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The New Covenant

The New Covenant was established by the Holy Righteous God, with fallen sinful man, after the “Fall”, whereby sinful man is justified before God, through his faith in the sacrifice of the Holy sinless Lamb of God, the “Seed of the woman.” John 1:29, Revelation 13:8.

The New Covenant, was established by the Holy Righteous God, with fallen sinful man after the “Fall”, and is first expressed in Genesis 3:15, where God is addressing satan:

God says, “I will put enmity between you, (satan), and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed, (that is Jesus Christ); He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.” Genesis 3:15, Hebrews 2:14.

Satan’s head or authority was crushed by Jesus Christ, through His holy sinless life, through His victory over every temptation of satan to sin, through His suffering and wounds, the shedding of His Blood, His death on the Cross, through the descent of His Spirit and soul into Hades, His resurrection and His ascension and enthroning at the right hand of God the Father. Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13, Hebrews 2:14, 15, 1John 3:8, Colossians 2:15, Ephesians 4:8, 1Peter 3:22, Matthew 28:18, Philippians 2:9-11, Ephesians 1:20-23, Hebrews 1:3, Revelation 1:18, Acts 2:27, 1Peter 3:18, 19.

When Adam and Eve first sinned, Genesis 3:6, 7, they covered their guilt and shame with fig leaves.

But God covered their guilt and shame with the skins of animals through the shedding of blood. Genesis 3:21, Leviticus 17:11, Hebrews 9:22.

Adam and Eve’s sons Cain and Abel knew this, Hebrews 11:4, and **when Able approached God, he did so by sacrifice. He offered the blood and the fat of a Lamb, and was accepted.** Genesis 4:4.

The other son Cain, offered some of the vegetables that he had grown, (the work of his own hands), and his offering was not accepted by God. Genesis 4:3, 1John 3:12.

The principle is, that, “Without the shedding of Blood there is no forgiveness of sins.” Hebrews 9:22.

We can only approach God, by faith in the shed Blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of our sins, and receive justification and peace with God. Matthew 26:28, John 1:29, 1John 1:7, Revelation 1:5, Romans 5:1, Romans 5:9, 10, 1Corinthians 11:25.

Another expression of the New Covenant is in Genesis 15:6, Abraham, **“believed in the Lord; and He accounted it to him for righteousness.”** Galatians 3:6, Romans 4:3. Abraham was not justified by works, but by faith. Galatians 3:5-11, 2:16, Romans 4:1-5.

The Law, as expressed through Moses, in Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy, came 430 years after God established His Covenant of righteousness by faith with Abraham, (Genesis, Chapters 12 -17), and in no way cancelled it. Galatians 3:16-18. **“Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.”** Galatians 3:7, 9, 16-18, 2:16.

The New Covenant principle of righteousness before God by faith, and not by works, is expressed in Hebrews 11: for Abel, verse 4, for Enoch, verse 5, for Noah, verse 7, for Abraham, verse 8, and so on.

The Old Covenant

The Old Covenant is the covenant under which Adam and Eve lived before the fall.

It is a covenant of salvation through works of obedience. Leviticus 18:5, Ezekiel 20:21, Romans 10:5.

Since the “Fall” of man, no human being, **apart from Jesus Christ, has lived a perfect sinless life of obedience to God, by his own works.**

The expression of the Old Covenant, as given in the “Law of Moses”, was not given to enable people to get right with God and be accepted by Him, but was given to show man the full righteous law of God, and to convince man of his sinful state before God, and the need of the Saviour, Jesus Christ. Romans 3:20, Galatians 2:16, Galatians 3:11, Galatians 3:19.

However, the Gospel of salvation, through heart faith and mouth confession, in the Word of God, was clearly stated by Moses also, in Deuteronomy 30:11 to 14. This is a clear expression of the New Covenant. And is confirmed in Romans 10:6-10.

When Paul wanted to define the Gospel he preached, and the New Covenant, he quoted this passage from Moses and said, "This is the word of faith that we preach." Romans 10:5 to 8, and Romans 10: 9 and 10.

Sadly, many of Israel made a decision to try and keep the law by their own works and failed. Romans 9:30-33, Romans 10:1-4. These were the Pharisees, Scribes, Teachers of the law, who opposed Jesus in His ministry.

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. Galatians 2:16.

The Law of Christ

(Is the sum total of all of the commandments Jesus has given to us to keep.)

Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments. John 14:15, 21.

Jesus said, "You are My friends, if you do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14.

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 13:34.

Jesus said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:19, 20.

All the commandments Jesus has given to us, make up the "Law of Christ." Galatians 6:2, 1Corinthians 9:21.

Jesus confirmed the greatest commandment. And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is**, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength: **this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this**, You shall love your neighbour as yourself. **There is none other commandment greater than these.**" Deuteronomy 6: 4, 5, Matthew 22:36-40, Mark 12:29-31.

Some of Jesus commandments not already mentioned:

"And when you stand praying, **forgive, if you have aught against any**: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses." Mark 11:25, 26. **And be humble.** Matthew 20:26-28.

"**And as you would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.**" Luke 6:31, and Luke 10:37.

"**Love your enemies**, do good to them that hate you,....." Luke 6:27. (e.g. Forgive them, and bless them with Acts 26:18.) **And be humble.** Matthew 20:26-28.

"**Give and it shall be given unto you**; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom." Luke 6:38. And Proverbs 11:24, 25, Proverbs 19:17.

"**When you pray, say, Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in Heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**" Luke 11:2-4, Matthew 6:9-13.

"**God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him, must worship Him in spirit and in truth.**" John 4:24.

"**Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.**" Mark 16:15.

"**Repent and believe the Gospel.**" Mark 1:15.

"**You must be born again.**" John 3:7.

"**Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.:** Matthew 4:19. **And fear not.....you shall catch men.** Luke 5:10.

“If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.” Luke 9:23.

“Swear not at all.” Matthew 5:34, (James 5:12.)

“Judge not, (*to condemn*), that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you shall be judged.” Matthew 7:1. (Evaluative judgment is commanded, Matthew 7:15-20, 1Thessalonians 5:21, Acts 17:11.)

“Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation:” Matthew 26:41.

“Let your light shine before men.....” Matthew 5:16.

“Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the Master of the house comes.....Lest coming suddenly He find you sleeping..... And what I say unto you, I say unto all, “WATCH!”” Mark 13:26-37.

“Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was an hungred, and you gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me in: naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison and ye came to Me.” Matthew 25:34-36. Be faithful and you will be rewarded.

“And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.” Luke 24:49. Receive the Holy Spirit to give you the power to serve Jesus. Acts 1:8, 4, 5.

“Take, eat: this is My Body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me.....This cup is the New Testament in My Blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.” Take Holy Communion. 1 Corinthians 11:24, 25.

“Rejoice, because your names are written in Heaven. Luke 10:20. Read Luke 10:19 and 20.

“But from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; And they twain shall be one flesh; so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder. Mark 10:6-9. “Whosoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, committeth adultery against her. And if a woman put away her husband, and be married to another, she committeth adultery. Mark 10:11, 12. Matthew 19:3-9.

“Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things that he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, BELIEVE THAT YE RECEIVE THEM, AND YE SHALL HAVE THEM.” Mark 11:22-24. (The literal Greek for verse 22, is “Have the faith of God.” Young’s Literal Translation and other authorities. As in Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4.)

“These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles,But go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely you have received, freely give.” Matthew 10:5-8. (According to your level of faith, heal the sick and cast out demons, and more, as commanded.)

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED, NEITHER LET IT BE AFRAID.” John 14:27. Also, Matthew 14:26, 27, 17:7, 28:9, 10, John 14:1-3, Acts 18:9, 10, Revelation 1:17, 18.

And there are very many more commandments of Jesus, which make up the law of Christ.

By the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, Matthew 3:11, Luke 3:16, Acts 1:4, 5, Luke 24:49,

and the fullness of the Holy Spirit, Ephesians 5:18 19, Galatians 5:16, Romans 8:1-10,

by faith in the promises of God, 2Corinthians 1:20, Romans 10:6-8, 9, 10, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 2:10, Philippians 2:13, Colossians 1:27,

we are able to walk in the way Christ has commanded us to walk, and keep all His commandments.