

The New Covenant – Part 1 (This is the good news!)

1. Brief recap from last meeting.

- a) Last meeting we went through an overview for this entire series of studies that we will be adventuring into. I introduced my study map and how its main purpose was to be a flow chart to the New Covenant and how the focus is Christ in you (the believer).
 - **The Origin:** Study map ideas were born in 2016 during a mission trip to Ghana, Kenya, and Uganda.
 - **The Focus:** Understanding the New Covenant and our personal union with the Trinity and how "Christ in you" is the mystery that is revealed in the New Covenant for believers.
 - **The Method:** Reading the Word through the lens of the finished work of the cross and looking at full context.
 - **The Goal of this life group:** Finding "treasure" and joy in the Word through deeper digging.

2. The secret that has been hidden for ages has now been revealed by the Holy Spirit.

- a) What is the secret, what is the mystery? It is Christ in you, the hope of glory!

Col. 1:26-27. This is where we are heading in future studies. However, before we dive into our union with Christ, we need to dive into the promised New Covenant to see what is there for us believers.

3. Old Covenant v. New Covenant (Hidden wisdom v. Spiritual wisdom)

- a) Let's read **Isa. 55:8-9 NLT**. His thoughts and ways higher than ours. Who can know His thoughts?
- b) Read **1 Cor. 2:9** and **2:16**. Note old covenant reference. Then read through full context: **1 Cor. 2:6-16**. Walk through it and explain old covenant in the new covenant text and not mixing them. Note the "but" in **v. 10-13** and in **vs 16** (New Covenant Mindset).
- Read **1 Cor. 2:10-13 (AMPC, AMP, ESV)** - Read **1 Cor. 2:16 (AMPC, AMP, ESV)**. Also see **2 Pet. 1:4 (NKJV)** Believers may be partakers of His divine nature.

Note: In **2 Pet. 1:4**, the phrase "may be partakers" points to a dynamic, participatory relationship that is very similar to the "choice" of abiding in Christ. While your salvation (your legal standing before God) is a gift of grace, your participation in His nature is an ongoing experience that involves your active will. This also ties into intentionality that we will dig into in future studies.

4. Old Covenant v. New Covenant (Punished for sin v. Christ took our punishment)

- a) Old Covenant: God punishes us for sin. Sin conscious: Psa. 39:9-11 (just one example)
New Covenant: Christ takes our punishment. God Conscious: Those who believe in Him are delivered from deserved wrath of God.

- Dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. (**Rom. 6:8-11 NKJV/KJV**) (old man crucified with Christ, body of sin done away with/destroyed.)
- (Died once to sin. We did not die to sinning, we died to sin nature - new nature in Christ)
- The new way of faith: no longer righteous through obeying the law; now righteous through faith in Christ. **Phil. 3:7-9.**

5. Old and New Covenant Mindsets

- a) Old Covenant mindset: {Sin conscious > Law}
Guilt, condemnation, shame, fear > Right where Satan wants us to stay.
- b) New Covenant mindset {God conscious > Relationship}
Abundant life, joy, peace, right with God > Right where God wants us to stay.
 - I'm going to dive more into these two mindsets in our next study.
- c) Raised to new life with Christ. Set your mind on things above. **Col. 3:1-3 (AMPC).**

6. Christ Took Our Punishment (*Christ was the propitiation for our sin*)

- a) New Covenant: Christ takes our punishment. God Conscious: Those who believe in Him are delivered from deserved wrath of God. Christ is the “Propitiation” for our sins. **1 Jn. 2:2, 4:10; Rom. 3:21-26.**
- b) “...Through the “propitiation” sacrifice of Christ, he who believes upon Him is by God’s own act delivered from justly deserved wrath, and comes under the new covenant of grace.” ~ Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words.
- c) The New Covenant has provided a New Way of Faith. **Gal. 3:19-29.**
- d) “God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself.” **2 Cor. 5:19; cf. Col. 1:19-20;** fuller context: **2 Cor. 5:18-21.** Let's unpack this a little bit: (*Scriptures referenced below are for homework*). While God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself on the cross, this reconciliation—along with forgiveness of sins, right standing with God, adoption as children, and an eternal inheritance—**must be received through faith.** As **Rom. 3:25 (AMPC)** puts it: “Whom God put forward as a mercy seat and propitiation by His blood [the cleansing and life-giving sacrifice of atonement and reconciliation], **to be received through faith.**”
- e) **For the Believer: Intimate Union with the Triune God**
 - Union with the Father through Christ and the Spirit
Jn. 14:20; 17:21; Eph. 2:18; 4:6; 1 Jn. 1:3.
 - Union with the Son (Jesus Christ)
Jn. 15:4-5; Rom. 6:5; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:6; Col. 3:3.
 - Union with the Holy Spirit (Indwelling and Fellowship)
Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 2:22; 1 Jn. 3:24.
 - Union with All Three Persons of the Trinity
Matt. 28:19; John 14:16-17, 23; Gal. 4:6; 1 Pet. 1:2.

f) **For the Unbeliever: Eternal Separation from God**

- Those who do not believe remain under God's wrath and face eternal separation from His presence – **Matt. 7:23; 25:41, 46; Luke 16:26; John 3:36; 2 Thess. 1:8–9; Rev. 20:14–15; 21:8.**

To be continued.... next meeting we will dive into the New Covenant confirmed with Christ's blood and the glory of the New Covenant.

Homework:

Read through “For the Believer” and “For the Unbeliever” scriptures above.

Propitiation – [A-1,Verb,G2433, hilaskomai] – [Strong's #2433](#)

Propitiation – [Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words](#)

This is an in-depth study that dives into the Old Covenant sacrifices and offerings to help better understand and appreciate the New Covenant – The once and for all time perfect and acceptable blood sacrifice to God.

Rom. 3:1-5:21

Full context: Christ Took Our Punishment/Faith of Abraham/Faith brings joy.

Read through Gal. 3:1-4:7

Full context: The Law and Faith in Christ.

Rom. 6:1-23 (NKJV)

Full Context: Believers are now: Dead to Sin, Alive to God / From Slaves of Sin to Slaves of Righteousness / Power of sin broken.