



CHRIST
REFORMED BAPTIST
CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship
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The Recession and Replacement of the Old Covenant (First Covenant)

Hebrews 8:6-13

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God...’ – 2 Timothy 2:15
The importance of reading and learning God’s word is a vital part of
both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to
God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these
sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon
notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of
Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

Pastor Doug Barger

email: pastor@crbc.faith or phone: #317-945-2262

INTRODUCTION

Today we will seek to understand Jer.31:31-14 in its context and how it teaches us the Mosaic Covenant was always intended to eventually recede and be replaced by Christ's superior covenant (new, better second covenant).

HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER THIS TEXT?

1. The O.C. Recession - The NC Prophecy revealed in the book of Jeremiah and elsewhere.
2. Was the O.C. really replaced by the NC?

I. The NC Prophecy revealed in Jeremiah

Jer.7:21-26 – essential nature of the OC (a defect/fault).

Jer.11:1-8 – the legal covenant structure = judgement.

Jer.30:3 – promised restoration.

Jer.31:15-20 – restoration involved repossessing the land.

Jer.31:31-34 – restoration also involved a New Covenant.

Jer. 31:5-8 – The promised NC is directly established with the arrival of their King – David's greater son 'THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS'.

- Jeremiah's Prophecy possesses a '**COMPRESSED PERSPECTIVE**' immediate events and distant events compressed into one complex event.

*** As we consider all this, we need to ask the question what does it have to offer us in relation to the letter of Hebrews?*

Expectant **RECESSION** and future fulfillment /
REPLACEMENT.

Mal.3:1-4 – the closest witness to actual NC events.

II. The VANISHING of the OC and its REPLACEMENT

I want us to consider this *vanishing away*. Should this language and what we have already considered from Jeremiah be interpreted as the NC **actually replacing** the OC economy/scheme in its entirety?

Or does it mean, as some purpose (Dispensationalists), that the First Covenant is still active between Jehovah and the Jews (but temporarily paused) while the NC is being utilized by God to adopt into His family non-Jews?

- *Did Jeremiah and the other biblical prophets understand the NC promise this way?*
- *Does the inspired writer of Hebrews and the other Apostles understand the NC promise this way?*

Ezk.36:25-27 – the New Covenant concept is found here.

Ezk. 36:28 – The core principle of the NC stated.

Ezk.37:24-27 & 34:23-25 – Stresses the **distant expectation** of the establishment of ‘a covenant of peace’ and ‘an everlasting covenant’

- The very words Jeremiah was inspired to use to describe this second covenant demonstrates this point. The Hebrew word translated ‘new’ Strong's H2319 - *חָדָשׁ* *châdâsh*, *khaw-dawsh* = New thing, fresh.

From this, it is clear that Jeremiah understood the NC to be a complete replacement of the Old Mosaic Covenant. Not a reforming of it. Not a temporary pause of it...a total replacement of it.

Rom.2:28-29 ““28...he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.”

Eph.2:11-14 "...remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;¹²That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:¹³But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.¹⁴For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

Taking time considering the overall context of Jeremiah's prophecy (in which the NC was further revealed), we can rightly conclude that Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Malachi and the other biblical prophets were part of an overall witness from God during the OC time period which consistently pointed to a promised restoration of all of God's people which would find its climax in the NC.

Thus, the believing Jew, *what the Bible calls the remanent* (such a Simeon, in the Temple waiting to see baby Jesus) were all expecting the **recession and replacement** of the First Covenant with the arrival of their King-Priest Messiah and the New Covenant he would establish.

All this OT prophecy concerning the relationship between the OC and the NC is serving as a backdrop by the writer of Hebrews and is directly applied to the coming of Jesus and His Kingdom, in which the writer has been demonstrating Jesus know rules as King upon the heavenly throne and administers as a High-Priest the substance and blessing of the New Covenant.

Lord willing, in our next message we will look closely at the distinguishing marks of the New Covenant such as WHO ARE ITS MEMBERS? WHAT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OC? WHY IS IT SUPERIOR?

These are important distinctions that we all ought to become familiar with. In doing so, it will better ground us in the gospel and avoid many of the theological errors which have come upon the church, especially within the last 100 years.