

Living in the Glorious NEW and Better Covenant

Part 2 of 2



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Part 2 of Living in the NEW Covenant and why it is SO, SO much more glorious and so much better than the Old Covenant OR even a “renewed” Old Covenant. Don’t live in the Old Covenant – polished up and “renewed” or not. We’re in a far better and NEW Second Covenant. This message includes the CHART that compares the Old and New Covenants side by side to SHOW that the NEW Covenant is SO much different from the OLD Covenant.

Hi everyone. Welcome once again to Light on the Rock.

Are you a believer who knows we are in a new – or many call it “renewed” – covenant, but often end up living in the Old Covenant?

- **HOW is the New Covenant different from the Old covenant? Is it so different that we should call it the “NEW” instead of the “renewed” covenant? And what lasting impact is left when we say “renewed” covenant?**

As I covered last time, one of the big reasons this is so important a topic is this: if you don’t understand the differences between the Old and New covenants, you’ll end up not EXPERIENCING the joys of the New Covenant and probably end up living in a somewhat modified *Old* Covenant!

So I hope you’ll hear part 1 of the sermon first, and then this one.

I showed last time that the Hebrew and Greek words for “new” CAN be translated, depending on context, as either “new” or “renewed”. But when we see HOW different and new this “second covenant” is, you’ll see why I always call it the NEW covenant.

Last time I showed how even those believers who believe we’re in a “renewed covenant” of the Old, and who SAY they keep the Torah -- can’t be better than Peter, who said they could not keep it the Torah, or the Law (see **Acts 15:5-11, especially verses 5, 10**). I made a list last time of just a **few of the 613 Torah rules** and how I’d “bet” that so few could keep even most of them, let alone ALL of them.

We also showed how Yah himself – in **Jeremiah 31:31-32** says the NEW covenant he would give was NOT going to be like the covenant he gave them at Mt Sinai. NOT like it. But because we don't understand the new covenant, we end up changing a FEW points of the Old Covenant and not relishing how wonderful, delicious and glorious the NEW one is.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 "Behold, the days are coming, says YHVH, when I **will make A NEW covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah — 32 **NOT according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt**, My covenant which they broke, *though I was a husband to them*, says YHVH."

BOTH covenants were or will be, marriage covenants.

- The first one was with PHYSICAL Israel at Mt Sinai where Israel married YHVH. Many scriptures express YHVH saying he was a husband to them but they broke that covenant. **Jeremiah 31:32; Isaiah 54:5 ; Jeremiah 3:14; EZEK 16:8;** etc.
- **The Second Covenant, the NEW Covenant, is between YHVH and SPIRITUAL Israel, "the Israel of God" (Galatians 6:16)**, made up of all spirit-filled believers who have accepted Yeshua as their Messiah, Savior and their Master/Lord - to obey him and submit to him.

Paul says this in **2 Cor 11:2** – "...for I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may *present you as a chaste virgin to Christ*". We know about the marriage of the Lamb in Revelation 19 and more. That verse in 2 Cor. 11:2 is written to a primarily Gentile church in ancient Corinth (part of Greece today).

The first marriage ended in divorce for their thousands of spiritual adulteries against YHVH and was ultimately annulled by the death of Yeshua, allowing him – once he was resurrected – to marry again, this time to Spiritual Israel. **Romans 7:1-6** clearly explains this.

OPENING THE WAY TO THE HEAVENLY HOLY OF HOLIES: When Yeshua was executed on the cross, when his side was ripped open by the spear of the Roman soldier, that pictured the ripping open of the veil keeping the Holy of Holies unavailable to the masses.

John 19:34

"But one of the **soldiers pierced His side with a spear**, and immediately blood and water came out."

Yeshua had to die by execution, not just a broken heart. The wages of sin is death – by execution – and that is what Yeshua went through for us on the stake or cross (Heb 9:22)

Hebrews 10:19-21

Therefore, brethren, **having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus**, 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God,

So now, let's continue.

Last time we covered the first 3 points of how the new covenant is so much more glorious than the old covenant. I'll mention them quickly again.

POINT 1: The OLD COVENANT was ONLY between YHVH and the nation of Israel. Too bad if you were a Gentile or lived outside Israel.

Exodus 19:5-6; Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Deuteronomy 14:2

YHVH in those verses tells the children of Israel they were a “SPECIAL TREASURE to me above all other people and nations”. He called them a holy nation. **Deut 14:2** says they were a CHOSEN people. So don't get upset at Jews if they feel special. In the Old Covenant, they were. Most Jews of course do not see or accept a new covenant.

Point 1 B– BUT THE NEW COVENANT IS NOW between GOD AND ALL of humanity who are the called, and who respond and accept Yeshua as their Saviour. Today he works with the spiritual group called “Israel of God” Galatians 6:16. Apply those verses in the Old Covenant to the Israel of God today.

Remember John 3:16-17—God so LOVED the WORLD, not just Israelites or Jews, that he sent his only Son to come and die for all who would believe on him and receive eternal life. NOW all the scriptures that applied to physical Israel now apply to the called out believers from all over the world. Look at the almost identical wording in 1 Peter 2 and comparing it to Exodus 19:5-6 and Deut 14:2.

1 Peter 2:9-10

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy”.

Now we have an “Israel of GOD” – composed of spirit-filled believers from all over the world (**Galatians 6:16**). This means a KENYAN who believes in Christ can now be a partaker of the promises made to Abraham as much as a Jew can. (Gal 3:26-29). **The story of the Gentile family of Cornelius made this very clear.** Read Acts 10.

Galatians 3:26-29

“For you are ALL sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

One of the main conditions to being included in the New Covenant now is to accept Yeshua as Savior, as John 3:16-21, 36-37 and so many other verses say! Now even Jews have to accept Yeshua -- or even the JEW is now OUT of covenant.

I do not believe most who use the term RENEWED Covenant understand this, for if they did, they would not be trying to become so Jew-like!

NOW it is the believers who are the CHOSEN, THE HOLY NATION, THE ROAYL PRIESTHOOD, HIS OWN SPECIAL people – not physical Israel, but SPIRITUAL Israel is now the CHOSEN of God.

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POINT 2 OF THE COVENANT CHART: OLD COVENANT WORSHIP REQUIRED ANIMAL SACRIFICES, EVEN THOUGH BLOOD OF ANIMALS COULD NOT SAVE US.

This is clearly taught in Hebrews 10:1-4.

POINT 2B – BUT IN THE NEW COVENANT, the Sacrifice for sin is now the sacrifice of the SON OF GOD, the “Lamb of God” (John 1:29). Christ has now replaced animal sacrifices and his one sacrifice is perfect and requires no more blood sacrifices of animals.

John 1:29 “Behold the Lamb of GOD who takes away the sin of the WORLD.”

God is now sharing himself with the whole world. Even Jews must now accept Yeshua as their Messiah, as their Savior, or they are no longer the chosen people spiritually.

Hebrews 9:11-15 clearly shows that Christ entered the heavenly holy of holies with his own blood, and by doing so – obtained eternal redemption for us. And he is now Well, let’s read Heb 9:15

“**And for this reason HE is the Mediator of the NEW covenant**, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.”

Then **Hebrews 10:11-14** says he FINISHED the need for all sacrifices by his ONE sacrifice, and then sat down, having finished his work. Tabernacle priests never sat down, as their work was never finished. People kept sinning. The tabernacle had no chairs in it.

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POINT #3 – the OLD COVENANT SAVED THEM FROM Egypt, BUT NEVER OFFERED THEM ETERNAL LIFE, SPIRITUAL SALVATION OR TRUE PERFECTION. (Did you realize that?)

Hebrews 7:19; 8:6-11,13;

BUT POINT 3B – BUT in THE NEW COVENANT, God now OFFERS ETERNAL LIFE AND SPIRITUAL SALVATION; which was NOT in the OLD Covenant.

God’s GIFT is eternal life (Rom 6:23). 1 John 5:11-13; 1 John 2:25 etc.

**** * NOW LET'S FINISH THE CHART COMPARING THE 2 COVENANTS. TO BE ABLE TO GET THRU IT ALL, I WILL QUOTE ONLY 1-3 VERSES ON EACH POINT and if you want more, I'll leave other verses you can review on your own. Let's continue now on POINT 4 below. Scroll down now to point 4.**

Remember to follow along with the audio – which will discuss more detail than the chart does.

COMPARISON OF OLD AND NEW COVENANTS

	OLD	NEW
1	<p>The Old Covenant (OC) was only between YHVH and Israel. Gentiles who lived in Israel, accept YHVH and if male, were circumcized, also could be part of the covenant with Israel. EX 19:5-6; Ex 20:14; Deut 7:6-8; Deut 14:2. Gentiles: like Rahab, Ruth, Uriah, etc.</p>	<p>The CHOSEN "people of God" status is now open to ALL mankind who respond and accept Yeshua as Savior. Gal. 3:26-29; Romans 9:6-9; 2:28-29; 1 Pet 2:5, 9-11. CORNELIUS' family - see Acts 10:24-48. Gal 4:19; Rom 6:23; John 3:16-21. We Believers are now the "Israel of God" Gal. 6:16.</p>
2	<p>ANIMAL Sacrifices were required. See Leviticus 1-7 chapters. The human High Priest had to keep repeating his work as the blood of bulls and goats could not save or make one perfect. Hebrews 10:1-4; Heb 9:9-10. Even the priests and high priest were imperfect.</p>	<p>THE one LIFE AND BLOOD of Yeshua, the Son of God, in his ONE sacrifice, replaces forever the many animal sacrifices and removes the sins of the whole WORLD, of all who accept him. (John 1:29 – “Behold the Lamb of God who takes AWAY the sins of the world”); Yeshua the Son of God is now High Priest of the New Covenant,. Heb 9:11-15; He sat down, finished the sacrifices Heb. 10:11-14; "has perfected forever those being sanctified". WE are now living sacrifices - Rom 12:1-2.</p>

3	<p>Old Covenant saved them from Egypt (Ex. 20:2); DID NOT OFFER SPIRITUAL SALVATION, perfection or Eternal Life. Hebrews 7:19; 10:1-4; The fault was with the people (Heb 8:7-10, 13). See Gal 3:19-22 -- The Law was pointing to Christ. Law could not give eternal life. PERFECT righteousness was not truly possible through the Torah because no one could keep it perfectly (Gal 2:20-21)</p>	<p>ETERNAL LIFE and spiritual salvation is what we freely receive in the New Covenant. Rom 6:23; 2 Cor. 3:6- the NEW COVENANT gives life thru belief in Messiah - John 3:16, 34-36. I John 5:11-13; 1 John 2:25; Heb 9:15; <u>Christ our new life (Col 3:3-4) lives in us</u> as he did before, obediently (1 John 2:3-6; Heb 6:11-12; Rom 2:7). We want - and by grace we receive - the righteousness of GOD himself over us through faith -- Phil 3:9-11; 2 Cor. 5:21; Christ is able to PERFECT us (Heb 10:13-14).</p>
4	<p>THE FOCUS OF OLD COVENANT WAS ON THE PHYSICAL ; physical temple, physical priests, sacrifices. Ex. 19:5-6; Deut 28 and Lev 26. Old Covenant was just the <u>SHADOW</u> of the BETTER, new covenant. Gal. 3:21; Hebrews 7:11, 18-19; Hebrews 10:1-2;</p>	<p>NEW COVENANT is based on spiritual promises. YESHUA now is what they all pointed to. HE is the REALITY-- not the shadow. No longer need those physical TYPES. Hebrews 10:1-4; Gal 3-4, 2 Cor. 3. God now wants to be worshiped in spirit & Truth, NOT just in temples or mountains (John 4:21-24).</p>
5	<p>REQUIRED PHYSICAL CIRCUMCISION AS THE SIGN of the Old Covenant (Gen 17:9-12; Ex 12:48 – even Gentiles circumcised if they wished to keep Passover; John 7:22 – circumcised even on the sabbath)</p>	<p>In the New Covenant, it is SPIRITUAL circumcision of the HEART; true conversion --Rom 2:25-29; And if we <u>insist on being circumcised for spiritual reasons, we negate the work and grace of Christ (Gal. 5:2).</u> Also see Jeremiah 4:4 – take away the foreskins of your heart; Col 2:11-13 ALL circumcised IN Christ's circ.</p>

<p>6</p>	<p>ONLY the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies and only on Day of Atonement. Leviticus 16, entire chapter. Hebrews 9:6-8, 7-15; Worship was through the human priests, who were mediator between man and God. Lev. 18:5; Gal 3:12</p>	<p>We can now pray directly to God our Father, through Yeshua our High Priest, any time, all the time. (John 4:23-24; 16:23-27 – “ASK, in my name...”; Heb 6:20- High priest of order of Melchizedek). God now is our "Abba" - daddy. (Rom 8:9-39; 1 Peter 3:18). WE are also now part of His holy royal priesthood with Christ, High Priest- 1 Pet 2:5, 9.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>The Law/Covenant was written on STONES 2 Cor. 3:7-11. Paul calls it "the ministry of death" because you died IF you broke it. Gal. 3:10-14. Old Covenant ratified by blood of animals (Ex. 24:8; Heb 9:19-20; 10:1-4)</p>	<p>YHVH's Law now written on our hearts by His Spirit. Jer 31:31-33. The NEW covenant is a covenant of LIFE (2 Cor. 3:6) ratified by the blood of the son of God (Matt 26:28; Rom 3:23-26), by his grace and by his righteousness. Phil 3:9-11; 2 Cor. 5:21</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Focus was on the LETTER of the Law; Romans 7:6; 2 Cor 3:5-6; obedience was often a "have to", not a "want to".</p>	<p>Focus is on the SPIRIT - intent - of the Law; Obedience now is from the heart; we WANT to obey (Rom 6:17 we obey from the heart; 2 Cor. 3:5-6- the letter kills; spirit gives life. We focus on spirit of the law, not just the letter of the law. Rom 7:6 – now “we serve in newness of the spirit and not oldness of the letter.”</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>The Old Covenant was a good and glorious covenant - but passing away. 2 Cor. 3. The OC is now considered "Old" (Hebrews 10:8-10) and was compared to HAGAR, the slave woman (Gal. 4:21-24)</p>	<p>This SECOND covenant is "more glorious" HEBREWS 8:6-8; 7:22; and is called "NEW" (Jer 31:31-33); A SECOND covenant Heb 8:7-10. The New Covenant is compared to Sarah, the free woman - Gal. 4:21-24. You don't want to be part of the Hagar analogy!</p>

10	<p>High Priest was Aaron -- and only descendants of Aaron could be the other priests ("Kohanim" in Hebrew) Ex. 28:1; Num 18:6-7. Other Levites were the Priests' servants.</p>	<p>Christ is our High Priest, of the order of Melchizedek (Heb 7; Heb 4:14-16; 5:5-6) And now <u>ALL BELIEVERS</u> - male or female; Gentile or Jew, are now a ROYAL + HOLY priesthood (1 Pet 2:5; 1Peter 2:9). No more "male or female" Gal 3:26-29.</p>
11	<p>OLD COVENANT was based on what WE do/did; Blessings and Cursings; but not eternal life. Lev 26; Deut 28. If you broke any part of the Old Covenant or the Law, you would die. Old Covenant promised blessings, prosperity, protection, victory over enemies and gave Israel the "chosen people" status.</p>	<p><u>NEW COVENANT based on the perfect, flawless life of YESHUA</u>, which we accept as our Covering AND OUR life (Col 3:3-4). GAL 3; saved by grace thru faith in Christ (Eph 2:8-9; 3:17). We still keep the commandments (1 John 2:3-6) through Christ in us (Rom 8:1-4) <u>who covers us by HIS life and righteousness (2 Cor 5:21; 1 Cor 1:30; Rom 3:21-22; Rom 5:17-19; Phil 3:9-11).</u> And we still receive divine protection and victory -- and ETERNAL LIFE.</p>
12	<p><u>Therefore, people felt condemned in the Old Covenant because they kept failing, kept sinning.</u> YOU will still feel condemned if you still live in the Old Covenant. It was impossible to keep the law perfectly. Even Peter said "we could not do this" --Acts 15:9; OC could not clear the conscience (Heb 9:9; 10:4, 11).</p>	<p>IN New Covenant, when our faith is in Yeshua, we are no longer condemned- Romans 8:1-4; Now we can be pleasing in Christ our life - Col 3:3-4; Rom 6:17-18; Rom 8:7-8,14; Our conscience is purged by Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 3:9; Col 1:27)</p>

13	<p>FEW received God's Spirit in the Old Covenant. Some did, like Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Elijah, Elisha, Daniel, etc. Gen 41:38; Num 27:18; Daniel 5:11, etc. but it was not poured out to large numbers.</p>	<p>NOW Holy Spirit is Poured out on ALL those God is choosing and who respond - Acts 2, Joel 2. We now have power to resist sin and grow in His holiness - 2 Cor 3:17-18; Rom 6:17-18; Rom 5:5; 2 Tim 1:14; John 14:26; Also Acts 2:38; Romans 8:9-10.</p>
14	<p>Carnal heart in the Old Covenant is against God and his laws (Rom 8:6) and desperately wicked (Jer 17:9). This is someone "in the flesh" vs "in the spirit" (Romans 8:6-8).</p>	<p>Our NEW heart is not against God or his law, though we still fight the old nature that still for now resides in us. See new - Jer 32:40; Rom 8:6-9; We are now "in the spirit", children of God, dearly beloved of God (Rom 1:7; Col 1:12; 9:25)</p>
15	<p>GENERATIONAL CURSES for sins of the Fathers (like Adam AND his future children all expelled). Jer 31:27-31 -- sour wine. The LAW did specify however that children were not be executed for sins of the father, and vice versa (Deut 24:16).</p>	<p>Yeshua drank vinegar/sour wine FOR US - "Finished" . Matt 27:45-51. The saved are an innumerable multitude (Rev 7:9-17) from ALL nations. God remembers our sins no more (Hebrews 10:17).</p>
16	<p>In the Old Covenant, God was known as YHVH (his most personal name), El Shaddai, El, Elohim, Adonai, etc -- It was fearsome to come before Him.</p>	<p>In the New Covenant, YHVH God Most High is our ABBA, our DADDY. We're no longer in dreadful fear. Read Romans 8:14-18. 1 John 4:17-19; LOVE casts out fear now. And YHVH the Word of God is now our Savior, Lord, Messiah and Husband-to-be.</p>

17	So the old covenant is passing away. Heb 10:9- "...takes away the first that he may establish the second [the new covenant]" 2 Cor 3:11; Heb 7:12.	Christ is mediator of the NEW and "BETTER" covenant (Heb 8:6, 13; 9:15, 24) <u>that lasts forever</u> (2 Cor 3:11; Heb 12:22-28; 13:20).
18	IN THE OLD COVENANT, YHVH dwelt in the center of the camp - but you could not personally approach and touch YHVH.	IN the NEW COVENANT, God the Father and Yeshua come RESIDE IN us (John 14:23). We become the temple of Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19); we RESIDE in God thru Christ (Col 3:3-4; 1 John 4:15-16).

SO REJOICE THAT WE NOW HAVE A SECOND, A BETTER, A NEW COVENANT WITH ETERNAL LIFE, SALVATION, GRACE, LIVING IN Christ AND GOD - and they in us. I hope you see why we do not want to be living in the Old Covenant any longer.