

# The Glory of Christ and the New Covenant: Jesus and the New Covenant #3

## 1. Introduction/Review.

- a) *Reflection on Luke 24 (=Jesus on the way to Emmaus).*
- b) *As we've walked through the Scripture/covenants, hopefully Luke 24 is being seen.*
  - b.i) Scripture is God's Word written that unfolds for us his eternal plan centered in Christ.
  - b.ii) Starting in creation, the story begins.
  - b.iii) After sin, there is a word of promise in seed-form (Gen 3:15).
  - b.iv) *Covenants*. Backbone of the storyline. How God's plan/promise progresses – reveals.
    - b.iv.a) God's plan/Scripture does not come all at once, but over time *through* covenants.
    - b.iv.b) In those covenants, God enters into relationship with people – but he also reveals, teaches, prepares, anticipates (=typology) – all that which will come in Christ.
    - b.iv.c) And as we walk through Scripture/covenants, important to follow the 3 *contexts*.
  - b.v) *By time we get to the Davidic Covenant, God's plan/promise has come into focus.*
    - b.v.a) Through the Davidic king, God's rule/kingdom will be restored – 'Adamic role.'
      - b.v.b) Davidic king = son to Yhwh (=Father). Takes on the role of Israel.
        - (b.v.b.1) Israel's role – through them blessings to the nations (Abrahamic).
        - (b.v.b.2) *Central Idea: Adam [?] Israel (=corporate) [?] Individual (=Son, King).*
      - b.v.c) Extent of kingdom – All of humanity (2 Samuel 7). Everlasting kingdom.
      - b.v.d) Sin and all of its effects will be restored. Obedience will result.
- c) *But there is a problem—none of these realities are ever realized!*
  - c.i) All of the previous covenant mediators are *not* obedient sons... *including kings*.
  - c.ii) Israel has failed; David has failed; the Davidic kings have failed.
  - c.iii) In fact, in the Prophets the Davidic dynasty is pictured as a tree cut down (*Isa 11*).
  - c.iv) A growing problem/tension arises through the covenants.
    - c.iv.a) God will keep his promise, but he also demands an *obedient* covenant partner.
    - c.iv.b) How can God keep his promise, yet not also judge? He cannot deny himself.
    - c.iv.c) *Answer: God must act in grace to redeem and simultaneously provide.*
    - c.iv.d) *This is precisely the message that is found in the Prophets. God the promise-maker must also become the promise-keeper and provider.*
- d) *Procedure: 2 steps.*
  - d.i) *1<sup>st</sup>*: Look at the New Covenant (NC) promise in its OT context (OT Prophets).
  - d.ii) *2<sup>nd</sup>*: How Jesus, because of *who he is* and *what he does*, inaugurates the New Covenant, and brings all of God's promises to pass, which we receive in him *alone*.

## 2. The Message of the Prophets Predicting the New Covenant.

- a) *Prophets? Writing Prophets (=Major/Minor)*. Covenantal location? All post-Davidic.

b) *Overall Message?*

b.i) *1<sup>st</sup>*: Judgment upon Israel, Davidic kings, etc. Curses of the covenant – exile.

b.ii) *2<sup>nd</sup>*: *Hope. God will keep his promises all the way back to Genesis 3:15. But how?*

b.ii.a) *1<sup>st</sup>*: LORD himself will come and save (Isa 40-48; 59:14ff; Ezk 34, 37).

b.ii.b) *2<sup>nd</sup>*: LORD will redeem save us *through another David* (Ezk 34; Isa 7:14; 9:6-7; 11:1ff; 42:1-9; 49:1-7; 52-53; 55:3; 61:1-3; Ezek 34). But the LORD himself must provide another son, a better Son (Ps 2, 110).

b.iii) *All of it becomes part of the New Covenant Promise/Hope/Anticipation.*

b.iii.a) New Covenant is *not* just one more covenant, added on to the previous ones.

b.iii.b) It is the covenant which the previous covenants are leading us to.

b.iii.c) As we trace out the covenants, *all of the promises, structures, patterns, teaching, anticipation*, they lead us to the promise that *God will act, God will provide.*

c) **The New Covenant Promise/Anticipation in its OT Context.**

c.i) ***Some OT promises/expectations, patterns, teaching, in the Prophets.***

c.i.a) *The LORD + Davidic King* [?] *David's greater Son, dawning of God's kingdom.*

c.i.b) *New Exodus* (Isa 11, 40), *New Temple* (Ezekiel); *New Jerusalem* (Isa 2, 4, 56-66).

c.i.c) *Salvation for the people of God. Judgment upon God's enemies* (Isa 61).

c.i.d) *Outpouring of the Holy Spirit* (=Ezk 36, 37; Joel 2; cf. Num 11).

c.i.e) *The creation of a new heavens and new earth* (Isa 65:17; 66:22; cf. 11:6-9).

c.ii) ***OT Redemptive-Historical Timeline.***

New Creation; New Covenant; New Temple; New Exodus  
Spirit; Judgment; Salvation; Davidic King (=Kingdom)

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'This Present Age'

Yhwh + King

'Age to Come'

Sin; Death; God's Enemies; Powers

c.iii) ***Jeremiah 31:29-34 – An Important New Covenant Text.***

c.iv) ***What is "New" about this New Covenant (NC)? 3 features.***

c.iv.a) *1<sup>st</sup>*: NC is no longer a 'mediated' covenant – *Structural Change* (vv 29-30).

c.iv.b) *2<sup>nd</sup>*: NC is no longer be 'mixed' covenant community—*Nature/Scope Change.*

c.iv.c) *3<sup>rd</sup>*: NC leads to a complete forgiveness of sin (v 12). **This is key!**

3. **How our Lord Jesus Christ Fulfills and Inaugurates the New Covenant.**

a) *1<sup>st</sup>*: *How Jesus brings the full forgiveness of our sins because of who he is, what he does.*

- a.i) *All* OT hopes and expectation are centered in Christ. He the “Servant of the Lord.” He is David’s greater Son, true Israel, *Abraham’s literal seed* (Gal 3:16), ultimately the promised *seed* of Gen 3:15. Even more: *He is the LORD, God the Son incarnate*.
  - a.ii) 2 complementary paths.
    - a.ii.a) Jesus is the Son – Messianic – human, seed of the woman.
    - a.ii.b) Jesus is the Son – eternal Son, one with the Father.
  - a.iii) *Example: Matthew (=all the Gospels and the entire NT).*
- b) *2<sup>nd</sup>: How Jesus creates a new people, the church, by his person and work.*
- b.i) The Church is ***covenantally new*** and constituted as a ***regenerate people***.
  - b.ii) *Why?* Because the Church is to be comprised of those who have experienced new birth, justification, are found “in Christ” and no longer “in Adam.”

#### 4. **Concluding Reflection:** “The Glory of Christ and the New Covenant”