

Understanding The Covenants of God

Part One

Today we are going to be exploring several covenants of God. Most everyone is familiar with the two covenants known as The First and Second Covenants, or The Old and New Covenants. However, quite a few Bible researchers believe that there are as many as eight different covenants identified in the Scriptures. Like the one known as the Noahic Covenant, where God created the rainbow as a sign of His promise never to destroy mankind by means of a flood.

Gen 6:18 & Gen 9:12-13

But with thee will I establish my covenant; ...¹² And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: ¹³ I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.



While God's covenant with Noah is the very first time the word covenant appears in the Bible.

292 matches in 272 verses for "covenant"		
Reference ▲	Context	Lexicon
Ge 6:18	thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt	1285
Ge 9:9	I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and	1285
Ge 9:11	And I will establish my covenant with you;	1285
Ge 9:12	This is the token of the covenant which I make	1285
Ge 9:13	it shall be for a token of a covenant between	1285
Ge 9:15	And I will remember my covenant, which is	1285
Ge 9:16	the everlasting covenant between God and every	1285

It is not the very first covenant God made with mankind. The very first covenant God made with mankind was with....

Adam

Adam and Eve enjoyed a flawless creation and a perfect relationship with their Creator. They were sinless, possessed total righteousness, only had knowledge of Godly ways and enjoyed perpetual life, by having access to the Tree of Life. Evil was nowhere to be found in them. God had created a perfect paradise. Indeed, "It was very good!"



GOD'S covenant with Adam was based upon the promise that he, along with his wife Eve, could live in Paradise, enjoy an intimate relationship with God, have dominion over the earth and all its fullness, eat freely of the Tree of Life and live perpetually - unless he disobeyed God and ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Gen 2:15-17

And Jehovah God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And Jehovah God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it: for in the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die.

Gen 1:28-30

And God blessed them: and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the heavens, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.

As long as Adam and Eve obeyed God, they would live in paradise perpetually, in a state of perfect health, happiness and oneness with their Creator. This was God's agreement, or covenant with them. He would take care of their every need, as long as they obeyed His command not to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.



But as we all are painfully aware, Adam and Eve fell to the Serpent's enticing words and death, sorrow and misery fell upon them and their descendants. Adam and Eve had lost access to the Tree of Life, for themselves and all humanity.



Their disobedience soiled God's original creation, leaving it and humanity in desperate need of repair and redemption. God had cursed the earth, Adam had to work hard for a living, animals became wild and women bore children in pain. Death and disease began to reign. Mankind was no longer innocent, but had become knowledgeable of evil. And the saddest outcome of all, was that mankind was now cut-off from enjoying a personal and intimate relationship with the Heavenly Father.



In addition, by believing the words of the Serpent and following his advice, Adam and Eve had unwittingly made Satan their new master. As a result, they lost their domination and authority over the earth, forfeiting it to their new master – Satan the devil.



Yes, God did enter into a covenant with Adam. However, some may have difficulty believing that God's arrangement with Adam and Eve was really the first covenant God made with man. But the prophet Hosea confirms that God's arrangement with Adam and Eve was indeed - a covenant.

Hos 6:6-7

For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings. 7 **Like Adam, they have broken the covenant** — they were unfaithful to me there. NIV

Some Bible translations, like the King James Version, uses the words **like men** instead of the word **Adam** in this verse.

Hos 6:6-7

For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. 7 **But they like men** have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me. KJV

But is this correct? Let's investigate and see.

שָׁם	בְּרִית	עָבְרוּ	כְּאָדָם	וְהֵמָּה
Pd	ncfsa	vqp3cp	ncmsa Pp	pi3mp Pc
there	the covenant:	have transgressed	like men	But they
<u>8033</u>	<u>1285</u>	<u>5674</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>1992</u>
šām	b ^e rît	‘ābrû	k ^e ’ādām	W ^e hēmmâ

OT:121 (Strong's)	
OT:121	אָדָם 'Adam (aw-dawm)'; the same as OT:120; Adam the name of the first man, also of a place in Palestine: <i>KJV</i> - Adam.

In addition, the Hebrew word for covenant is the Strong's Number **1285**, and is the only word used for **covenant** in the entire Old Testament. Therefore, we are not speaking of some other type of an agreement.

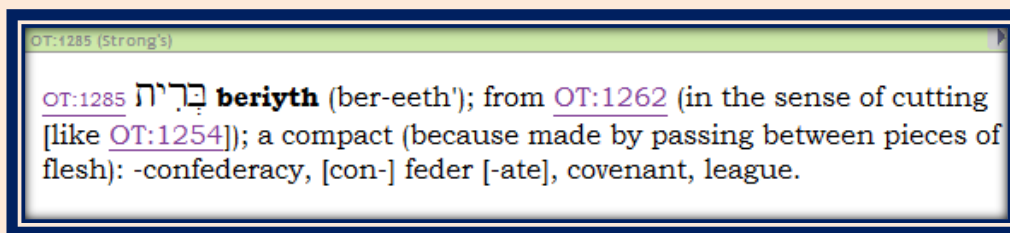
272 matches in 254 verses for "covenant"		
Reference	Context	Lexicon
Ge 6:18	But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into	1285
Ge 9:9	And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed	1285
Ge 9:11	And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be	1285
Ge 9:12	God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me	1285
Ge 9:13	cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the	1285
Ge 9:15	And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and	1285
Ge 9:16	I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every	1285
Ge 9:17	Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established	1285
Ge 15:18	In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto	1285
Ge 17:2	And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply	1285
Ge 17:4	As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a	1285
Ge 17:7	And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed	1285
Ge 17:7	their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee,	1285

So, we find that God did make *His very first covenant* with *Adam*. And, we will be discussing this *first covenant* in much more detail, later in the presentation.

Just What Does The Word “Covenant” Mean?

Before we continue with our study, it is important that we understand the meaning of the Hebrew word that has been translated as Covenant. It does refer to an alliance, ordinance or agreement between persons. But, an alliance/agreement ratified by means of “cutting.”

In fact, the very Hebrew word translated as covenant implies the act of “cutting.”



Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

OT:1285 The root is nowhere used as a verb in the OT nor is any other derivative of this root used, but the action involving covenant making employs the idiom "to cut a covenant" (Gen 15:18; etc.), that is making a bloody sacrifice as part of the covenant ritual...

And as most Bible students know, The act of cutting for the purpose of sealing a covenant is found throughout the Bible; from the killing of the animal to make coverings for Adam and Eve, to Abraham and Isaac, the circumcision of the Israelites, to the sacrifice of Christ Jesus.

The Old Covenant With National Israel

Just what was the purpose of the Old Covenant, which God made with the nation of Israel?

Ex 24:3,8

And Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the Lord hath said will we do. ...8 And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, **Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words.**

So, why did we even need the Old Covenant with the nation of Israel? Why not just jump from Abraham to the New Covenant in Jesus Christ? What was God's purpose for this Covenant? You see, Israel was to be a model nation, introducing God and His Laws to the Gentiles. They were to be a **holy nation** and a **kingdom of priests**.

Ex 19:5-6

Now therefore, if [conditional] ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a **kingdom of priests**, and an **holy nation**.
These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

God's desire for Israel was that they would go and teach others about Him. They were to be **a light to the world**.

Isa 42:6

"I, the Lord, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and **a light for the Gentiles**... NIV

Israel was to be a distinct people, a nation who pointed others to God and His promised provision of a Redeemer or Savior. Everything relating to Israel's priestly duties, ceremonies, holy day observances and form of worship, pointed to and foreshadowed the coming of the Savior of mankind. God's ultimate purpose for Israel, which was that of preparing the way for the Messiah, was fulfilled perfectly in the **Person of Jesus Christ**. But as we know, Israel failed in keeping their part of the covenant.

The New Covenant And the “**SEED**” of Abraham

Gen 12:1-4

Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2 **And I will make of thee a great nation,** and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: **and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.** 4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

The Land of Canaan Promised To Abraham's Seed

Gen 12:6-7,17

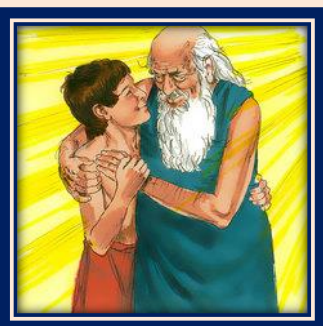
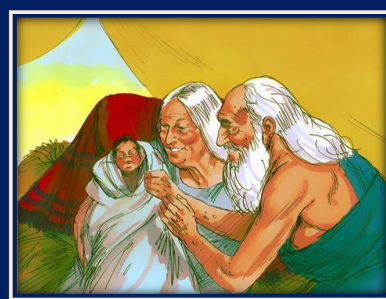
And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land. 7 And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: ...17 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

The boundaries of the region known in Biblical times as Canaan now surround Jordan, Israel and Palestinian territories including the West Bank and Gaza, as well as the southern sections of Syria and Lebanon.



The Promise of an Heir In Isaac - Righteousness By Belief

And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. 4 And, behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir. 5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be. 6 **And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness. Gen 15:3-6**



Rom 4:19-22

And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. 22 **And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.**

A Father Of MANY NATIONS – Not Just Jews and Israelites

Gen 17:4-7, 19

As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, **and thou shalt be a father of many nations**. 5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.



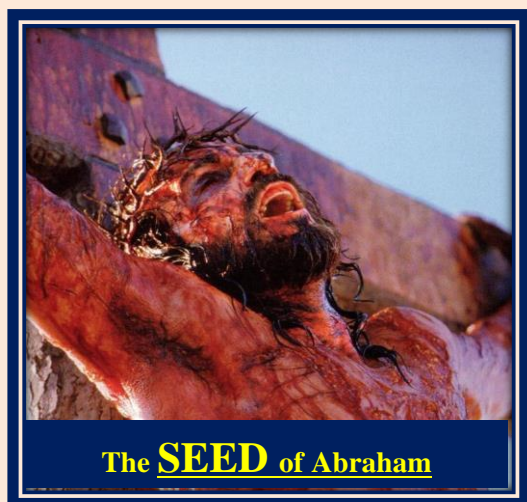
Yes, Abraham's blessings were expanded to include **ALL NATIONS** through the promise of the **SEED**.

Gen 22: 16,17,18

... **By myself have I sworn**, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: 17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; 18 And in thy **SEED** shall **all the nations of the earth be blessed**; because thou hast obeyed my voice.



And just who is this **PROMISED SEED** that would bring the blessing of salvation to all the nations? Is it not the Messiah our Savior - Jesus the Christ?



Gal 3:8-9

And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

Gal 3:16

The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ. NIV

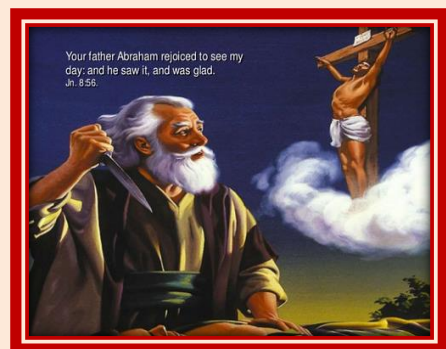
Not Only Did Abraham Believe In - But also *REJOICED* In This Gospel Message Preached To Him

John 8:56-58

Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.
 57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?
 58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

John 8:57						
56	Ἀβραάμ	ὁ	πατήρ	ὑμῶν	ἡγαλλιάσατο	ἵνα ἴδῃ
	NMSN	AMSN	NMSN	OP2_PG	V3SAMI	CSN V3SAAS
	Abraham		father	Your	rejoiced	to see
	11	3588	3962	5216	21	2443 1492
	Abraám	ho	patēr	humōn	ēgalliasato	hina idē
	τὴν	ἡμέραν	τὴν	ἐμὴν,	καὶ εἶδεν	καὶ ἐχάρη.
	AFSA	NFSA	AFSA	JFSAX	V3SAAI	CCK V3SAPI
		day:		my	and he saw	and was glad.
	3588	2250	3588	1699	2532 1492	2532 5463
	tēn	hēmeran	tēn	emēn,	kai eiden	kai echārē.

NT:1492 εἶδω **eido** (i'-do); a primary verb; used only in certain past tenses, the others being borrowed from the equivalent NT:3700 and NT:3708; properly, to see (literally or figuratively); by implication (in the perf. only) to know:
KJV - be aware, behold, * can (+not tell), consider, (have) know (-ledge), look (on), perceive, see, be sure, tell, understand, wish, wot. Compare NT:3700.



In this verse, Jesus is not saying that Abraham actually saw "**Jesus' day**" with his eyes, but that the Lord gave Abraham such a clear vision and understanding of the gospel message that Abraham "**saw it.**" In other words, Abraham got it - the message registered clearly

in his understanding - he thoroughly grasped and perceived it - and was joyful and glad to have understood it.

The New Covenant Established In Christ

The Old Covenant With National Israel Vanishes Away

Heb 8:8,13

For finding **fault with them**, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: ...13 In that he saith, A new covenant, **he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.**



Why did the apostle Paul say that the Old Covenant was **OLD**, **DECAYING** and **READY** to **VANISH AWAY**? While our Lord's sacrifice did establish the New Covenant and dealt the Old Covenant its deadly wound, the underpinning of the Old Covenant's system of worship was not totally shattered, until the temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. Why did God allow this temple to be destroyed by pagan Romans? Because He knew that it was impossible for mankind to keep all the Old Covenant's ceremonial, priestly, sacrificial laws of Moses, without a temple.

And even after the sacrifice of Jesus and the destruction of the temple, the Old Covenant's influence over the new Jewish converts to Christ, did not vanish away immediately. We must remember that it was the apostle Paul, who was chosen to be the apostle of grace.

Gal 1:15-16

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, 16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen...

Acts 20:24

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me — the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. NIV

Eph 3:2-3

Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³ that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly NIV.

Not even the apostle Peter initially understood that the Old Covenant had become obsolete and a New Covenant, which included all humanity, had taken its place. It was 10 to 15 years after the crucifixion of Jesus that God began to help Peter understand the MYSTERY of His **all-inclusive** Gospel of Grace, beginning with Peter's vision of the unclean animals (Acts 10:9-16).



Even then, Peter did not really understand what the vision meant, until he visited the house of Cornelius.

Acts 10:17,19-20

Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, ...¹⁹ While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him,

Behold, three men seek thee. 20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

Even upon entering Cornelius' house, Peter's understanding was still under the influence of the Old Covenant laws. Let's read what Peter first said to Cornelius.

Acts 10:28

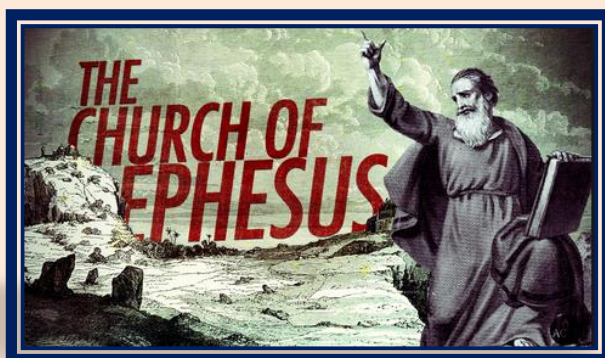
And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

During his meeting with Cornelius, the light started to come on in Peter's understanding and he began to comprehend the MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL.

Acts 10:34-35

Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: 35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Yes, God began opening Peter's understanding to the very MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL, which the apostle Paul had been teaching to the Gentiles in Ephesus and Asia Minor.



Eph 3:3,4,6

the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. 4 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. ...6 This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. NIV

So we see that the influence of the Old Covenant, with its temporal rituals, laws and ceremonies, did not immediately disappear at Christ's crucifixion, but gradually **faded away** in the minds and hearts of the newly converted Jews, as God unveiled the truths of **His Gospel Message**, making it impossible to keep the Old Covenant, by destroying the earthly temple. And those who try to mingle the Old and New Covenants are still operating under a delusion – even in these last days.



2 Cor 3:14-15

But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ.
15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.

For Jesus tells us that all the Old Covenant sacrifices, ceremonies and rituals were revealing, foreshadowing and witnessing of Him.

John 5:39

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life:
and they are they which testify of me.

Luke 24:44

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Through the birth, shed Blood, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, a New Covenant was established, based on much, much BETTER PROMISES. Promises that dwarfs those offered to national Israel, under the Old Covenant.

Luke 22:15,17,20

And he [Jesus] said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ...¹⁷ After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. ... ²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. NIV

Heb 8:1-2

Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; ² A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man. ⁸ But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

Yes, a true means by which to be reconciled back to God, receive complete and total forgiveness, Godly righteousness, sanctification and eternal life was instituted in the New Covenant, which thankfully superseded and took the place of the old agreement with national Israel. PRAISE GOD!

Heb 10:9

Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

2 Cor 5:17-18

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

Phil 3:9

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

1 Cor 6:11

...but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

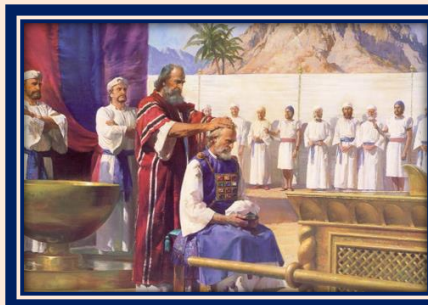
Heb 9:11-12

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Eph 2:5

Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

And this New Covenant, being an eternal covenant, demanded an Eternal High Priest, not after the lineage of mortal Levites, but after One who had possessed an eternal and indestructible life.



The Offices and Titles Held By Jesus Christ

The apostle John confirms that Jesus was and is the **Logos**, or **Spokesperson** for the God Family. The ONE who was and is the **Mediator** between the God and mankind, as well as the **Creator** of all things.

John 1:1-4

“In the beginning was the **Word** [Logos], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning **with God**. **All things were made through him**, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men” (John 1:1-4).

John 1:1				
1:1	Ἐν	ἀρχῇ	ἦν	ὁ λόγος,
	PD	NFSD	V3SIAI	AMSN NMSN
	In	beginning	was	the Word,
	1722	746	2258	3588 3056
	En	archē	ēn	ho λόγος,

NT:3056 (WS Dictionary NT)	
3056.	λόγος <i>lógos</i> ; gen. <i>lógon</i> , masc. noun from <i>légō</i> (3004), to speak intelligently. Intelligence, word as the expression of that intelligence, discourse, saying, thing.
(I)	Word, both the act of speaking and the thing spoken.

The apostle Paul goes on to identify this **Creator** called the **Word/Logos** as **Christ Jesus**.

Eph 3:9

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, **who created all things by Jesus Christ**:

These Scriptures confirm that the Titles of Logos and Creator, belong to Jesus Christ. But what about the position of High Priest. While we do not use historical documents to form doctrines, it is interesting to note that in the **Qumran**, also called **The Dead Sea Scrolls**, there is a text entitled “*Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice*” – which speaks of a heavenly high priest. The ***Bible Review*** shares the following comment regarding this text.

The Bible Review

“Although the relevant fragments are poorly preserved, here Melchizedek seems to officiate as the *heavenly high priest*, just as Jesus does in Hebrews.”

In other words, this Qumran text suggests that there was a HIGH PRIEST serving the Heavenly Father, even before the existence of the Biblical patriarchs. Even the first century Jewish historian and philosopher Philo identified **Melchizedek** as the **Logos**.

Jewish Worship in Philo of Alexandria

By Jutta Leonhardt

Philo describes the worship of Melchizedek in similar terms to that of the High Priest (see below, chapter IV.2.5.2). In *Leg. Alleg.* III 82 Philo also identifies Melchizedek with the Logos as priest of God.

In addition to Philo’s identification of Melchizedek as the Logos and priest of God, it is interesting to note that the Qumran [Dead Sea Scrolls] also identifies **Melchizedek** as “**Your Elohim**” and the **One** that will “**free them from all their iniquities**.”



See article Melchizedek 11Q13
from the Dead Sea Scrolls

And didn’t the One we know as Creator Jesus also serve as this very same **Heavenly High Priest or Melchizedek** in the Garden of Eden, mediating between God and man, when He performed the very first sacrifice for the sins of Adam and Eve?

International Standard Bible Encyclopedia

PRIEST: A priest is one who is duly authorized to minister in sacred things, particularly to offer sacrifices at the altar, and who acts as mediator between men and God.

Gen 3:11

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" ...21 The **Lord God made** garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. NIV



THE LORD MADE: As the Lord sacrificed this animal to cover the body and sins of Adam and Eve, it most likely took place before their very eyes. It is essential to remember that neither Adam nor Eve had ever experienced or seen the death of an animal. They had never seen an animal grasp for air as it bled to death, nor beheld the blood and entrails of a living creature, as the Lord cut its skin from its body. What HORROR

must have overtaken them, as they beheld this most gruesome and shocking event. It also must have dawned upon them, that they too were mere mortals and could now understand the meaning of their own mortality, and the realism of DEATH.

Adam's Clark Bible Commentary

[God made coats of skins] It is very likely that the skins out of which their clothing was made were taken off animals whose blood had been poured out as a sin-offering to God, for as we find Cain and Abel offering sacrifices to God, we may fairly presume that God had given them instructions on this head nor is it likely that the notion of a sacrifice could have ever occurred to the mind of man without an express revelation from God.

The Matthew Henry's Bible Commentary

Genesis 3:21: These coats of skin had a significance. The beasts whose skins they were must be slain, slain before their eyes, to show them what death is, and (as it is Ecclesiastes 3:18) that they may see that they themselves were beasts, mortal and dying. ...Thus the first thing that died was a sacrifice, or Christ in a figure, who is therefore said to be the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Isn't this sacrifice, which God performed in the Garden, the act of a **PRIEST** and a **Mediator**? Yes, our Creator also offered a bloody sacrifice for the very first sins of mankind in His additional role as **Melchizedek** - the **High Priest/Mediator of God**. Chapters 1 and 8 of the Book of John have already confirmed that Jesus was the Logos and Creator. Now, we can add another Title to our Creator in the Garden, that of **Melchizedek, the High Priest of the Most High God**.

It is important for us to understand that the member of the Godhead, which walked in the Garden of Eden in the cool of the day and interacted with Adam and Eve, held the titles, ranks and positions of **Elohim, meaning One Member of the Godhead** - the **Logos/Spokesman** for the Godhead - **The Creator** of all things - and **Melchizedek**, the High Priest/Mediator of the Most High God. Yes, the One we know as Jesus holds many **OFFICES** - has many **TITLES** and wears **MANY CROWNS**!

The Priesthood TRANSFERRED Back To Jesus – Melchizedek

A Change of the Law!

Jesus never really relinquished His Eternal and Heavenly role as High Priest to the Levitical high priest; however, He did give this person temporary authority to act as a mediator between the Israelites and Himself. But after His crucifixion and resurrection, Jesus rescinded the Levites roles as priests and whatever authority He had given the Levitical high priest - He **transferred** back to Himself.

Heb 7:11-1

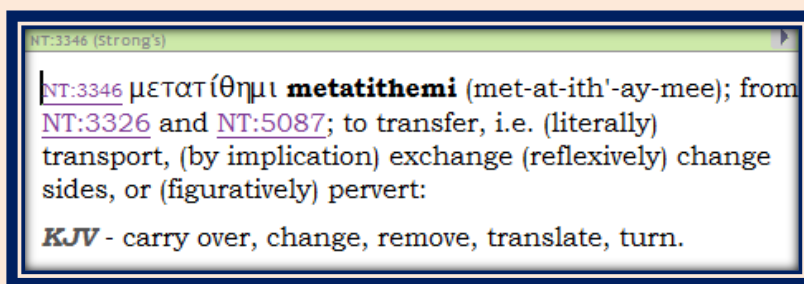
If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the law was given to the people), why was there still need for another priest to come — **one in the order of Melchizedek**, not in the order of Aaron? **12 For when there is a change of the priesthood, there must also be a change of the law.** **13** He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. **14** For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. **15** And what we have said is even more clear if another priest like Melchizedek appears, **16** one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an **indestructible life**.

This is the only place in the New Testament where Strong's #3346 has been translated as "**changed**."

6 matches in 5 verses for "NT:3346"		
Reference	Context	Lexicon
Acts 7:16	And were carried over into Sychem, and laid in the	3346
Gal 1:6	I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him tha	3346
Heb 7:12	For the priesthood being changed , there is made	3346
Heb 11:5	By faith Enoch was translated that he should not	3346
Heb 11:5	was not found , because God had translated him: for	3346
Jude 4	ungodly men , turning the grace of our God into	3346

In fact, Strong's says the essence of this word means "**to transfer or transport**."

Heb 7:12				
12	μετατιθεμένης	γὰρ	τῆς	ἱερωσύνης
	V DDPSG	CCX	AFSG	NFSG
	being changed,	For	the	priesthood
	<u>3346</u>	<u>1063</u>	<u>3588</u>	<u>2420</u>
	metatithemēnēs	gár	tēs	hierōsúnēs
				<u>1537</u>
				ex



New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary.

metati/qhmi from *metá* (3326), denoting change of place or condition, and *títhēmi* (5087), to place. To transpose, put in another place and hence to transport, transfer, translate. (Acts 7:16; Heb 7:12, the priesthood being transferred to Christ ...

Vincent's Word Study

A change: (μετάθεσις) Hebrews 7:12: **Being changed (μετατιθεμένης) Or transferred to another order**. A transfer to a new basis.

After The Order of Melchizedek

Ps 110:4

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Heb 7:17

For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek." NIV

The *Thayer's and Complete Word Study Dictionary* shares with us the meaning of the phrase "in or after the order of."

Thayer's Greek Lexicon

NT:5010: [in the order of]: in the manner of, the priesthood of (according to the Sept. of Ps 109:5 Heb 5:6,10; 6:20; 7:11,17,21).

The Complete Word Study Dictionary

NT:5010: [in the order of]: after the manner of, Rank, quality, character, as in the phrase "a priest according to the order of Melchisedek" (Heb 5:6,10; 6:20; 7:11,17,21; quoted from Ps 110:4) which means a priest of the same order, rank, or quality as Melchizedek.

So, we see that the authority of the high priest of national Israel was actually transferred back to Jesus - THE HEAVENLY HIGH PRIEST of the Most High God.

As Melchizedek, Jesus was the original High Priest and Heavenly Mediator between God and man. But now, having taken on the form of a man - two great virtues were added to Jesus, which He did not possess as Melchizedek. He is now a Priest and Mediator, who has experienced the weaknesses and temptations of the human flesh.

Heb 4:15

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

1 Tim 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus...

The Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary explains what Paul means by the use of the term "man" in this verse.

Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary

1 Timothy 2:5: "**The** (not in the Greek) **man** - rather, "man," generically: not a mere individual man: ...His being "man" was necessary to His being a Mediator,

sympathizing with us through experimental knowledge of our nature. ...On the other hand, 1 Tim 3:16 asserts that He was also God.

In addition to having acquired a greater magnitude of empathy and compassion for the weaknesses of humanity, Melchizedek also added another crowning NAME to His List of Royal Titles – that of **SAVIOR!** Yes, a **High Priest** that is also able **TO SAVE!**



Heb 7:15,25

And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest... 17 For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 25 Wherefore **he is able also to save them** to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing **he ever liveth to make intercession for them.** ...26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

Heb 9:11-12

When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. 12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for **all by his own blood,** having obtained eternal redemption. NIV

Phil 2:5-9

Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming **obedient to the point of death,** even death on a cross. 9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, **and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name...**NASU

Heb 4:15-16

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin. NIV

So we find that Christ's Titles and roles are many. They include Logos, Creator, Eternal High Priest/Mediator, King of Kings, Lord of Lords and His crowning Title - **SAVIOR**! WOW! What a POWERFUL and DYNAMIC combination and blessing! Having one's **Savior** also be their **Mediator** and **Intercessor**! Something we should be praising and thanking God for each and every day!

Christ's Earthly Family Lineage **Actually Originated Within Himself.**

What do I mean by this statement? Matthew 1:1 begins to list the lineage of Jesus, but only begins with Abraham.

Matt 1:1-2

The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;

Matt 1:16

And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

However, Luke records the full lineage of Jesus, starting with Jesus Himself and working backwards to reveal the original lineage of the God/man Jesus.

Luke 3:23

And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli,

Luke 3:38

Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.

Here, verse 38 tells us that Adam is the first physically created son of God. So in the truest sense, didn't Jesus give birth to Adam by means of creation? Wasn't Adam formed by the Lord's own hands and made a living soul by God's own Breath?

Gen 2:7

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul

Having been "birthed" by the Lord's own hands and breath, Adam is said to be the first mortal son of God. So, doesn't that make our Lord's earthly lineage actually originate in – or within Himself? Truly, Jesus is the beginning and end of all things.

Rev 22:13

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Yes, all the New Covenant provisions necessary for our salvation and reconciliation to God the Father, begin and end in Jesus Christ, the author and finisher of our faith.

Now, there is another remarkable aspect of the New Covenant that is virtually unknown to many of today's saints. Just what is this remarkable aspect of the New Covenant? It is the fact that...

The New Covenant Is Actually A Covenant That Renews or Repairs The First Covenant That God Made With Adam

As we just discussed, Adam was said to be the first mortal "son of God" (Luke 3:38). He was created in the very image and likeness of God (Gen 1:26). He was the *father* of – and the *representative of all mankind*. The Old Covenant with Israel was limited, because it applied only to the physical nation of Israel. But, just as the First Covenant with Adam affected ALL HUMANITY - the NEW COVENANT in Christ also affects ALL HUMANITY – NOT JUST PHYSICAL ISRAEL.



Adam was created pure, holy and righteous; without sin or even the knowledge of sin. Therefore, he enjoyed a personal and intimate relationship with the two Members of the God Family.

He was given perpetual life, by having access to the Tree of Life and granted dominion over the entire earth and all its fullness (Gen 1:26). Life, Health, joy, peace and happiness was his to continuously enjoy. God had promised to endow Adam with these awesome perpetual blessings, provided he did not break the covenant or agreement he had with God. HE COULD NOT eat of The Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Gen 2:15-17

And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

But like Adam they have transgressed the covenant; There they have dealt treacherously against Me. Hos 6:7 NASU

And again, we are all painfully aware of Adam's decision to break this covenant with God, which denied mankind access to the Tree of Life, introduced sin and death into the world, gave Satan dominion over the earth and left mankind in a state of sickness, disease, pain, despair and suffering.

But God had a plan, which He devised before the foundation of the world, to restore or reconcile mankind back to the Tree of Life, health, happiness, joy, dominion over the earth and most important of all, an intimate intrapersonal relationship with the Godhead.

1 Peter 1:18-20

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ **He was chosen before the creation of the world,** but was revealed in these last times for your sake. NIV

By The Second Adam – All Things Are Restored

Unlike the first Adam, who through his *disobedience* brought death and separation from God to mankind, Jesus the “last Adam,” *by His perfect obedience* **RESTORED** the way for humanity to have life, by being reconciled back to God.



Rom 5:17-19

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. ¹⁹ For as by **one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.**

Jesus - The Second Adam Not The Second Abraham or Moses



1 Cor 15:22,44-45

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. ...⁴⁴ **The first man is of the earth**, earthy: **the second man is the Lord from heaven**. ...⁴⁵ And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the **last Adam was made a quickening spirit**.

Adam's transgressions banished humanity from the Tree of Life:

Adam: Gen 3:23-24: "So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. ²⁴ After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth **to guard the way to the tree of life**." NIV



Jesus' sacrifice for transgressions restored access to the Tree of Life back to humanity:

Jesus: To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the **tree of life**, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. Revelation 2:7.

Adam failed and broke the first covenant, which affected ALL HUMANITY. Jesus came to **repair** what Adam did and restore/reconcile ALL HUMANITY back to eternal life and a personal relationship with God. And just as the First Covenant with Adam affected all humanity, so the New Covenant in Christ also affects all humanity – not just to national Israel.

You see, Christ's perfect obedience **repairs** the disastrous effects of Adam's disobedience so to speak, and restores the opportunity Adam had lost for himself and mankind. By His sacrifice and resurrection, Jesus offers a way for mankind to be restored back to the state Adam enjoyed with God, before his fall to sin.

2 Cor 5:18-19

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Rom 5:10-11

For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. NIV

Concile and Reconcile

Just what does the word “reconcile” really mean? The prefix “re” means again, so let’s first see what the word “concile” means.



Oxford English Dictionary

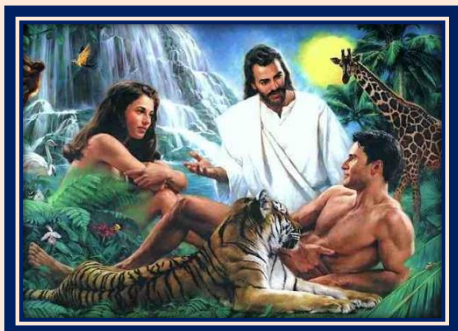
Concile: To make to agree.

And, when we add the prefix “re” to the word concile, it means a reuniting of two parties.

Oxford English Dictionary

Reconcile: To bring (a person) again into friendly relations to or with (oneself or another) after an estrangement.

So, by the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus, both the Father and Jesus were instituting the means by which mankind could be reconciled **BACK** to God. The question then becomes, “**Just when was mankind ever in a pure state of being conciled to God?**”



Answer – only in the Garden of Eden, as God created Adam pure, holy, righteous, without sin and in total conciliation with the God Family.

A New or Renewed/Repaired Covenant?



Luke 22:20

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.**

NIV

While it is the Shed Blood of Christ Jesus that established and ratifies the New Covenant, it is interesting to note that the word “**new**” in Jeremiah 31:31 is sometimes used to mean “new or renewed.”

Jer 31:31-33

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD , that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: ³² **Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt;** which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto

them, saith the Lord: 33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jer 31:31	vqp[2]1cs Pc	np	ncmsc	vqPmpa	ncmpa	Pi
that I will make	the Lord,	saith	come,	the days	Behold,	
<u>3772</u>	<u>3068</u>	<u>5002</u>	<u>935</u>	<u>3117</u>	<u>2009</u>	
wēkārattî	Yēhwā	nē'ūm-	bā'im	yāmim	Hinnēh	
יהודה	בית	ואת	ישראל	בית	את	
np	ncmsc	Pp Pc	np	ncmsc	Pp	
Judah:	the house of	and with	Israel,	the house of	with	
<u>3063</u>	<u>1004</u>	<u>854</u>	<u>3478</u>	<u>1004</u>	<u>854</u>	
Y'hūdā	bēt	w'e't-	Yisrā'el	bēt	'et-	
				חדשה:	ברית	
				afsa	ncfsa	
				new	a covenant	
				<u>2319</u>	<u>1285</u>	
				hādāšā.	b'rit	

OT:2319 (Strong's)

OT:2319 חָדָשׁ **chadash** (khaw-dawsh'); from OT:2318; new:

KJV - fresh, new thing.

OT:2319 (Vine's OT)

C. Adjective.

chadash OT:2319, "new; renewed." This adjective appears 53 times in biblical Hebrew.

OT:2319 (WS Dictionary OT)

2319. חָדָשׁ **hādāš**: An adjective meaning new, fresh. It is used to describe many different items as renewed or fresh: king over Egypt (Ex 1:8); house

And Chadash's root word, Strong's #2318 means to:

OT:2318 (Strong's)

OT:2318 חָדַשׁ **chadash** (khaw-dash'); a primitive root; to be new; causatively, to rebuild:

KJV - renew, repair.

OT:2320 (WS Dictionary OT)

2318. חָדַשׁ **hādāš**: A verb meaning to renew, restore. It refers to the renovating or reconstructing of various items:

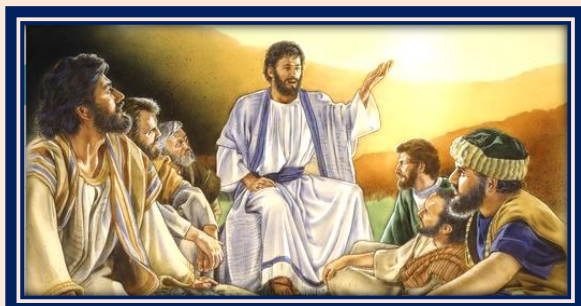
Many in the Jewish Messianic community believe that the phrase translated as “new covenant” in Jeremiah 31:31 should be translated “renewed” – but they mistakenly believe it is referring to the renewing of the Old Covenant made with the nation of Israel at Sinai. Let’s see how some Messianic Jewish Believers have misapplied this idea.



This brings us to Jeremiah 31:31. Of all the additions that YHWH made to his covenant with us not once did he ever declare them to be NEW. It’s not until the Prophet Jeremiah that we hear about the New Covenant being made. We have a problem here though, because the word translated as NEW does not mean new. The Hebrew word used is chadash and means to “renew or repair.”

Many people believe that Y’shua’s death, burial, and resurrection is what ushered in the renewed covenant, but nowhere in scripture do we find these events as being conditions of the renewed covenant. YHWH made it clear in Amos 3:7 that he does nothing without revealing it to his prophets first. If Y’shua’s death, burial, and resurrection were events that caused the renewed covenant to be instituted surely the prophets would have mentioned these events as conditions of the renewed covenant.

But, didn’t Jesus say that the prophets DID write of Him and His crucifixion?



Luke 24:44

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Hebrew Streams

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תּוֹרָה עַל לֵב

Torah Upon the Heart

(A Mosaic Idea)

Renewal After Judgment

Through most of his prophetic scroll, Jeremiah denounces his city and warns of coming catastrophe. But in chapter 31, he announces a word of hope. In spite of national disintegration, the coming end is not the final end. God will renew the covenant and eventually succeed in doing what he wanted all along. God will one day write Torah on the hearts of his people, and “they will all know” the Lord (v. 34).

Jeremiah’s prediction is not an innovation. It’s a word of revival: reviving an ancient purpose, envisioning its future realization. The Lord made it clear they were to look backward: Stand by the ways and see and ask for the **ancient paths** [netivot lam], Where the good way is, and walk in it; And you shall find rest for your souls. (Jeremiah 6:16)

Yes, many Messianic Jewish advocates do believe that the word “new” means “to renew” and also applies to an OLDER covenant. The problem is, they just do not go back far enough. They mistakenly stop at the Old Covenant with Israel and do not go back to the First Covenant God made with Adam.

If the word “new” in Jeremiah 31:31 does indeed denote a “renewing” of a covenant – it certainly would NOT be the Mosaic covenant! Why? Because God says His new or renewed covenant WOULD NOT be according to the covenant He made with the ancient nation of Israel. Speaking of the New covenant, the Lord says:

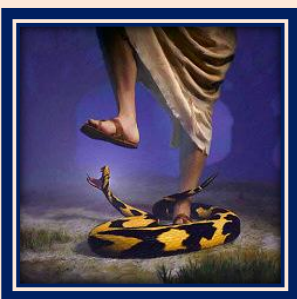
Jer 31:31-32

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of

the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord:

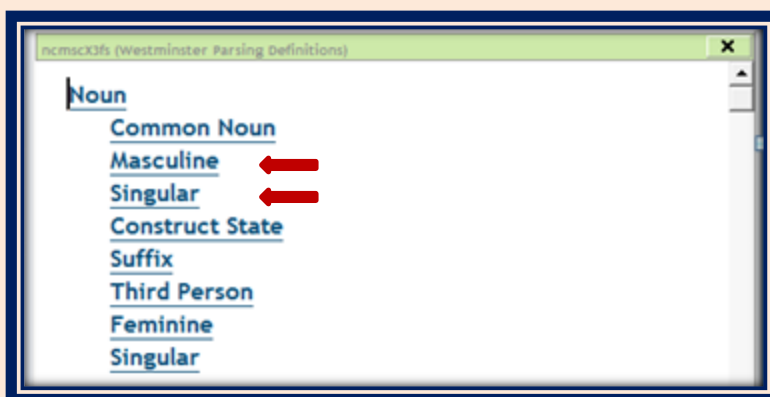
This verse definitely eliminates the “**Old Covenant**” with national Israel from being the covenant God would renew. So, what covenant is left for God to renew? Only the **First Covenant He made with Adam**. For immediately after the fall of Adam and Eve, and even while the Lord was still in the Garden of Eden pronouncing a curse upon the serpent, God revealed a plan to restore the damage done by Adam and Eve’s sin. We call it the **New Covenant** or **THE GOSPEL MESSAGE!**

Gen 3:14-15



Then the Lord God said to the serpent: Because you have done this, you are cursed more than any livestock and more than any wild animal. You will move on your belly and eat dust all the days of your life. I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her **seed** [singular]. **He** [singular] will strike your head, and you will strike his heel. HCSB

הָאִשָּׁה ncfsa Pa the woman, 802 hā'īssā	וּבֵין Pp Pc and 996 ûbên	בֵּינְךָ PpX2ms between thee 996 bênkā	אֲשִׁית vqi1cs I will put 7896 'āsīt	וְאֵיבָהּ ncfsa Pc And enmity 342 w'e'ebā	15
יְשׁוּפְכָּהּ vqi3msX2ms shall bruise 7779 y'ešûpkā	הִיא pi3ms it 1931 hû'	זַרְעָהּ ncmscX3fs her seed; 2233 zar'ā	וּבֵין Pp Pc and 996 ûbên	זַרְעֶךָ ncmscX2ms thy seed 2233 zar'ākā	וּבֵין Pp Pc and between 996 ûbên



And just who was this **SEED** that would CRUSH the serpent's head? At the crucifixion, Satan "bruised" Christ's heel; but because of His death and resurrection, Christ **CRUSHED** Satan's head and won a complete victory over him. And in this covenant, all sins would be totally forgiven and remembered no more. So, we see that the New Covenant does indeed **repair**, **renews** or **restores** man's destiny and relationship with God.

Jer 31:34

"For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." NIV

And wasn't the agreement God made with Abraham the COVENANT in which "**THE SEED**" would come and repair the damage Adam did to the first covenant and restore all things.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words

"In Abraham the promised redemption Gen 3:15 took the form of the restoration of a proper relation between God and man and between man and the ground."

Gen 28:14-15.

Gen 22:18

18 **And in thy seed** shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Gal 3:16

Now to Abraham and **his seed** were the promises made. **He saith not, And to seeds**, as of many; but as of one, **And to thy seed, which is Christ.**

God's covenant with Abraham was the planting of the seed of the covenant of GRACE, which would grow to completion in the **Person** of **Christ Jesus** - the **Promised Seed** – who would **RESTORE** all things.

Acts 3:18-22

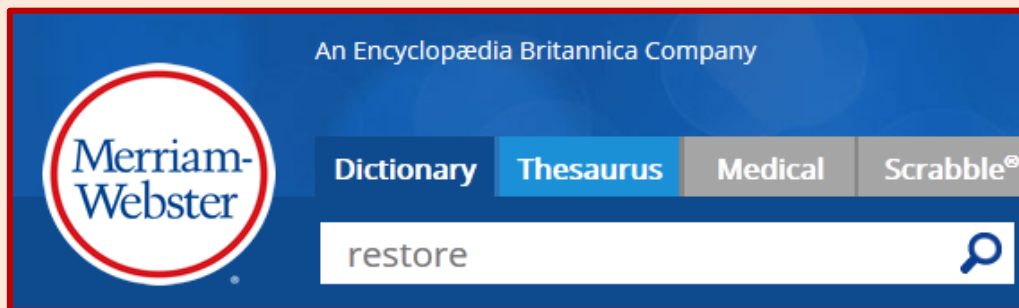
But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, 20 and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you — even Jesus. 21 He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets. NIV

Acts 3:21								
21	ὅν	δεῖ	οὐρανὸν	μὲν	δέξασθαι	ἄχρι	χρόνων	ἀποκαταστάσεως
	ORRMSA	V3SPAI	NMSA	TM	V__AMN	MG	NMPG	NFSG
	Whom	must	heaven		receive	until	times	of restitution
	<u>3739</u>	<u>1163</u>	<u>3772</u>	<u>3303</u>	<u>1209</u>	<u>891</u>	<u>5550</u>	<u>605</u>
	hón	deí	ouranón	mén	déxasthai	áchri	chrónōn	apokatastáseōs

NT:605 (Strong's)	
NT:605	ἀποκατάστασις apokatastasis
(ap-ok-at-as'-tas-is); from NT:600;	
reconstitution:	
KJV - restitution.	

NT:600 (Strong's)	
NT:600	ἀποκαθίστημι apokathistemi
(ap-ok-ath-is'-tay-mee); from NT:575 and	
NT:2525; to reconstitute (in health, home or	
organization):	
KJV - restore (again).	

And, just what does the word “**restore**” mean?



verb re·store:

: to give back (someone or something that was lost or taken) : to return (someone or something).
: to put or bring (something) back into existence or use.
: to return (something) to an earlier or original condition by repairing it, cleaning it, etc.

And doesn't Jesus, the Second Adam [not the second Moses or second Abraham] restore back to mankind the opportunity to partake of the **TREE OF LIFE**? Moses didn't have any means to do this, neither did the man Abraham. Only the **PROMISED SEED** of Abraham could and did restore access to this **TREE**, which originally sustained Adam and Eve's perpetual life.

That is why Jesus, the Second Adam, was able to truly “**renew, repair or reverse**” what Adam did to the family of man and fully restore the opportunity for humanity to enjoy the type of relationship that Adam originally enjoyed with God. In this sense, **the New Covenant renews/repairs the first covenant God made with Adam, by healing the breach Adam's sin caused between God and humanity and brings Believers back into the same state of Sonship, earthly dominion, purity, sinlessness, righteousness and intimate relationship with God, which Adam and Eve enjoyed before their fall.**

In God's Perfect Creation	After Man's Fall	Through Christ's Victory
Very good creation	Wrecked creation	Promise of a new creation
Dominion for humanity	Satan seized dominion	Satan loses grip on the earth
Righteousness and fellowship with the Father	Sin, separation from God, sacrifices of atonement	Righteousness, bold access to God
Eternal life	Death, sickness, disease	Eternal life
Knowledge of Godly ways	Knowledge of good <i>and</i> evil	Christ's teachings of good

Hopefully, this information will help us understand that the New Covenant **IS NOT** a restoration or continuation of the Old Covenant. The Old Covenant is now obsolete and has been superseded by God's MOST RECENT Covenant ratified in Christ's **OWN** Blood. The blood of bulls and goats could only make the ancient Israelites ceremonially clean.. The Old Covenant **COULD NOT** reconcile them back to the Heavenly Father, nor restore them to the state of purity that Adam and Eve possessed before their encounter with sin. It required the shed blood of our Creator Christ Jesus to make these extraordinary blessings available to humanity.

Heb 10:4,9,10

For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. ...⁹ Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. **He taketh away the first**, that he may **establish the second**. ¹⁰ By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

2 Cor 5:19

To wit, that God was in Christ, **reconciling** the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of **reconciliation**.

So, in one sense, we can think of the New Covenant in Jesus the Christ as a “**healing salve**” – a soothing **Balm** to heal the breach Adam created when he broke the **First Covenant** that God made with mankind. The essence of this concept is beautifully expressed in the words of a popular spiritual hymn.

**There is a balm in Gilead, To make the wounded whole.
There is a balm in Gilead, To heal the sin-sick soul.**

Yes, God the Father was in Jesus **RE**-conciling mankind back to Himself and repairing the damage Adam did when he broke **God's First Covenant**. The Heavenly Father has **CHRISTENED** Christ Jesus with every name, title, role and position that was and is necessary for our eternal salvation and reconciliation to the Heavenly Father.

Jesus **IS** God's **Good News** to mankind.