



May Memory Verse: *“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 11 And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.”* **Hebrews 8:10 -12**

Series: Jesus is Better (17)

Title: Jesus Established the Better Covenant

Scripture: Hebrews 8:8-13

What is a covenant?

- A partnership between two or more parties to accomplish a goal together
- In a Biblical covenant God makes promises and asks his partnering people to make commitments with the purpose of renewing partnerships with everyone else.

What is the Old Covenant in the Old Testament? Exodus 19:5, 8; 24:7, Deut. 30:15-20

- God gave the Law to the Israelites and required them to obey God and to keep the law and God would protect and bless them.
- The people broke the covenant - they worshiped other gods, they allowed horrible injustice, they lost their land and were forced off into exile.

Why did we need a New Covenant? Heb. 8:9 - People were not faithful to God’s covenant.

- **The Old Covenant was Not Powerful - Romans 8:3**
- **The Old Covenant was Not Provisional**
- **The Old Covenant was Not Personal - Hebrews 10:1**
- **The Old Covenant was Not Pardoning - Rom. 3:28, Hebrews 7:18-19**

What is the New Covenant?

- The New Covenant is the promise that God makes with humanity that He will forgive sin through Jesus Christ’s death and resurrection and restore fellowship with those whose hearts are turned toward Him.

What is better about the New Covenant? God does what man could never do.

1. **God made the covenant with the perfect God-man Jesus. (vs. 8-9)**
 - God establishes a New Covenant through Jesus so that anyone who believes in and follows Jesus can become part of the new covenant family.
2. **God transforms our minds and our hearts to be like His. (v. 10)**
3. **God promises to receive and relate to us as His people. (v. 10)**
 - We must receive God's grace and live by faith in Christ.
4. **God gives us a vision of what will be when Jesus returns. (v. 11, Isa. 11:9)**
5. **God redeems and restores sinners to saints. (v. 12)**
 - a. **God will be merciful toward our iniquities.**
 - b. **God will remember our sins no more.**
6. **God gives us a temporary mission and an eternal promise. (v. 13, Acts 1:8, Rom. 1:16)**

What do I do now?

1. **Spend my life learning and applying the truth and grace of the Old and New Covenant. (Read, pray, sing, teach, proclaim, love, repeat)**
2. **Radiate the glory of the ministry of the Spirit in a glory-fading world. (2 Cor. 3:7-18)**
 - I stop trying to be a clean mirror reflecting God.
 - I understand what the fading glory of the Law does and does not do.
 - Simply radiate the surpassing glory of God by the Spirit of God inside me.