

A NEW COVENANT

Jeremiah prophesied that a New Covenant would come to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.
(Jer.31:31; Heb.8:8)

Jeremiah prophesied that the New Covenant would NOT BE LIKE the Old Covenant.
(Jer.31:32; Heb.8:9)

This lesson will study four aspects of the New Covenant.

1. The New Covenant (NC) would come because the Priest-Nation of Israel broke covenant with God.

(Jer.31:32) “My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them.” (Hebrew text)
(Heb.8:9) “They did not continue in My covenant, and I did not care for them.” (Greek text)

(Jer.22:9) “Then they will answer, ‘Because they forsook the covenant of the Lord their God and bowed down to other gods and served them.’”

Breaking covenant resulted in the 5th cycle of Divine Discipline being placed upon Israel, falling to Babylon in 586BC during Jeremiah’s ministry (Jer.39; 52; Lev.26).

The Curse of Coniah teaches us that the land of Israel would be under foreign rule, without a Divinely authorized Judean king, until the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Jer.22:24-30).

(Jer.24:30) “Thus says the Lord, ‘Write this man down childless, a man who will not prosper in his days; f or no man of his descendants will prosper sitting on the throne of David or ruling again in Israel.’”

(Ezek.21:27) “A ruin, a ruin, a ruin, I will make it. This also will be no more **until He comes whose right it is, and I will give it to Him.**” (Jer.23:5-8; Gen.49:10; Rev.5:5; 19:16)

2. When you study Jeremiah’s prophesy of the New Covenant (NC) in Heb.8:8-12, you can divide it into two groupings: “I will” [God] section and “They will” [believer] section (NASB).

The “**I will**” [**God section**] is used seven times:

(Heb.8:8) “For finding fault with them, He says, “BEHOLD, DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD,

- WHEN I WILL EFFECT A NEW COVENANT WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH;

(Heb.8:10) “FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL. AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD:

- I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS,
- AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS.
- AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD,
- AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.

(Heb.8:12)

- “FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES,
- AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE.”

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The “**They will**” [**believer section**] is used twice:

(**Heb.8:9**) “NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERS ON THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT;

• FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT,
AND I DID NOT CARE FOR THEM, SAYS THE LORD. AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE.”

(**Heb.8:11**) “AND THEY SHALL NOT TEACH EVERYONE HIS FELLOW CITIZEN, AND EVERYONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, ‘KNOW THE LORD,’ FOR ALL WILL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST OF THEM.

3. The New Covenant (NC) is an Unconditional Covenant.

This means the (unconditional) terms are dependent upon God rather than upon the believer.

This makes the unconditional (New) covenant superior to the conditional (Old) covenant. This makes the Abraham, David, and NC superior to the Mosaic covenant (Gal.2:167-21).

This means that Grace is superior to Law (Gal.3:10-29). This is the central message in both the Book of Galatians and the Book of Hebrews.

4. New Covenant believers are warned to not leave New Covenant theology and Grace for Old Covenant theology and Law.

(Rom.7:6) “But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that **we serve in newness of the Spirit** and not in oldness of the letter.”

The writer of Hebrews explained that the Old Covenant was faulty by Divine standards in Christ. It was designed to point mankind to Christ, not replace or to be a substitute for Him (Heb.8:7-8).

(Heb.8:13) “When He said, ‘A New Covenant,’ He has made the **first obsolete**. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to disappear.”

(2 Cor.3:4-6) “Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but **the Spirit gives life.**”

(Gal. 3:19) “Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, **until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.**”

(Gal.3:24) “Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.”