

A New Dispensation – The Law Fulfilled

A New Dispensation AND-03)

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- The Covenants Explained
- Understand how to accurately handle the Word of God
- Understand an appropriate response to God and His word in this dispensation

Covenants Old and New

- Covenant – a binding contract between two parties, ratified by swearing an oath
- Old was a foreshadowing of the New
- Old pointed forward to a Messiah or Savior
- New describes the fulfillment of God's promise through Jesus Christ
- The Old – Covenant of Law
 - Mt Sinai – ten commandments and total of 613 laws
 - Protecting Israelites from pagan influence
 - Unable to keep the law – substitutionary sacrifice of animal
 - Tabernacle/temple – priests, holy of holies, Day of Atonement
- The New – Covenant of Grace
 - God sent Jesus – the innocent sacrifice to resolve the problem of sin
 - Once – for – All
 - The Old Covenant – for a specific people in a specific place and time
 - The New Covenant extends to the entire world
- Matthew 5:17-20
 - Jesus did not come to abolish the law
 - Jesus came to accomplish its purpose – (NASB – to fulfill)
 - No detail will disappear until its purpose is achieved

- Galatians 3
 - Galatians as if under a spell – deceived
 - Trying to become perfect by human effort
 - God counted Abraham righteous because of his faith
 - Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would declare the Gentiles to be righteous because of their faith
 - Those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse
 - No one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law
 - The way of faith is very different from the way of law
 - God gave the promise to Abraham and Jesus
 - The law did not cancel the promise
- Why was the law given? What was its purpose to be achieved?
 - To show people their sins
 - Designed to last only until the coming of Jesus
 - We are prisoners of sin and receive freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ
 - The law – a guardian (NASB – tutor) – protecting us until we could be made right with God through faith
 - Now that faith has come – no need for the law as our guardian
- 1 Timothy 1:8-11
- The law is still a guardian – tutor for the lawless, protecting them until they come to faith

The law fulfilled in Love

- Romans 13:8-10
- John 14:15 (NASB) "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.
- 1 John 5:3 (NASB) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.
- Romans 7:6 (NLT2) But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.