

Theme: The old covenant of types and shadows has been fulfilled by the new covenant, which brings the reality to which the old covenant pointed.

I. Intro – Church Must Bless Israel??

- A. Quotes from evangelists this week
- B. Misunderstand Scripture
- C. Misunderstand relationship between old & new covenants

II. The Superiority of the New Covenant

- A. The New Covenant is superior to the Old (v6)
 - 1. It has better promises (v6)
 - 2. It has superior ministry (v6; 2 Cor 3:6-11)
 - 3. It is built on realities – not shadows (v1-2; 5-6)
 - 4. It has dealt with sin (v9-12; Ezek 36:25-27)
- B. New covenant has fulfilled old (v7-8; 7:17; Rom 8:3-4)
 - 1. Old failed because of sin (v 7-8; Heb 7:18-19)
 - 2. New has resolved this (Rom 8:3-4; 2 Cor 3:15-18)
- C. The old covenant is now obsolete (v13)
 - 1. Served its purpose – obsolete (v13; Gal 3:23-25)
 - 2. Will soon disappear – 70 AD? (v 13)

III. Conclusion & Summary

- A. The new covenant fulfills old – for Israel
 - 1. Notice this covenant with Israel & Judah
 - 2. All we have said applies to Israel as well
 - 3. The old covenant is obsolete – for Israel
 - 4. The hope of Israel is in Christ's new covenant
- B. The new covenant superior to the old
 - 1. It is better in every conceivable way!
 - 2. It has brought us true knowledge & forgiveness
 - 3. It brings us Spirit – who transforms us!
- C. This is the age of reality – not types and shadows
 - 1. Age of types & shadows gone – for everyone
 - 2. We enjoy the reality – not the types
 - 3. We offer the reality – not the types

The New Covenant: Fulfillment in Christ

Hebrews 8:1-13
August 22, 2004
Covenant of Grace?
2 Corinthians 13:14

A popular television preacher from Texas says Christians of all denominations should be sending support to Israel. Dr. John Hagee says because God created and defends Israel, and because Israel is the apple of His eye, going to war against the Jewish state is going to war against God Himself. All Christians, the pastor says, should do what they can to be a blessing to the Jewish nation. He says there are several things believers can do to show their support for God's chosen people. .. A third suggestion, Hagee adds, is that every church in America do something in a practical sense to be of assistance to Israel. Over the past three years, Hagee's ministry has given \$5 million to bring Russian Jews to Israel. (Agape Press Release)

⁶ He has made us competent as **ministers of a new covenant**-- not of the letter but of the Spirit; for **the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.** ⁷ Now if **the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone**, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, fading though it was, ⁸ **will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?** ⁹ **If the ministry that condemns men is glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!** ¹⁰ For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. ¹¹ **And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!** 2 Corinthians 3:6-11

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; **I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.** ²⁶ **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. ²⁷ **And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.** Ez 36:25-27

¹⁸ The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless ¹⁹ (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God. Hebrews 7:18-19

³ For what **the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.** And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁴ **in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us,** who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. Romans 8:3-4

¹⁵ Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶ But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ **And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.** 2 Cor 3:15-18

²³ Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. ²⁴ **So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ** that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ **Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.** Galatians 3:23-25