

Sunday November 13th 2011
The Letter to the Hebrews
Part Twenty Five
Study Questions

1). 6 ¶ *But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.* – What are the main differences between the Law of Moses and the new covenant?

a). When and through whom was the new covenant first mentioned in scripture?

b). What is significant about what might be the timing for this prophetic statement?

c). What might we conclude from the fact that Jeremiah calls this ‘a new covenant’?

d). What other scriptures did we look at that specifically mention the new covenant?

e). What do you think these references tell us about God’s attitude to the new covenant?

2). Jon 2:9 *But I will sacrifice to You With the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. **Salvation is of the LORD.***"

- a). What does the last sentence here at the end of v9 make plain for us?
- b). How do we see this to be true from the foundation in Genesis Chapter 3?
- c). Read Genesis 22:7-8 – What does this type teach us concerning the same truth?
- d). What does this mean for you personally?

3). Joh 4:22 *"You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for **salvation is of the Jews.*** – what does the final phrase at the end of v22 here make plain for us?

- a). Bearing in mind that which we just studied in question 2, how should we understand what we find here?
- b). Through whom did God decide to make His salvation accessible to the human race?
- c). What scriptures did we look at in connection with this?
- d). What then might we conclude from this about our own salvation?
- e). To whom was the word of God entrusted and in what scripture do we see this?
- f). From which group of people did Christ derive His lineage as Son of Man?

g). To whom was the Lord's earthly ministry directed?

h). To whom was the command given to slay the Passover Lamb?

i). Why is this particularly significant?

j). What would it say about Jesus and what would it mean for us if the Jews had not slain the Passover Lamb?

k). What does this mean for you personally?

4). Mr 14:24 *And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many.* On what basis is the new covenant brought into existence?

a). What scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

b). What would be the implication of God not declaring the first covenant obsolete and not promising a new covenant?

c). Why do you think that Christians have always thought the events of the cross to be exclusively theirs? And what in fact is the reality?

5). And so all in all – why does the writer of Hebrews and therefore the Lord want to draw our attention to the new covenant?

a). Why would this be particularly significant for those Jews who had become Christians?

6). Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 – What now do you understand about what Paul writes here and what does it say to you about the reason we celebrate the Lord's Supper?

7). *2Co 3:4 And we have such trust through Christ toward God. 5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, 6 ¶ who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 7 But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, 8 how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? 9 For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. 10 For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. 11 For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious.*

a). What, overall, does Paul teach about the old and the new covenant?

b). If the new covenant is not for Christians, then how should we understand Paul being a minister of the new covenant?

c). What does this scripture promise for both Israel and Christians?

8). So what do you now understand about the new covenant and what does this mean for you personally?

9). Any final thoughts?