

The Gospel in the Old Testament

The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31

August 11, 2019

Kingdom through covenant

Noahic Covenant (Gen. 9:1-17)

**The Noahic Covenant promises stability to nature
God unconditionally promises man and animals to
never again destroy the earth with water**

Kingdom through covenant

Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 12:1-3)

Land, Seed, Blessing

The conditional Mosaic Law provided the means through which a specific generation of Israel could experience the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant

God made a New Covenant with Israel which would enable the people to obey and eternally experience the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

1. God addressed the New Covenant to Israel and Judah

- **Jeremiah 31:31** I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

2. The New Covenant differs from the Old Covenant

- **Jeremiah 31:32** not like the covenant which I made with their fathers

There is discontinuity between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

The New Covenant cannot be broken by human sin as the Old was.

The Old Covenant was conditional while the New Covenant is unconditional.

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

3. In the New Covenant, God provides the following (Jer. 31:33-40)

a. The foundational provision: the forgiveness of sins

○ **Jeremiah 31:34** "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

The forgiveness of sins forms the basis for all the other provisions/promises.

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

3. In the New Covenant, God provides the following (Jer. 31:33-40)

b. A new obedience by the indwelling Spirit

- **Jeremiah 31:33** I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts
- **Deuteronomy 30:6** the LORD your God will circumcise your heart

What does the New Covenant offer that Old Testament saints did not experience?

- 1) The Holy Spirit regenerated Old Testament Saints
[John 3:5] Regeneration produces faith!**
- 2) The Holy Spirit did not permanently indwell all Old Testament saints [John 7:37-39, 14:16-17]**
- 3) The Holy Spirit did abide with all Old Testament saints
[Haggai 2:5]**

The Holy Spirit would individually and intimately be “in” each believer.

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

3. In the New Covenant, God provides the following (Jer. 31:33-40)

C. A new relationship to God

- **Jeremiah 31:33** I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
- **Jeremiah 31:34** they will all know Me

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

3. In the New Covenant, God provides the following
(Jer. 31:33-40)

d. The Noahic Covenant guarantees the fulfillment of the
New Covenant to Israel (35-37)

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3. In the New Covenant, God provides the following (Jer. 31:33-40)

e. Physical blessings

- Rebuilt cities (Jer. 30:18, 31:38-40)**
- Population explosion (Jer. 30:20)**
- Cultivation and productivity of the land (Jer. 31:5)**
- God gathers Israel to the land (Jer. 31:8-11)**
- Blessing, rest and peace (Jer. 31:23-25)**
- Increase in herds and flocks (Jer. 33:12-13)**
- Ultimately, the New Covenant provides for the total renewal of all things in the new creation**

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A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

3. In the New Covenant, God provides the following (Jer. 31:33-40)

- a. The foundational provision: the forgiveness of sins**
- b. A new obedience by the indwelling Spirit**
- c. A new relationship to God**
- d. The Noahic Covenant guarantees the fulfillment of the New Covenant to Israel**
- e. Physical blessings**

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

A. The New Covenant [Jeremiah 31]

4. The relationship between the Abrahamic Covenant and the New Covenant

The people were unable to obey the mosaic law to receive the blessings of the Abrahamic covenant. So God made a new covenant to give the people this blessing.

I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament

B. The New Covenant and the Salvation of the Gentiles

1. The Abrahamic Covenant and Gentile inclusion in the New Covenant

- **Genesis 12:3** in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.

How do gentiles receive salvation if Jeremiah 31 doesn't promise the New Covenant to them?

- **The New Covenant will be fulfilled in the future with national Israel; the church has no relationship to the New Covenant**
- **There are two New Covenants—one with Israel and another for the church**
- **The New Covenant is completely fulfilled with the church; there is no future fulfillment with national Israel**
- **The New Covenant will be *fulfilled* with Israel but the spiritual blessings of the covenant are *applied* to the church today**

How do gentiles receive salvation if Jeremiah 31 doesn't promise the New Covenant to them?

- **Since the New Covenant was given to Israel for the purpose of also blessing Gentiles, there is literal fulfillment of the spiritual blessings of the New Covenant to all believing Jews and Gentiles in this present age. But, the physical/national promises await fulfillment with Jesus' second coming when national Israel is incorporated into the New Covenant.**

- I. The New Covenant in the Old Testament**
- B. The New Covenant and the Salvation of the Gentiles**
 - 2. The promise of New Covenant salvation to Gentiles**
 - **Isaiah 52:15** Thus He will sprinkle many nations