

The New Covenant - Lesson 20

1. **Review:**

- Follow Me - Jesus. Are you an all-in disciple of Jesus or only a believer?
- Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me." - John 14:6

2. **Jesus earthly ministry and miracles**

- Jesus earthly ministry lasted **3** years. Read all about it in the 4 Gospels.
- The 4 Gospels record Jesus performing around **40** miracles, but the book of John says He did many more that are not recorded. (John 20:30)
- Jesus performed miracles to show that He was indeed **God** and that His **message** was from God. Listen to Him and believe what He says!

John 10:37-38

- Jesus didn't come to earth to heal as many people as He could, but rather:
 - To seek and save the lost. (Luke 19:10)
 - To give his life as a ransom. (Mark 10:45)
 - To be the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. (John 1:29)
 - To give His life so all who believe on Him will have eternal life. (John 3:16)
 - To be the sacrifice who makes us right in God's sight when we believe in Him. (Romans 3:23-25)
 - To confirm the New Covenant with His shed blood. (Luke 22:20)

3. **Jesus announced the New Covenant during the Last Supper with his disciples.**

- Jesus and His disciples were celebrating the **Passover** meal together.
- Jesus announced to his disciples that a huge **change** was coming in the way God would interact with His people.
- God and His character do not change, but the way He interacts with people does.
- Jesus announced He was establishing a **New Covenant** between God and His people.

Luke 22:14-20

- The Covenant being replaced was **the Law**.
 - The Israelites/Jews were in this contract with God for around 1,500 years. Started with Moses in the wilderness at Mt. Sinai and ended with Jesus' death on the cross.

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- This new covenant was an agreement confirmed with **Jesus' blood**.
- The new covenant is essentially this:
 - whoever truly admits they are a sinner before God and responds by believing that Jesus' death and shed blood alone can pay God's penalty for their sin, then God agrees to unconditionally forgive them **permanently** from all their sins and give them eternal life with Him.
 - **John 3:16** is a good summary verse for the New Covenant

John 14:16-17

- For people who are a part of the New Covenant (believers), Jesus taught that the Holy Spirit would live **inside** them.
- Jesus called the Holy Spirit the **Advocate**. (14:16)
 - Other translations say: Counselor, Helper, Comforter, and Encourager.
- Jesus said the Advocate/Holy Spirit will **never leave** you. (14:16)

John 16:5-7

- Jesus said it was better for Him to **leave** earth and for the Holy Spirit to come.

John 16:12-15

- Holy Spirit would guide disciples into all truth from Jesus which they weren't ready to bear or grasp yet.
 - These truths from Jesus are found in the rest of the New Testament in the letters the Apostles wrote.

4. Application:

- If you haven't already, enter the new covenant with God by truly admitting you're a sinner before God and believe that Jesus' death in your place alone provides forgiveness by God for all your sins.
- Read the book of Hebrews. It often compares the Old Covenant and New Covenant and explains how the the New Covenant is much better!
- Jesus' sacrificial death provided perfect cleansing - in God's sight - of our sins for all time! Aren't you glad He didn't come 2,000 years ago only to heal physical illnesses, but to heal our sin-blemished spirit and provide forgiveness for all of our sin for all time? Remember this when Satan or others heap guilt on you for your past sins. - **Hebrews 10:1, 11-12**
- Because Jesus came to earth, lived as we do in a human body, and gave His life, we, in the New Covenant, are able to boldly enter God's presence and find grace to help us when we need it most. - **Hebrews 4:14-16**. Do you enter His presence knowing you are welcome and wanted?