

## Newness of the New Covenant

All of the instruction in Hebrews that has preceded Heb. 10:19-25, in this letter was to show:

1. The superiority of Christ's sacrifice over all other sacrifices
2. The superiority of Christ's priesthood over all other priesthood's
3. The superiority of the New Covenant, in total, over the Old Covenant.

This epistle is a warning about apostasy. A true apostate HAS NEVER BEEN A TRUE BELIEVER as Paul told the elders at Ephesus:

**Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them and John writes, 1Jo 2:19 "They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us."**

## What is new about the New Covenant/The New and Living Way

1. It is about a changed heart Mt. 5:28; Mt. 15:19
2. The New Covenant law is written on the heart by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit
3. Christ dwelling in us by the Spirit is our New Covenant Law. Jer. 31-34; Ezek.
4. Jesus fulfills all the requirements of the Old Covenant and then as our New Covenant He interprets the Old Covenant in light of Himself to bring out its truest and complete meaning. He did not come to abolish the law or the prophets but to fulfill them and then to incarnate the substance and depth of what the Old Covenant always, as it was revealed part by part to the patriarchs, was meant to be.
5. We walk by the Spirit, are led by the Spirit, are directed and caused by the Spirit to be Christ lovers. This is the work of the Holy Spirit and the word of God.
6. The Old Covenant era was not the era of the changed heart ( all true believers had changed hearts but there was only a remnant all throughout Israel's history. All the people of Israel, believers or not were under the external demands of the law code of the Mosaic Law.
7. We are not bound by the Old Covenant, the Mosaic Law or The Ten Commandments, which as a unit is the summary of the Old Covenant. However, **all** of Scripture (2Tim 3:16) informs us of God's person and truth all is profitable yet all is not applicable in the same way. We need to know what it meant to Israel and especially Old covenant believers, as far as how it related to their understanding of the nature, and the attributes of God how it was meant to govern them as God's people and how it all points to fulfillment of all things in Christ.
8. Some examples of newness include: the unprecedented power to transform hearts; the actual forgiveness of sins, in contrast to a constant reminding of sin under the Old Covenant sacrificial system; the merging of Israel and Judah representing the true Israel of the New Covenant, Jews and Gentiles as one new people and an eschatological dimension/the final fulfillment of all things, in which the New Covenant is seen as the final covenant to end all covenants.

9. We have direct access to the throne of God and can talk directly to God and call Him Father because of all that Jesus has fulfilled for us by being our Lord, our Savior, our Redeemer, The Lamb of God, our Great Shepherd, Our new Covenant-incarnate, He is the Living Torah to the early Jewish believers and He is the Living Word, He is the Living inscription-the Law written on our hearts, He is our High Priest, our Temple, He is the living bread, the living water, He is the light and so much more.
10. The blood of the New Covenant is the blood of Christ. The New Covenant is a living person- Christ.
  - a. Some key verses: Is. 42:6-9; 43:19; 45:21-25; 46:9-13 prophesying this
11. This was God's eternal plan. That is why Jesus is referred to as "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13:8). This would be "the everlasting covenant (Heb. 13:20).
12. All of God's previous revelation, including the Mosaic era, anticipated and led to the coming of Christ (Gal. 3:19). Even that Old Covenant was a "shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ" (Col. 2:17; see also Heb. 10:1). For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. (2 Cor. 1:20)
13. All of what we are to understand in Scripture about God's redemption of a people for Himself is to be seen through Christ and the Scriptures of the New Testament.
14. The two testaments proclaim the same message, but from differing standpoints. The first, the Old Testament Scripture sometimes using veiled and symbolic language, points forward in anticipation and the other the New Testament Scripture, in clear and unmistakable terms, declares completion/accomplishment. Thus, we must read all of Scripture in light of the New Covenant, established in Jesus Christ. We must read Scripture in context. The Bible needs to be understood and communicated not only in its parts, but also in the whole.
15. We must give a logical priority to the New Testament Scriptures for understanding the old. For Christ is the priority for God's New Covenant people. The purpose of scripture is to glorify God and scripture's priority is the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Christ is the agent, purpose, and goal of creation—in whom, through whom, and for whom all things were created. God created the heavens and the earth with the express purpose of bringing all things to their ultimate goal through the suffering and death of Christ and His entering into His glory. For Jew and Gentile alike as one new covenant people Jesus is the New and the Living way. Thus the theology of the New Covenant declares that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the key to interpreting the whole Bible. It is Jesus Christ—His Person and His work—that gives meaning to the whole Bible and illustrates for us the New and the Living way.