



## New Covenant of Grace Part 1

Trust is the bedrock of what makes relationships work. It is the fundamental process of love, intimacy, and unity. The greatest level of trust between two individuals is when one decides to pledge by binding himself to a life-long agreement as a guarantee. This agreement is known as a **covenant**.

However, the issue of trust and relationships always focuses on whether the two covenantors are faithful enough to keep their end of the promise because every covenant stipulates terms & conditions, which requires certain conduct in order to fulfill the agreement. Both parties are obligated to satisfy these terms & conditions for as long as they live.

In the Bible, we see God entering in a covenant with man such as Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, Ruth, and Hosea. But the most significant covenant in the Old Testament was God entering in a covenant with the House of Israel known as the **Old Covenant**.

The Old Covenant stipulated terms & conditions for the fulfillment of the agreement through the Law of Moses, which the main clause is stated as the following:

### **Deuteronomy 28:1**

If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully keep all his commands that I am giving you today, the Lord your God will...

The Law of Moses was man's end of the bargain to keep in order for God to bless and save. It was based on man's obedience to keep. It was not for all mankind but only for the **Jew**.

Are you from a Jewish decent or born into a Jewish family? If not, you were born a non-Jew or what the Bible calls a **Gentile**.

For thousands of years, God divided humanity into two categories – Jew and Gentile.

*Why is this important?*

The Old Covenant of Law was only between God and the Jew; therefore, excluding the Gentile altogether. In other words, as a born Gentile, you were excluded from citizenship in Israel and a foreigner to the covenant God made with them. The Gentile was never offered the Law of Moses; therefore it is not your responsibility.

Rather, God the Father, today, is offering one covenant to the whole world, Jew or Gentile, called the **New Covenant**.

### **Hebrews 8:7-8**

For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. Because finding fault with them, He says, “Behold the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant...

In order for the first covenant to be annulled and the second to be established, someone born under the Law had to fulfill the terms & conditions of the first covenant by fulfilling the Law of Moses and at the same time be the Mediator of a better covenant – He is Jesus the Christ.

What God promised with the coming of Christ was the New Covenant. The death of Jesus nullified the Old Covenant and birth the New Covenant at the same time and sealed it with His resurrection. This is why *Jesus Christ is the New Covenant*. He has obtained a more excellent ministry, which is more excellent than the Old Covenant high priest who mediated God’s grace through the old system of being blessed upon one’s obedience to the Law of Moses and cursed upon one’s failure to comply.

However, this New Covenant is not like the Old Covenant. The system that required one to keep the Law of Moses and continue in it was the reason why God saw the Old Covenant as faulty – not because the Law of Moses was faulty but because the hearts of the people were faulty.

Like the Old Covenant, the New Covenant also stipulated terms & conditions for the fulfillment of the agreement through the Gospel, which the main clause is stated as the following:

### **Hebrews 8:12**

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.

The New Covenant is God’s pledge to forgive the sins of his people and never, ever remembering them again. This new agreement is not a mere possibility but His perfect accomplishment. However, this does not mean the allegiance of the human partner is left in question because God secures it with His Son in your place. This time, the certainty of the New Covenant is not contingent upon your performance to keep its terms & conditions but in Christ sealing it through His blood. In other words, the New Covenant is all based on God to keep. This is why *the New Covenant is the New Covenant of Grace*.

### **Hebrews 7:22**

Because of this oath, Jesus is the one who guarantees this better covenant with God.

Jesus now mediates God’s grace through the new living way, which has been enacted on better promises, making Him the sure guarantor of the promises of God in your life.

The New Covenant of Grace is appropriated by believing in Jesus as the Christ; accepting God’s offer in the New Covenant by believing His Son as your covenantor and guarantor. You are simply a beneficiary and an heir of the New Covenant of Grace between God and His Son.

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