken to be slaughtered and like a sheep being sheared, he took it all in silence.

Justice miscarried, and he was led off—and did anyone really know what was happening? **He died without a thought for his own welfare, beaten bloody for the sins of my people.**

The penalty of sin will be paid!

ISAIAH 53:1-12

They buried him with the wicked, threw him in a grave with a rich man. Even though he'd never hurt a soul or said one word that wasn't true.

Still, it's what God had in mind all along, to crush him with pain. **The plan was that he give himself as an offering for sin** so that he'd see life come from it—life, life, and more life. And God's plan will deeply prosper through him.

Out of that terrible travail of soul, he'll see that it's worth it and be glad he did it. Through what he experienced, my righteous one, my servant, will make many "righteous ones," as he himself carries the burden of their sins.

Therefore I'll reward him extravagantly—the best of everything, the highest honors because he looked death in the face and didn't flinch, because he embraced the company of the lowest. He took on his own shoulders the sin of the many. **he took up the cause of all the black sheep.**

A SUFFERING MESSIAH

Psalms 22:1-31

excerpted



PSALM 22:1-31 (EXCERPTED)

MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?

⁶but I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people.

⁷all who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads:

Where have we heard this?



⁸"he trusts in the Lord;
let the Lord rescue him.
Let him deliver him,
since he delights in him."

¹⁴I am poured out like
water,
and all my bones are out of
joint.
My heart has turned to wax;
it has melted away within
me.

¹⁵my strength is dried up like a
potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my
mouth; you lay me in the dust of
death. ¹⁶dogs have surrounded me;
a band of evil men has encircled me,
they have pierced my hands and my
feet.

¹⁷I can count all my bones;
people stare and gloat over me.
¹⁸they divide my garments among
them and cast lots for my clothing.

Written 1400
years BEFORE
Jesus Christ
and 900 years
before
Crucifixion was
invented!



- **THE DILEMMA: HOW CAN YOU
BE AN ETERNAL KING AND DIE?**

- The Jews (neither did the disciples) could not get it through their head that both would be one Messiah (neither did the disciples) , **but with missions that were totally separate.**

In fact, the prophecies were so specific regarding the Messiah that the Jews all knew that the arrival of Messiah was imminent during Jesus day.

- *But since they were under the oppression of the Romans, they (in their hearts) wanted the Conquering Messiah first.*
- *So, when Jesus arrived they refused to believe he was the one. Even though he was known to be of the "house and lineage of David".*
- ***Jesus entered Jerusalem exactly to the day fulfilling the prophecy of the Suffering Messiah in Daniel 9:24 (we'll see this next week)***
- Today of course, we know that Christ fulfilled the "Suffering Messiah" prophecy in his first coming.
- He will fulfill the "Conquering Messiah" prophecy at his Second Coming.

There is only one way he could fulfill BOTH prophecies: THE ONLY WAY HE COULD SUFFER AND DIE AND STILL BE ETERNAL IS IF HE IS

- **TRULY GOD AND COULD RISE FROM THE DEAD.**

The last covenant from the OT is:

600 BC THE NEW COVENANT (Very Interesting It Is Given In The OT But Fulfilled In The NT.

- In the book of Jeremiah, Jeremiah is asking God **"WHAT ABOUT THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT (as Jerusalem is being overrun)...YOU KNOW that LAND FOREVER?"**

GOD SAYS A NEW COVENANT WILL BE IN EFFECT.

A
Future Event

JEREMIAH 31:31-34
"The time is coming," declares the Lord,
"when I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT
with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.

[32] it will not be like the covenant
I made with their forefathers
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,"
declares the Lord.

[33] "this is the covenant I will
make with the house of Israel
after that time," declares the Lord.

"I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people....

**34 "FOR I WILL FORGIVE
THEIR WICKEDNESS
AND WILL REMEMBER
THEIR SINS NO MORE."**

**THE NEW COVENANT IS
DIFFERENT-**

- ♦ Law written on their minds and on their hearts (not on stone tablets)
- ♦ Sins forgiven - not covered up
- ♦ Cleansing - Forever clean
- ♦ Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

How will God write his Law on our hearts? By the Holy Spirit!

JESUS REFERRED TO THIS INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE STORY OF NICODEMOUS...

Nicodemous is the teacher of Rabbis and he comes to Jesus in the night time so no one will see him. But he is doing so because he knows his beliefs are correct and that he is a miracle man so he is trying to get to the bottom of this salvation thing. Remember- he is under the Law!

Since this is coming from the Old Testament Jesus makes the point that Nick should know this!

JOHN 3:3-7

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

[4] "how can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!"

"YOU OF ALL PEOPLE"

answered, "I tell you no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the spirit. [6] flesh gives birth to flesh, but the spirit gives birth to spirit.

[7] you should not be surprised at my saying, 'you must be born again.'

This is the only place that Jesus says "You must be born again", everywhere else it's "Follow me".

- *The reason: Jesus was addressing Nicodemus, a Pharisee, A Jewish religious leader and one who would know the **"New Covenant"** as prophesied in the Old Testament!*
- [to be a Pharisee, you had to have memorized the first 5 books of the Torah! – minimum. Nicodemus is called the "Teacher of Israel – indicating his position at the top of the Religious food chain!]
- **Water** – symbolic of physical birth (symbolized by a woman's "breaking water" at childbirth. This is the **"Flesh gives birth to flesh"**.

Note: Some people want to say that this is WATER BAPTISM...but it does not refer to that. Baptism is a symbol of OBEDIENCE that DOES NOT save you but signifies PUBLICLY that you are a Christ Follower.

- **Spirit** – Your spirit is born dead because we are born separated from God – **SINNERS BY BIRTH** – born into a world run by Satan!
- The Holy Spirit gives us **new life** or **rebirth** and our spirit's now are **reborn** and made alive **through our choice or conscious decision to accept Jesus as our Savior**. The Holy **"Spirit gives birth to [our dead] Spirit"**.

SO LET'S BE SURE THAT THE NEW COVENANT IS IN AFFECT AND THE OLD COVENANT (the Law) IS DONE AWAY WITH? SOLA SCRIPTURA!

<p>GALATIANS 3:13-14 <u>Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." [14] he redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the <u>promise of the spirit.</u></u></p>	<p>HEBREWS 8:6-13 But the ministry Jesus has received <u>is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on <u>better promises.</u></u></p>
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This is the New Covenant!

[7] for if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. [8] but God found fault with the people and said:
"the time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah....

[Vs. 9 - 12 are exact repeat of the new covenant in Jeremiah]

[13] BY CALLING THIS COVENANT "NEW," HE HAS MADE THE FIRST ONE OBSOLETE; AND WHAT IS OBSOLETE AND AGING WILL SOON DISAPPEAR.



If the Bible says that Jesus set aside the first Covenant (the Law) to establish the second....

Why do we humans continually try to go against God's word by trying to re-establish the LAW as the condition of our salvation?

Remember - this is SALVATION NOT how to live the Christian life

For that, just read the book of Ephesians

When we celebrate communion, we celebrate the fact that Jesus " SET ASIDE THE FIRST COVENANT" and " ESTABLISHED THE SECOND" the "New Covenant:

**JESUS HIMSELF INAUGURATES
THE NEW COVENANT**

Luke 22:19-20

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the New Covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."



THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO
SEE!!!!

- Jesus himself tells us that he is inaugurating the **NEW COVENANT**.
- Essentially he says:

" This cup symbolizes that the old is about to go away. The New Covenant prophesied by Jeremiah is about to begin."

The minute Jesus dies the “Old Covenant” is done away with and we are now under the New Covenant!

- Why?
- The penalty for sin is now paid!
- Our sins can now be forgiven FOREVER!

So here is a big question?

WHAT ABOUT DOING GOOD STUFF?

Isaiah 64:6

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags*; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

*HEBREW 5749 (‘UWD)];

THE MENSTRUAL FLUX; BY IMPLICATION (IN PLURAL) SOILING :- FILTHY. STRONGS CONCORDANCE

Filthy Rags are Menstrual rags - And these are your

GOOD DEEDS!

So we see that being GOOD offers absolutely NO HOPE OF GOING TO HEAVEN!

What is the basis of our acceptance and salvation by God - Today?

- Our acceptance/salvation today **is based on what Jesus did** (not what we do)
- **Our assurance** that our acceptance has **happened is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.**
- **Our good works** (that count) are the ones **that we let the Holy Spirit do through us.**

Col. 2:13-23

When you were **dead** in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you **alive** with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, [14] having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

[16] Therefore **do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.** [17] These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

Don't let this happen.

[20] Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules:...

[21] "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? [22] These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings.

[23] Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, *but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.*

In other words – if you are trying to make your behavior change vs. letting the Holy Spirit change you ...YOU WILL FAIL!

Illustration: Alcohols for some – white lying for others as example of **“written on your heart”**

The Holy Spirit convicts us and then when we submit to that, he changes us from the “INSIDE OUT”.

Galatians 5:18

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.

To be led by the Spirit is to be under the New Covenant!



TITUS 3:4-7 (NIV)

⁴ BUT WHEN THE KINDNESS AND LOVE OF GOD OUR SAVIOR APPEARED, ⁵ HE SAVED US, **NOT BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUS THINGS WE HAD DONE**, BUT BECAUSE OF HIS MERCY. HE SAVED US THROUGH THE WASHING OF REBIRTH AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, ⁶ WHOM HE POURED OUT ON US GENEROUSLY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR, ⁷ SO THAT, HAVING BEEN **JUSTIFIED** BY HIS GRACE, WE MIGHT BECOME HEIRS HAVING THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE.

Still think we have to keep the law to go to heaven?

If you want to try and be good enough (keep the law) then this is your verse!

James 2:10

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

Galatians 5:6

For in Christ Jesus ... The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Circumcision was a requirement of the JEWISH LAW. It was a "work" that the Galatians were requiring AFTER conversion to accepting Jesus as the Messiah.

They were saying **accept Jesus** and then **become a Jew!**

BUT THE BIBLE SAYS THAT THE LAW IS NOW OBSOLETE!!!

Romans 10:4

Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.



- *Under the Law our motivation is to not to get thrown out of heaven*
- *The Law is based on CONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE!*
- *" IF" I do good, God will accept me.*

Under the New Covenant we are accepted because of what Jesus did.

What is our motivation under the New Covenant?



Our New Motivation

God has made a simple way for me to become Right Standing (righteous) with him. He has:

- Forgiven all my signs past present and future
- He will never remember them again
- He has given me the Holy Spirit to help me through this life
- He has made a place for me in heaven for all eternity

Written to Hebrews/Jews who remembered everything and EVERY transgression of the law!

New Living Translation

Hebrews 8:12

And I will forgive their wickedness, and ***I will never again remember their sins.***"

You gotta love someone who does all of that – especially for a REBEL!!

Let's let Jesus himself tell us about this new motivation:

JOHN 14:23

Jesus replied, "if anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."

How will God make his home with us?

MATTHEW 22:36-39

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?"

[37] jesus replied: " 'love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' [38] this is the first and greatest commandment. [39] and the second is like it: 'love your neighbor as yourself.'

THE NEW COVENANT

- **Jesus has signed his part of the contract - HOW?**
- **IN BLOOD!**
- *The other part is up to you...Have you*
- *made the choice?*



SUMMING UP THE OLD TESTAMENT

- God has a plan - to totally redeem his people through Jesus the Messiah – *He must protect the DNA of the Messiah for Centuries!*
- Covenants are contracts - Promises by God
- The Abrahamic Covenant is **ETERNAL** and **UNCONDITIONAL** – the Jews will have the land FOREVER
- The Davidic Covenant means that the Jews will have a King and a Kingdom forever!

SUMMING UP THE OLD TESTAMENT

- The Mosaic Covenant was a “rehearsal” for the Messiah
- God hates sin but loves the sinner
- We are under a **NEW COVENANT**: Faith and only faith saves you. Doing the law does not.
- The law (although **OBSOLETE** – it is now written on our hearts) however has a purpose: to point us to God!

SUMMING UP THE OLD TESTAMENT

- The struggle between Satan and God is allowed by God for the purpose of totally redeeming his people
- Redeem means “bought for a price” if there was no struggle there would be no need to redeem. BTW – you only “redeem” objects of worth!
- Jesus is the fulfillment of all the OT prophecies about the Messiah – the substitute sacrifice to satisfy the “penalty of sin is death.”



End of Session III

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We'll look at things like:

- **Did Jesus really live**
- **Are their references to Jesus OTHER than the Bible**
- **The three things you ABSOLUTELY have to know from the Bible**