

New Covenant

Hebrews 8:6 and 9:15

"But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises." (8:6)

"For this reason, Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant." (9:15)

Romans 8:9-11 and 6:14-15

"You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if any one does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you." (Romans 8:9-11)

"For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means!" (Romans 6:14-15)

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."

Ephesians 2:8-10 and 13-16

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (8-10)

"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility." (13-16)

John 1:29 "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Acts 10

- 1. Cornelius' call for Peter
- 2. Peter's vision

Acts

Background: Luke begins the book of Acts where he left off in his Gospel. Both are written to aid a new Christian named Theophilus. Acts is the essential link connecting the 4 Gospels with all the other New Testament writings. Acts shows the ministry of the church carrying the Great Commission of Jesus to all the world. While mentioning most of the apostles, this book emphasizes the ministries of Peter (Chapter 1-1-2) and of Paul (chapters 13--28).

Content: Acts carries out the story of the ministry of Christ through the lives of his disciples. The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost giving power and boldness to aid Christians in witnessing to all the world of their risen Savior.

Acts describes Peter's leadership of the Jewish church; the death of Stephen; intense persecution against Christianity led by Saul; and Saul's (Paul's) conversion on the road to Damascus. Paul leads 3 extensive missionary journeys teaching and preaching the gospel. The book ends with Paul's trip to Rome, where he is put into prison. But Christianity has spread like fire from Jerusalem throughout the entire Roman Empire. Nothing can stop the Good News now!

Key Words: Holy Spirit; Growth

Acts mention or refer to the "Holy spirit" more than 30 times. He is the one who will guide, fill, sustain, convict and comfort the believer. The book also outlines the "growth" of the church: in number, strength and understanding.

Themes:

God will not ask us to do anything without also giving us the provision to do it well. Church growth will be continuous and significant. . . with the Holy spirit's leadership. It is impossible to live successful Christian lives apart from the Holy Spirit. Christians obedient to God's leading will have tremendous opportunities to share Christ.

Outline:

- 1. The ascension of Jesus. 1:1-1:11
- 2. Pentecost and the early church in Jerusalem. 1:12—8:3
- 3. The gospel's spread to Judea and Samaria. 8:4—12:25
- 4. Paul's first missionary journey. 13:1-1-14:28
- 5. The Jerusalem council, 15:1—15:35
- 6. Paul's second missionary journey. 15:36—18:22
- 7. Paul
- 8. 's third missionary journey. 18:23—21:14
- 9. Paul's journey to Rome. 21:15—18:31

Deuteronomy 29:4 and 30:1-5

"But to this day the Lord has not given you a mind that understands or eyes that see or ears that hear." (29:4)

"When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come upon you and you take them to heart wherever the Lord your God disperses you among the nations, and when you and your children return to the Lord your God and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the Lord your God will gather you and bring you back. He will bring you to the land that belonged to your fathers, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers." (30: 1-5)

Ezekiel 36:26-30

"I will give you a **new heart** and put a **new spirit** in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. **And I will put my Spirit in you** and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. You will live in the land I gave your forefathers; you will be my people, and I will be your God. I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you... I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine."