

“For They Shall All Know Me”

Developing a New Covenant Relationship with God

Spring 2016 / Sunday AM Bible Study



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Lesson 13. Review

God wants a relationship with people

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.

'I will be their God' through the Bible

'I will be their God'

Gen. 17:8, Jer. 24:7, Jer. 31:33
Jer. 32:36, Jer. 32:38, Ez. 11:20
Ez. 37:15, Ez. 37:23, Ez. 37:27
Zech. 8:8, 2 Cor. 6:16, Heb. 8:10

'I will be your God'

Ex. 6:7, Jer. 7:23, Jer. 11:4
Jer. 30:2, Ez. 36:28

'the Lord your God'

Old Testament (395) Psalm (2)

Genesis (1)	Isaiah (9)
Exodus (16)	Jeremiah (13)
Leviticus (24)	Ezekiel (4)
Numbers (3)	Hosea (3)
Deuteronomy (241)	Joel (7)
Joshua (27)	Amos (1)
Judges (2)	Micah (1)
1 Samuel (8)	Zephaniah (1)
2 Samuel (5)	Zechariah (1)
1 Kings (7)	New Testament (7)
2 Kings (3)	Matthew (3)
1 Chronicles (7)	Mark (1)
2 Chronicles (7)	Luke (3)

They shall be my people

Matt 22:1-14



The people of God have to embrace being different.
You volunteered for this.

The covenant I made with their fathers

Gal. 3:19-26

‘added because of transgressions’
People tend to fall off the path

*‘a mediator is not for just one person,
but God is one’*

Because Moses gave the Law to the Israelites, they didn't have a first hand relationship with God.

‘was our guardian until Christ’
The Old Law constrained people to holy living when they didn't know much about the ‘plan’.



I was a husband to them

You can't make someone love you, but you can try and persuade



We all do this in marriage

- ▶ Things you give. . .
 - ▶ Communication
 - ▶ Kindness
 - ▶ Work around the house
 - ▶ Take care of the kids
 - ▶ Do your job(s)
 - ▶ etc.
- ▶ Responses you want. . .
 - ▶ Appreciation
 - ▶ Kindness
 - ▶ Closeness
 - ▶ etc.

My covenant they broke

- ▶ Israel rejected God's love under the Old Covenant by ...
 - ▶ not trusting God to take care of them to the promised land
 - ▶ Worshiping idols while in the promised land
 - ▶ Trying to rely only on works, but lacking faith
- ▶ So they suffered the consequences ...
 - ▶ The Exodus generation died in the wilderness
 - ▶ Their descendants lost the promised land
 - ▶ He was their only hope for salvation
- ▶ Don't fall into their example ...
 - ▶ Change when you face consequences.
 - ▶ Pursue righteousness with faith.
 - ▶ Trust that God will take care of you.

The New Covenant vs. the Old

Jer. 31:31-34

I will put my law within them genuine obedience

I will write it on their hearts inward commitment

I will be their God a new focus

they shall be my people it's no longer physical Israel

... they shall all know me faith not genealogy

from the least to the greatest there's no distinctions

I will forgive their iniquities more than overlooking sins

We've been brought near to God

Eph 2



- ▶ A seat in the heavens (6)
- ▶ Access to the Father (18)
- ▶ A member of God's household (19)

Developing a New Covenant relationship with God

- ▶ What passages from this class have had the greatest impact on you? Why?
- ▶ Explain why developing an actual relationship with God is important.
- ▶ How will you continue to grow your relationship with God?