

>> ALL AUTHORITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. GO THEREFORE, AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL THINGS THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE END OF THE AGE.

>> (SINGING)

CLIFF >> HELLO. MY NAME IS CLIFF GOODWIN. I'M SO THANKFUL THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN THIS TIME OUT OF YOUR DAY TO TUNE IN AND TO JOIN ME HERE FOR PREACHING THE GOSPEL. I HAVE MY BIBLE IN HAND. I WANT TO INVITE YOU TO TAKE YOUR BIBLE DOWN AT HOME ALSO SO THAT HERE IN A FEW MOMENTS WE CAN OPEN THE WORD OF GOD TOGETHER, STUDYING THEREFROM, AND HOPEFULLY GAINING MUCH AND ETERNAL PROFIT FROM OUR TIME SPENT IN A STUDY OF GOD'S WORD. I'VE ENTITLED OUR STUDY FOR TODAY SIMPLY THIS: WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT? WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT? PERHAPS AS YOU HEAR THAT TITLE, YOU MIGHT BE SITTING AT HOME THINKING TO YOURSELF, WELL, I DIDN'T REALIZE ANYTHING PARTICULAR WAS SPECIAL ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT. OTHERS OF YOU MIGHT BE REASONING IN YOUR HEARTS, WELL, ALL OF THE WORD OF GOD IS SPECIAL, BOTH OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS. AND INDEED, THAT'S CORRECT. THERE IS A VERY TRUE SENSE IN WHICH ALL OF THE WORD OF GOD IS SPECIAL, INDEED. NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. BUT WHAT WE'RE GOING TO SEE TOGETHER TODAY FROM THE BIBLE IS WE'RE GOING TO SEE THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT HAS SOME FEATURES, IT HAS SOME QUALITIES OR TRAITS, IF YOU WILL, THAT MAKE IT SPECIAL IN ITS OWN RIGHT. AND EVEN IN STANDING, IN CONTRAST TO THE OLD TESTAMENT, THERE ARE FEATURES AND QUALITIES AND FACTS ABOUT THE NEW THAT SHOULD CAUSE US TO REALIZE IT IS THE BETTER TESTAMENT. THOSE ARE NOT CLIFF GOODWIN'S WORDS, BUT RATHER YOU CAN FIND THAT STATEMENT IN HEBREWS 7:22, REFERRING TO THE NEW TESTAMENT AS THE BETTER TESTAMENT. THIS IS AN EXCITING STUDY, AND I'M GLAD THAT YOU'RE WITH ME. LET'S BEGIN IN 2 CORINTHIANS 3:6. HERE PAUL SAID OF HIMSELF AND OF THOSE INSPIRED LABORERS WITH HIM, WHO ALSO HATH MADE US, THAT IS, THE LORD HATH MADE US ABLE MINISTERS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT; NOT OF THE LETTER, REFERRING MOST LIKELY TO THE OLD LAW, BUT OF THE SPIRIT, REFERRING NOW TO THE NEW LAW. FOR THE LETTER, OLD LAW, OLD TESTAMENT, KILLETH; BUT THE SPIRIT, NEW LAW, NEW TESTAMENT, GIVETH LIFE. NOW, THIS IS SOMETHING HERE THAT WE WOULD DO WELL TO APPRECIATE ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT. AND THAT IS IT WAS THE TESTAMENT THAT WAS MINISTERED, AS IT WERE, BY THE APOSTLES THEMSELVES. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT IT THIS WAY, BUT IF THE OLD TESTAMENT WERE ALL THAT MANKIND EVER NEEDED AND IF THE OLD TESTAMENT ITSELF WERE ABLE TO SUPPLY MAN'S SPIRITUAL NEEDS COMPLETELY AND ENTIRELY, WELL, THEN WHY WOULD JESUS EVER COME? WHY WOULD JESUS EVER INSTITUTE OR INAUGURATE A NEW TESTAMENT? PONDER ON THAT FOR A FEW MOMENTS, BECAUSE THESE ARE VALID QUESTIONS. NOT IN ANY WAY AM I SEEKING TO DENIGRATE THE OLD TESTAMENT. I WANT YOU TO KNOW UP FRONT THAT THE OLD TESTAMENT IS THE WORD OF GOD, THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD. IN FACT, ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF GOD, AS WE READ IN 2 TIMOTHY 3:16. AND YET GOD IN HIS INFINITE WISDOM, EVEN IN GIVING MAN THE OLD TESTAMENT, GIVING IT TO ISRAEL, GOD IN HIS WISDOM INTENDED THAT ONE DAY THE NEW TESTAMENT SUPERSEDE IT, IF YOU WILL, AND THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT WOULD ACCOMPLISH THINGS THAT GOD NEVER INTENDED FOR THE OLD TO ACCOMPLISH. SO JUST FOLLOW ALONG WITH ME HERE, AND I WANT US TO NOTICE THREE REASONS THAT HELP US TO SEE THE NEW TESTAMENT IS SO SPECIAL. REASON NUMBER ONE. IT IS SPECIAL BECAUSE IT WAS GIVEN BY JESUS CHRIST. IT WAS GIVEN BY JESUS CHRIST. ANYONE

WHO HAS STUDIED THE BIBLE AT LENGTH REALIZES THE UNIQUE AND SPECIAL ROLE OF JESUS CHRIST. HE ALONE CAN BE STYLED THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD, 1 JOHN 4:14. HE ALONE CAN BE CALLED THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, JOHN 3:16. AND SO APPRECIATING HOW SPECIAL JESUS IS, WE ARE IN A POSITION THEN TO RECOGNIZE ANY LAW, ANY TESTAMENT GIVEN BY JESUS MUST ITSELF BE SPECIAL. LOOK WITH ME TO THIS PASSAGE, JOHN 1:17. HERE, JOHN BEGINS HIS GOSPEL ACCOUNT IN TELLING US, FOR THE LAW, THAT'S TALKING ABOUT THE OLD LAW, THE OLD TESTAMENT LAW, WAS GIVEN BY MOSES; BUT GRACE AND TRUTH, THAT IS, THE FULFILLMENT, THE CULMINATION OR COMPLETION OF GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY JESUS CHRIST. FRIENDS, I CAN THINK CURRENTLY OF NO BETTER VERSE FOUND IN ALL OF SCRIPTURE TO SET UP FOR US THIS CONTRAST: THE OLD LAW GIVEN BY ONE, THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S GRACE AND TRUTH IN WHAT WE WILL COME TO KNOW AS THE NEW LAW OR THE NEW TESTAMENT CAME BY JESUS CHRIST. AND SO MOSES HAD GIVEN THE ONE, BUT JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO JOHN 1:17, HE BROUGHT THE CULMINATION OF GOD'S GRACE AND TRUTH, AND HE DID SO, HE FURNISHED IT AND REVEALED IT IN WHAT WE KNOW AS THE NEW TESTAMENT. SO THIS NEW TESTAMENT WAS GIVEN BY JESUS CHRIST. NOW LOOK WITH ME TO THIS NEXT PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE. GOING BACK TO THE OLD, AND THIS IS WHAT WILL MAKE OUR CASE SO STRONG TODAY, AND THAT IS EVEN WHAT THE OLD TESTAMENT WILL SAY ABOUT THESE VERY MATTERS. MOSES, IN DEUTERONOMY 18:15, MOSES WROTE AND SAID THE FOLLOWING: THE LORD THY GOD WILL RAISE UP UNTO THEE A PROPHET FROM THE MIDST OF THEE OF THY BRETHREN. MOSES IS ADDRESSING ISRAEL, AND SO THIS PROPHET THAT WOULD BE RAISED UP IN CENTURIES TO COME, HE'S GOING TO BE A JEW. HE'S GOING TO COME FROM THE MIDST OF ISRAEL, OF THY BRETHREN. AND THEN MOSES ADDED, LIKE UNTO ME. UNTO HIM YE SHALL HEARKEN. NOW, DON'T MISS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THAT PROPHECY. MOSES WAS THE OLD TESTAMENT LAWGIVER. HE WROTE THE BOOKS OF GENESIS, EXODUS, LEVITICUS, NUMBERS, AND DEUTERONOMY, THE BOOK FROM WHICH WE JUST READ. AND MOSES, WHEN HE LIVED, HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD PROPHETICALLY DOWN THROUGH THE STREAMS OF TIME, AND BY INSPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT MOSES WAS ABLE TO PROPHECY, TELLING ISRAEL THAT THE DAY WAS COMING THAT GOD WOULD RAISE UP A PROPHET FROM AMONG THEM, AND SO HE, HIMSELF WOULD BE A JEW, AND THAT HE WOULD BE A PROPHET LIKE UNTO MOSES, PROBABLY IN THE SENSE THAT MOSES WAS A LAWGIVER AND THIS PROPHET TO COME, HE, TOO, WOULD BE A LAWGIVER LIKE UNTO OR SIMILAR UNTO MOSES. BUT THEN AT THE END OF VERSE 15, MOSES SAID, UNTO HIM UNTO THIS PROPHET YE SHALL HEARKEN. IN OTHER WORDS, WHEN THIS GREAT AND ULTIMATE PROPHET COMES, MAN ISRAEL, BUT FOR THAT MATTER, ALL MANKIND MUST HEARKEN, HEED, LISTEN TO, AND OBEY THAT GREAT PROPHET. WE COME OVER TO THE NEW TESTAMENT NOW, AND WE READ ABOUT THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS. IN ACTS CHAPTER 3 BEGINNING AT VERSE 22, PETER IS PREACHING, AND HE SAYS, FOR MOSES TRULY SAID UNTO THE FATHERS, THAT IS, UNTO THE JEWISH FOREFATHERS, A PROPHET SHALL THE LORD YOUR GOD RAISE UP UNTO YOU OF YOUR BRETHREN, LIKE UNTO ME; HIM SHALL YE HEAR IN ALL THINGS, WHATSOEVER HE SHALL SAY UNTO YOU. DOES VERSE 22 SOUND FAMILIAR? WHAT PETER IS QUOTING IS HE'S QUOTING DEUTERONOMY 18, FROM WHICH WE JUST READ. NOW MOVE DOWN TO VERSE 26. PETER CONTINUES, UNTO YOU, JEWS, FIRST GOD, HAVING RAISED UP HIS SON, JESUS, SO THAT'S OUR SUBJECT, SENT HIM TO BLESS YOU IN TURNING AWAY EVERY ONE OF YOU FROM HIS INIQUITIES. SO WHAT THESE TWO VERSES ESTABLISH FOR US, PETER, HE'S QUOTING THE PROPHECY BACK IN DEUTERONOMY 18. HE'S QUOTING WHAT MOSES HAD SAID AND HAD WRITTEN CENTURIES EARLIER; BUT THEN PETER TAKES THAT, AND HE'S APPLYING IT TO ONE PARTICULAR PERSON. HE'S TELLING HIS AUDIENCE THERE AS HE TELLS US TODAY BY WAY OF OUR READING THIS TEXT, HE'S TELLING US THAT JESUS CHRIST IS THAT PROPHET. JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONE FORETOLD BY MOSE, HE WAS BORN A JEW, HE LIVED AMONG THE JEWS, HE IS A LAWGIVER LIKE MOSES,

HAVING GIVEN US NOW THE NEW TESTAMENT LAW, AND UNTO HIM, JESUS AND JESUS ALONE, MUST EVERY ACCOUNTABLE MAN AND WOMAN HEARKEN. EVERYBODY MUST LISTEN AND SUBMIT TO JESUS CHRIST. THIS NEW TESTAMENT LAW THAT HE HAS BROUGHT, IS IT NOT SPECIAL? IT WAS GIVEN BY JESUS. THAT ALONE SHOULD MAKE THE NEW TESTAMENT SO VERY SPECIAL. ONE MORE VERSE ALONG THESE LINES. IN HEBREWS 9, THE HEBREWS AUTHOR WRAPS THIS UP FOR US, IF YOU WILL. HE SAYS IN VERSE 15, AND FOR THIS CAUSE, HE, JESUS CHRIST, IS THE MEDIATOR OF THE NEW TESTAMENT. CIRCLE THAT WORD MEDIATOR. THAT BY MEANS OF DEATH, JESUS DIED, FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE TRANSGRESSIONS THAT WERE UNDER THE FIRST TESTAMENT. SO THOSE WHO LIVED UNDER THE OLD COULD BE SAVED, BUT THEIR SALVATION WAS STILL DEPENDENT ON THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST. SO FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THEIR TRANSGRESSIONS WHO LIVED UNDER THE FIRST TESTAMENT, THEY WHICH ARE CALLED MIGHT RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL INHERITANCE. NOW, THERE'S A NUMBER OF THINGS THAT COME TO US FROM THAT ONE VERSE OF SCRIPTURE. NOTABLY, AS WE'VE ALREADY SAID, JESUS' DEATH NOT ONLY MAKES POSSIBLE OUR SALVATION FOR THIS DAY AND TIME, BUT JESUS' DEATH WAS ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE SALVATION OF THOSE WHO HAD LIVED FAITHFULLY UNDER THE OLD LAW. SOMETHING ELSE THAT COMES TO US FROM THAT VERSE, THOUGH, YOU CIRCLED THE WORD MEDIATOR. A MEDIATOR IS SOMEWHAT OF A GO-BETWEEN, WE MIGHT SAY. AND IN THIS CASE, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE STANDING BETWEEN GOD, WHO IS SINLESS, AND HUMANITY, WHICH IS SINFUL. JESUS IS THE MEDIATOR, THE GO-BETWEEN BETWEEN GOD AND MAN. BUT NOT ONLY THAT. THE BASIS, IF YOU WILL, OF HIS MEDIATORSHIP IS REVEALED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT. HE IS THE MEDIATOR OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, THE ONE FURNISHING THAT TESTAMENT, BRINGING IT INTO EFFECT, IF YOU WILL, BETWEEN GOD AND MAN. AND SO THIS ONE, HEBREWS 9:15, COUPLED WITH THE FIRST PASSAGE, JOHN 1:17, THESE TWO TOGETHER IN TANDEM MAKE IT CRYSTAL CLEAR THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS GIVEN BY JESUS CHRIST. AND BY VIRTUE OF THAT FACT, IT MAKES IT INFINITELY BETTER THAN THE OLD TESTAMENT, WHICH WAS ONLY GIVEN BY MOSES. NOW, MOSES WAS A GREAT MAN. MOSES IS A GREAT BIBLICAL HERO. NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. BUT BE CLEAR: MOSES WAS NOT THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD. MOSES WAS NOT GOD COME IN THE FLESH. AND SO FOR THAT REASON, JESUS CHRIST IS INFINITELY SUPERIOR, AND FOR THAT REASON, THE NEW TESTAMENT IS INFINITELY BETTER. ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL TO KNOW THAT WE LIVE TODAY NOT UNDER THE OLD, BUT WE LIVE UNDER THE NEW. LET'S PROCEED TO OUR SECOND MAJOR IDEA. AND IN THE SECOND PLACE, THE NEW TESTAMENT IS SPECIAL BECAUSE IT WAS DEDICATED BY HIS BLOOD. DEDICATED BY HIS BLOOD. IN USING THE PRONOUN HIS, I'M REFERRING STILL TO THE SUBJECT OF OUR FIRST POINT, JESUS CHRIST. THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS GIVEN BY JESUS CHRIST, HE BROUGHT IT AND REVEALED IT; BUT THE NEW TESTAMENT NOW WAS ALSO DEDICATED BY HIS BLOOD. NOW, THE WORD DEDICATED MIGHT NOT BE ONE THAT IS READILY FAMILIAR TO US IN THIS USAGE OR READILY UNDERSTANDABLE TO US IN THE MANNER IN WHICH IT IS CURRENTLY BEING USED. BY DEDICATED, WHAT WE MEAN IS SEALED. THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS SEALED BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. NUMBER TWO, WE COULD ALSO SAY THAT IT WAS INSTITUTED, OR IT WAS RATIFIED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST. TO STATE IT VERY PLAINLY, IT TOOK AND REQUIRED THE SHEDDING OF CHRIST'S BLOOD ON THE CROSS BEFORE THE NEW TESTAMENT COULD EVER COME INTO EFFECT. IF JESUS HAD NOT DIED UPON THE CROSS, SHEDDING HIS BLOOD, THEN THE NEW TESTAMENT NEVER WOULD HAVE BECOME A REALITY. LET'S CONSIDER SOME PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE. LOOK WITH ME AT MATTHEW 26:28. JESUS HERE WITH THE APOSTLES WAS INSTITUTING FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME THE LORD'S SUPPER. AND WHEN IT CAME TO THE FRUIT OF THE VINE, THE CUP, HE SAID, FOR THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT. NOT LITERALLY, BUT EMBLEMATICALLY. THIS FRUIT OF THE VINE IS AN EMBLEM, IT'S A REPRESENTATIVE, IF YOU WILL, OF MY BLOOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT WHICH IS SHED FOR MANY FOR THE REMISSION

OF SINS. THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO BASIC CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES HIT UPON IN THAT ONE VERSE OF SCRIPTURE, ONE OF WHICH MANY OF US ARE VERY FAMILIAR WITH, AND THE OTHER OF WHICH, HOWEVER, SO FEW PEOPLE SEEM TO APPRECIATE. SEE, FIRST OF ALL, WE KNOW THAT JESUS' BLOOD IS CONNECTED TO THE REMISSION OF SINS. THERE IS NO FORGIVENESS, THERE IS NO REMISSION APART FROM THE SHED BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST. AND VIRTUALLY - I SAY VIRTUALLY. ANYONE AND EVERYONE IN CHRISTENDOM, SO TO SPEAK, THEY READILY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT. THEY UNDERSTAND THE BLOOD OF JESUS IS CONNECTED TO THE REMISSION OF MAN'S SINS. BUT ALSO IN THIS SELF-SAME PASSAGE, MATTHEW 26:28, THERE'S ANOTHER FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE THAT IS HIT UPON. AND THAT IS JESUS SAID, THIS IS MY BLOOD OF THE NEW TESTAMENT. NOW, FRIENDS, JUST AS THE REMISSION OR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS IS INSEPARABLY CONNECTED TO THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, YOU AND I HAVE GOT TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT ITSELF, THIS LATTER PORTION, IF YOU WILL, OF THE WORD OF GOD, THE NEW TESTAMENT, IT, TOO, IS INSEPARABLY CONNECTED TO THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. DOES THAT NOT MAKE IT SPECIAL? IT WAS DEDICATED, IT WAS SEALED, IT WAS RATIFIED BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST. NOW LET'S GO NEXT TO THE BOOK OF HEBREWS. IN HEBREWS 9, LET'S BUILD UPON THIS IDEA. THE HEBREWS AUTHOR TELLS US, FOR WHERE A TESTAMENT IS, THERE MUST ALSO OF NECESSITY, IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS REQUIRED, THE DEATH OF THE TESTATOR. WE CAN UNDERSTAND THIS. PEOPLE GO TO A LAWYER TODAY AND THEY WANT TO FORM A LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT. LET'S SAY THEY GET THAT WRITTEN UP, IT'S FINALIZED AND COMPLETED. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? IT DOES NOT GO IN EFFECT UNTIL THE TESTATOR DIES. WELL, FRIENDS, THAT'S WHAT'S BEING STATED IN 16. NOW PICK UP AND CONTINUE AT 17. FOR A TESTAMENT IS OF FORCE AFTER MEN ARE DEAD. WE UNDERSTAND THAT TODAY. OTHERWISE, IT IS OF NO STRENGTH AT ALL WHILE THE TESTATOR LIVETH. MY, THAT'S INTERESTING. VERSE 18, WHEREUPON NEITHER THE FIRST TESTAMENT, THE OLD TESTAMENT, WAS DEDICATED WITHOUT BLOOD. NOW, LET'S DECIPHER, AND THAT'S PROBABLY TOO STRONG OF A TERM, BUT LET'S EXPOUND UPON WHAT THE HEBREWS AUTHOR WAS TELLING US BY INSPIRATION. BOTH TESTAMENTS, THE FIRST ONE, WHICH YOU AND I KNOW BEST AS THE OLD TESTAMENT, IT WAS DEDICATED BY BLOOD. AND YOU COULD CONTINUE READING THERE IN VERSES 19 AND FOLLOWING, AND YOU LEARN THAT THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS DEDICATED BY THE BLOOD OF ANIMALS. WELL, THE POINT IS THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT, AS WE'VE ALREADY SEEN FROM MATTHEW 26, THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS DEDICATED BY THE BLOOD OF THE SON OF GOD. NOW, YOU THINK ABOUT THAT. MY, THE CONTRAST; MY, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BLOOD OF MERE BEASTS, THE BLOOD OF ANIMALS, AND THEN ON THE OTHER HAND, THE BLOOD OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD. BUT WHEN WAS IT? WHEN WAS IT THAT THE BLOOD OF JESUS WAS SHED FORTH? AND THE ANSWER IS IT WAS IN HIS DEATH. YOU CAN CONSULT JOHN 19:33-34, THAT CONTEXT. JESUS HAD DIED UPON THE CROSS WHEN THE ROMAN CENTURION CAME WITH HIS SPEAR, THRUSTING IT INTO THE SIDE OF OUR LORD, AND FORTHWITH THERE CAME OUT BOTH WHAT? BLOOD AND WATER. JESUS SHED HIS BLOOD IN HIS DEATH. AND BY THE WAY, A TESTAMENT CANNOT GO INTO EFFECT UNTIL AFTER THE DEATH OF THE TESTATOR. DEAR FRIENDS AND VIEWERS, DO YOU SEE WITH ME HOW THE WORD OF GOD, WHEN WE REALLY GET DOWN AND WE START STUDYING IT AND WE START LOOKING AT THINGS THAT PERHAPS WE'VE NEVER SEEN OR NEVER CONSIDERED BEFORE, DO YOU SEE HOW THE WORD OF GOD DOES THIS? IT ALL JUST FITS TOGETHER, PIECE BY PIECE. MOSES GAVE THE OLD TESTAMENT, DEDICATED BY THE BLOOD OF ANIMALS. JESUS CAME IN ORDER TO GIVE THE NEW TESTAMENT, BUT JESUS HAD TO FIRST DIE BEFORE THE NEW TESTAMENT COULD GO INTO EFFECT. AND NOT ONLY THAT, HIS BLOOD HAD TO BE SHED FOR IT TO GO INTO EFFECT BECAUSE THE BLOOD SEALED IT, DEDICATED, RATIFIED THE NEW TESTAMENT. SO YOU TELL ME, IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIAL ABOUT THE NEW TESTAMENT? YES. AND NOTABLY, THE FACT THAT IT IS CONNECTED TO THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST.

NOTICE THIS PASSAGE. IN 1 CORINTHIANS 11:25, HERE, PAUL IS RECOUNTING OUR LORD'S INSTITUTING THE LORD'S SUPPER, AS WE'VE ALREADY READ IN MATTHEW 26. AFTER THE SAME MANNER ALSO HE, CHRIST, TOOK THE CUP WHEN HE HAD SUPPED, SAYING, THIS CUP IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD. IN OTHER WORDS, IT REPRESENTS SUCH, IT IS DEMONSTRATIVE IN A SENSE OF SUCH. THIS CUP IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD. THIS DO YE AS OFT AS YE DRINK IT IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME. FRIENDS, DO WE SEE HOW THAT REALLY EVERY WEEK WHEN THE LORD'S PEOPLE OBSERVE COMMUNION, HOW THAT REALLY OUR MINDS SHOULD GO BACK ALSO TO THE BLESSING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT? HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS. NOW, WE WON'T PULL THIS PASSAGE UP, BUT I DO WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT HEBREWS 13:20. AND THAT'S ANOTHER PASSAGE YET THAT TELLS US THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT WAS DEDICATED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS, HEBREWS 13:20. NOW QUICKLY, ONE FINAL CONSIDERATION. THE REASON THE NEW TESTAMENT IS SO SPECIAL IS BECAUSE IT IS GOD'S ULTIMATE DISPENSATION ON EARTH. ULTIMATE DISPENSATION ON EARTH. THE WORD ULTIMATE MEANS LAST. IT MEANS THE ENDING OF A PROCESS OR SERIES. WELL, REGARDING DISPENSATIONS, FIRST THERE WAS THE PATRIARCHAL DISPENSATION; THEN THERE WAS THE MOSAIC DISPENSATION; BUT THE LAST OF THAT SERIES IS WHAT YOU AND I KNOW AS THE CHRISTIAN DISPENSATION, GOVERNED BY THE LAW OF THE NEW TESTAMENT. AND IT IS INDEED THE LAST. LOOK WITH ME HERE TO HEBREWS 1, BEGINNING AT VERSE 1. GOD, WHO AT SUNDRY TIMES AND IN DIVERS MANNERS SPAKE IN TIMES PAST UNTO THE FATHERS BY THE PROPHETS, THAT SAME GOD HATH IN THESE LAST DAYS SPOKEN UNTO US BY HIS SON, WHOM HE HATH APPOINTED HEIR OF ALL THINGS, BY WHOM ALSO HE MADE THE WORLDS. AND SO IN THESE LAST DAYS, THIS LAST DISPENSATION, THE ULTIMATE PROPHET IS JESUS CHRIST. GOD HAS SPOKEN THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. AND SO THE NEW TESTAMENT THAT JESUS CHRIST HAS GIVEN IS THE ULTIMATE OR FINAL TESTAMENT THAT MANKIND WILL EVER KNOW UPON THIS EARTH. I WANT US TO SKIP AHEAD TO A FINAL PASSAGE. I WANT YOU TO GO WITH ME TO HEBREWS CHAPTER 10 AND NOTICE AT VERSES 9 AND 10, THEN SAID HE, SPEAKING OF CHRIST, LO, I COME TO DO THY WILL, O GOD. HE TAKETH AWAY THE FIRST, TESTAMENT, THAT HE MAY ESTABLISH THE SECOND, TESTAMENT; BY THE WHICH WILL, REMEMBER LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT? BY THE WHICH WILL, THAT IS, BY THE SECOND WILL, WE ARE SANCTIFIED THROUGH THE OFFERING OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE FOR ALL. FRIENDS, THAT IS WHY THE NEW TESTAMENT IS SO SPECIAL. THANK YOU.

JAMES >> LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE GOSPEL BROADCASTING NETWORK HAS JUST BROUGHT YOU PREACHING THE GOSPEL WITH BROTHER CLIFF GOODWIN. IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION RELATIVE TO ANYTHING THAT'S BEEN TAUGHT, JUST CALL THE TOLL-FREE NUMBER ON YOUR SCREEN. BE HAPPY TO SEND IT TO YOU. AND BY THE WAY, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STUDY THE BIBLE PRIVATELY IN YOUR OWN HOME, WE OFFER FREE A SET OF FIVE STUDIES. AND WE'D BE HAPPY TO SEND THESE TO YOU AT NO COST AT ALL, AND IT WOULD BE OF GREAT ADVANTAGE. STUDY YOUR BIBLE, LEARN THE TRUTH, AND OBEY THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. IT WILL HAVE TO DO WITH YOUR ETERNAL DESTINY. WE APPRECIATE CLIFF, THE EXCELLENT JOB THAT HE DID IN THE PRESENTATION OF TRUTH. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IT. MAY GOD BLESS.

>> (SINGING)