



EKKLESIA KINGDOM ACADEMY

Bible Study Lesson

“Same God, Different Covenant: From Contract to Christ”

STUDENT VERSION

◆ Lesson Objective

To understand the difference between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant, and how both reveal the same unchanging God through different terms of relationship.

◆ Key Scripture Focus (NLT)

- **John 3:16–17** – God’s love revealed
 - **Jeremiah 31:31–34** – Promise of a new covenant
 - **Hebrews 8:6–13** – A better covenant
 - **Matthew 5:17** – Fulfillment of the Law
 - **2 Corinthians 3:6** – Letter vs. Spirit
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◆ Introduction

Many people believe the God of the Old Testament is different from the God of the New Testament. One seems strict and judgmental, while the other seems loving and merciful.

But the truth is this:

👉 **God did not change—our covenant with Him did.**

The Old Covenant was a contract based on obedience.
The New Covenant is a promise fulfilled through Christ.

◆ Illustration

Imagine signing a contract that requires perfect performance to receive benefits—but you fail every time.

Then someone steps in, fulfills the entire contract perfectly on your behalf, and says:

👉 “All you have to do now is accept what I’ve done.”

That’s the difference between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

◆ Exegesis & Exposition

1. The Promise of a New Covenant

📖 Jeremiah 31:31–33

God declares that a **new covenant is coming**—not written on stone, but on hearts.

- Old Covenant → external law
- New Covenant → internal transformation

👉 God always planned the shift.

2. The Limitation of the Old Covenant

📖 Hebrews 8:7

The problem was never God—it was human inability.

- The Law revealed sin
- But could not remove it

👉 The Old Covenant exposed the need for a Savior.

3. The Fulfillment Through Jesus Christ

📖 Matthew 5:17

Jesus did not abolish the Law—He **fulfilled it**.

- Every requirement → completed
- Every standard → met

👉 What we couldn't do, Christ did.

4. The New Covenant Reality

📖 2 Corinthians 3:6

- Old Covenant → “letter kills” (law condemns)
- New Covenant → “Spirit gives life”

👉 Relationship replaces regulation.

5. The Heart of It All: Love

📖 John 3:16

“For God so loved the world...”

This is not a new emotion—this is a **revealed reality**.

👉 The love of God didn't begin in the New Testament—it was **fully displayed** there.

◆ Verse-by-Verse Synopsis (Condensed)

- **Jeremiah 31** → God promises a better covenant
 - **Hebrews 8** → Old covenant insufficient due to human weakness
 - **Matthew 5** → Jesus fulfills, not cancels
 - **2 Corinthians 3** → Spirit brings life where law could not
 - **John 3** → Love is the foundation of the new covenant
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◆ Practical Life Application

1. **Stop trying to earn what Jesus already fulfilled**
You don't perform for acceptance—you live from it.
 2. **Let God work internally, not just externally**
This is about heart transformation, not behavior modification.
 3. **Walk in relationship, not religious pressure**
You are not under a contract—you are in covenant.
 4. **Start with love**
If we are going to look like Christ, we must love like Christ.
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◆ Things to Consider

- Am I still trying to “earn” God’s approval?
 - Do I relate to God through fear or relationship?
 - Am I living from the finished work of Christ?
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◆ Study Questions

1. What is the main difference between the Old and New Covenants?
 2. Why was the Old Covenant insufficient?
 3. What does it mean that Jesus “fulfilled” the Law?
 4. How does the New Covenant change your relationship with God?
 5. Why is love central to understanding both covenants?
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◆ Closing Reflection

The Old Covenant showed us what God requires.
The New Covenant shows us what God provides.