New Covenant

Ken Chapman · Hebrews 8:7–13

INTRODUCTION

- January should be known for something else. It should be known as the month of contracts.
- The old covenant was a contract that God had with the nation of Israel.
- It's not just new in the sense that it came after the old, but it's also new in the sense that it's better.

1 If That First Covenant Had Been Faultless

Hebrews 8:7–8; Hebrews 8:13; Jeremiah 31:31–34

- God didn't bring in a new covenant just because he wanted to bring in a new covenant. He brought in a new covenant because it improved upon the previous covenant.
- The true fault that lay in that covenant was not in the text of the covenant, and not with the heavenly party involved in that covenant, but with mankind.
- As soon as you enter in the concept of something new, then the old begins being obsolete.
- As soon as Jeremiah uttered those words, the old law, he said, began to vanish away.

2 A Greater Emphasis on the Heart

Hebrews 8:10; Deuteronomy 6:5–6; Matthew 22:35–40

- The first thing about this new covenant is that it's going to have, or it will now have, a greater emphasis on the heart.
- I will put my laws in their mind and I will write them on their hearts.
- What was the exception under the old covenant is now going to become the norm under the new covenant.
- Law, at its very essence, law is the expression of God's eternal nature.
- Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbor as yourself. Those are the two big peg hooks of laws. Those are the living principles that God has laid down.

3 A New Covenant All About Relationships

Hebrews 8:10–11

- This prophecy also tells us that this new covenant would be all about relationships. A relationship that involves obedience, but a relationship which is primary.
- I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
- I want a relationship that's so important that it's bound by law. It's bound by contract, that it's a covenant relationship.
- Within this family, within this covenant people, you don't have to say, know the Lord, because if you're in this family, you know him already.

- You're not going to be a part of this family, a part of this kingdom, just by virtue of your physical birth. You have to enter into this kingdom.

4 Their Sins I Will Remember No More

Hebrews 8:12

- I will be merciful to their unrighteousness and their sins and their lawless deeds. I will remember no more.
- Our sins are forgiven. And that makes it possible. That gives us that clean new heart, that clean new slate on which God's laws can now be written.
- Whereas there was no relationship before. Now we are his people because our sins have been forgiven.
- Our righteousness, our godliness comes from the inside out.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Can we encourage you to be a part of this covenant, to join in with Christ and be his people?**

MY NOTES