

“For They Shall All Know Me”

Developing a New Covenant Relationship with God

Spring 2016 / Sunday AM Bible Study



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Lesson 1. Introduction

Is God a Divine Watchmaker?



Theme



God wants a relationship with people.

Key Passage

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

What makes Jer. 31:31-34 special?

It describes what will change from the old covenant to the new.



- ▶ It is the only Old Testament verse with the term 'new covenant'.
- ▶ It contrasts old covenant faults with new covenant benefits.
(Heb. 8:1-13)
- ▶ It has the repeated Bible phrase, "I will be their God and they shall be my people.", which emphasizes relationship.
(Ex. 6:1-9, Lev. 22:31-33, etc.)
- ▶ It connects forgiveness of sins to our relationship with God.
(John 3:16)

Class Objectives



- ▶ Know the big picture of the Bible:
God wants a relationship with a holy people who voluntarily choose Him
- ▶ Understand how the relationship between God and His people grew from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant.
- ▶ Develop a relationship perspective in your own walk with God.

Using your workbook



- ▶ Each lesson begins with some goals for what we want to get out of the class.
 - ▶ All the scriptures necessary for the study are provided. **Read these if nothing else**
 - ▶ There are four questions with each lesson that can be answered from the scriptures readings.
 - ▶ The “Scripture Reference” page is provided to help you remember the message of the passages we’ll be reading.

Lessons

Following Jer. 31:31-34

2. I Will Be Their God
3. They Shall Be My People
4. The Covenant I Made With Their Fathers
5. I Was Their Husband
6. My Covenant They Broke
7. Behold The Days Are Coming
8. I Will Make A New Covenant
9. Written On Their Hearts
10. For They Shall All Know Me
11. From The Least To The Greatest
12. I Will Forgive Their Iniquity
13. Review

Questions to ask yourself

There's a difference between thinking and knowing



- ▶ Is a relationship really what God is looking for from me?
- ▶ Is a relationship really what I'm looking for from God?
- ▶ What can I do to grow my relationship with God?
- ▶ How will I know that I'm closer to God?