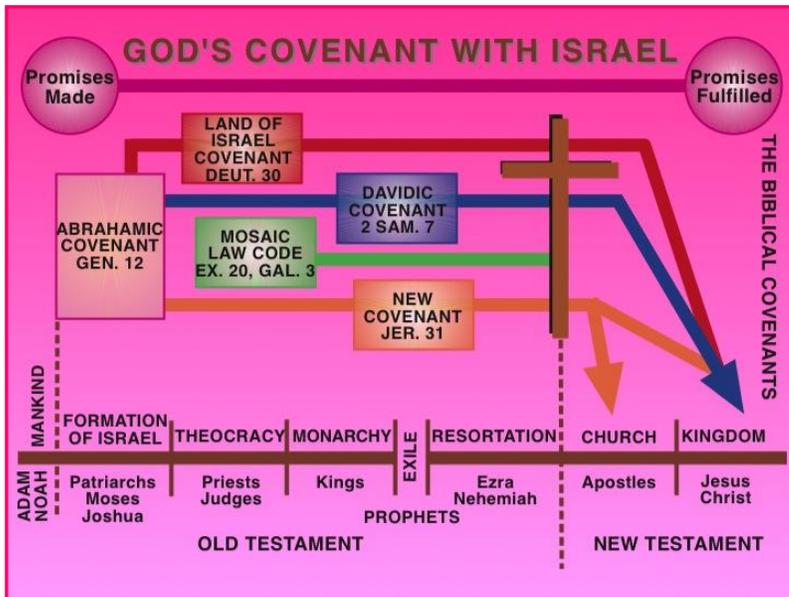


FALL QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017
THEME – COVENANT WITH GOD
UNIT III – AN EVERLASTING COVENANT

**“EXPERIENCING THE BLESSINGS OF RESTORATION IN
THE NEW COVENANT”**

Sunday School Lesson No. XI – November 12, 2017
Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher



Lesson Text: Jeremiah 31:31-37

Motto Text: Jeremiah 31:31 (NLT), *“The day is coming,” says the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah.”*

Required Reading: Jeremiah 31; Hebrews 8:1-7, 13

Reliable Resources: Wiersbe’s Expository Outlines on the New Testament; Preaching from the Prophets by Kyle Yates; Standard Lesson Commentary; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; MacArthur Study Bible Notes; Libronix Electronic Library; Life Application Bible Commentary by Tyndale House; Children’s Ministry Resource Bible by Thomas Nelson Publishers; Transformed Living in Tough Times by John Ed Mathison

LESSON INTRODUCTION

Quoting from the Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator “Heart of the Lesson” by Frank Pass (September 14, 2014): “God’s plan of redemption as revealed in scripture unfolds through a series of covenants. These covenants work together to accomplish the purpose of God.

The Abrahamic covenant promised land, descendants, and blessing – blessing to Abraham and his descendants and through them to all the nations of the earth. The Mosaic covenant was made with the nation that came from Abraham, after God had redeemed them from Egyptian bondage. It set Israel apart as God’s witness nation, regulated their entire life, and promised blessings for covenant faithfulness and curses for covenant treachery – with the ultimate curse being exile from the Promised Land. The Davidic covenant provided for the leader of the nation as God’s regent on the earth and promised that David’s line would never lack a man to sit upon the throne of Israel.

Sadly, the record of Israel’s history is one of unfaithfulness to the Mosaic covenant. This led to her punishment through exile. But even as the latter prophets prepared the people for this punishment, they also spoke of future restoration. A key component of that restoration would be the new covenant that God would make with His people.”

The setting and story of the New Covenant promise of Jehovah penned by Jeremiah is found in Chapter 31. Jeremiah speaks of Jehovah’s covenant promise of Reconciliation in verses 1-3; Regathering in verses 4-9; Repentance in verses 10-22; and Redemption in verses 23-30. Now all this leads to Restoration and “**Experiencing the Blessings of Restoration in the New Covenant.**”

Our Anticipated Power Points are:

- Experiencing the Essence of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Experiencing the Event of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:33a
- Experiencing the Excellence of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:33b
- Experiencing the Executor of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:34
- Experiencing the Eternal Evidence of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:35-37

LESSON OUTLINE

“Experiencing the Blessings of Restoration in the New Covenant”

I. Experiencing the Essence of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:31-34

A. It would be relegated to all Israel, both northern and southern kingdoms, therefore it is yet in the future.

According to the Bible Knowledge Commentary, “It would not be like the covenant God had made with Israel’s forefathers at the time of the Exodus because that covenant had been broken by the people (read 11:1-8)... Twice God had announced a series of punishments (or curses) that would be invoked on those who violated His law (Lev. 26; Deut. 28). The final judgment would be a physical deportation from the land of Israel... in 586 BC this curse was completed... A change was needed.” Hence a new covenant!

B. It would replace the Mosaic Covenant.

C. God would record His truth in the hearts of His Covenant people.

D. Israel as a nation would be reconciled to God.

II. Experiencing the Event of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:33a

According to H. L. Wilmington, “It will go into effect ‘after those days’ (31:33), and following the ‘time of Jacob’s trouble’ (30:7).” (Read vs. 8-10). “Both these terms refer to the coming great tribulation, at the start of the glorious millennium.” Remember it is even yet in our future as of this week’s lesson, November 12, 2017.

III. Experiencing the Excellence of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:33b

This covenant will not easily be broken in the lives of Israel. The first law was written on stone tablets, but this law will be written in their hearts. Isaiah 11:9 tells us, ***“They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”*** This inward written law will be governed in the millennium by God’s Holy Spirit in Israel’s hearts. Ezekiel 36:24-27 says, ***“For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.”*** (Read Joel 2:28-32)

IV. Experiencing the Executor of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:34

The Lord goes into the “I will” mode, which simply identifies Him as the One who will rule and reign during this great time of covenant fulfillment. He is the true Son of David who will forgive their sin and heal the land. But how is this possible? Because of who He is and what He’s done. In Isaiah 53:4-6 we find, ***“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”*** (Read Luke 22:20; Jeremiah 30:9; Jeremiah 33:15-18).

V. Experiencing the Eternal Evidence of the New Covenant. Jeremiah 31:35-37

According to the Bible Knowledge Commentary, “To underscore Israel’s permanence because of this New Covenant, God compared her existence to that of the heaven and the earth. As God had appointed the sun to shine by day and the moon and stars to shine by night (Gen 1:14-19), so He had appointed Israel as His chosen nation. It would take a feat as fabulous as making these natural decrees vanish from nature to make Israel... cease to be a nation. The power of God displayed in creating the universe was the power that He exercises in preserving Israel as a nation. Throughout history people have tried in vain to destroy Israel, but none have succeeded – and none ever will.”

CLOSING

The New Covenant will be totally fulfilled in the Millennium when Israel is seated totally back in her land and her King Jesus Christ is seated on the throne in Jerusalem. The promise of this Covenant was to Israel, **but we who are the Church will rejoice and enjoy with Israel the fulfillment of God’s Word!** I Corinthians 10:32, ***“Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God.”*** Remember also Matthew 6:10, ***“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”***



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LOOKING AHEAD:

November 19, 2017

Hebrews 12:14-15, 18-29

Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway where Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.

Pastor Davis invites you to hear him teach the Sunday School lesson at Bibleway each Wednesday at noon.