

THE COVENANTS : A BIBLICAL OVERVIEW

Some comments to my many Seventh Day Adventist Christian friends and those who have come from

that background.

Jeremiah 31: 31 "The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.

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OLD COVENANT = OLD CREATION	NEW COVENANT = NEW CREATION
THE 1ST MAN = ADAM	THE SECOND MAN = JESUS
v 45 became a living Being	Life Giving Spirit
v 45 Natural first.	afterwards the Spiritual
v 47 of the Earth	The Lord from Heaven
v 48 made of Dust	the Heavenly Man
v 49as we have born the image of the man of dust, we also shall	also bear the image the heavenly Man.
Physical in Attributes TO lead to the Spiritual	Spiritual in Attributes TO lead to the Physical
Focus on Doing	Focus on Saying and Being
Law & Ten Commandments	Life in The Holy Spirit transcends a life lived by law. If you haven't got the Spirit, you will guided by law.
Law filled life>>> Focus on achievement and legal exactness	Focus on a Spirit filled life >>value , freedom, significance, a realisation of the great price paid for freedom.
Ten Commandments to eventually to lead to Christ	The Resurrection of Christ led to the giving of Holy Spirit in us so the external law becomes an internal law in its outworking Ten Commandments are incorporated in the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus but are transformed in to a new outworking.
Emphasis on Religion leading to God	Emphasis on Relationships with God
	2 Cor 3: 13-14 the Law and the Spirit. Paul gives a comparison:.
	LAW SPIRIT
	Moses Christ
	Veil Veil taken away

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Vs 14, 15: Moses = Old Testament = Old

Covenant (includes the Ten Commandments along with all the Old Testament laws) >>

A veil on the Jews hearts and minds to the fact that in Jesus Christ it has been done away with.

Vs 17: Paul teaches that wherever the Spirit is, there is liberty (emancipation from bondage, freedom).

Vs 18: Through the Spirit and the Word are transfigured into His very image

IMPLICATIONS OF THIS OUTLOOK: THE TWO COVENANTS

1/
Was not based on faith (Gal 3:12)
(Gal 3:13) *The law is not based on faith; on the contrary; "the man who does these things will live by them."*

1/
Is to bring faith Gal 3:23
(Gal 3:23) *Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed.*

2/
Brought with it a curse:
(Gal 3:13 (NIV) *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree".*

2/
Ended this same curse Gal 3:13
(Gal 3:13 (NIV) *Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is anyone who is hanged on a tree.*

3/
Became as worthless trash. Phil 3:8.
(Phil 3:8 NIV) *what is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them (matters of the law) rubbish, that I may gain Christ.*

3/
Gives us hope.
(Gal 5:15 NIV) *But by faith we eagerly await through the Spirit the righteousness for which we hope.*

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<p>4/ Brought death: Rom 7:9, 2 Cor 3:5-7 <i>(Rom 7:9 NIV) Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life.</i></p>	<p>4/ Still brings life. 2 Cor 3:6, Gal 5:25 <i>(2 Cor 3:6 NIV) for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.</i></p> <p><i>(Gal 5:18 NIV) But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.</i></p> <p><i>(Gal 5:25 NIV) Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.</i></p>
<p>5/ Was without power: <i>(Rom 8:3 NIV) For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his Son in the likeness of sinful man,</i></p> <p><i>(Gal 4:9) But now that you know God --- or rather are known by God -- how is it that you are turning back those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again?</i></p>	<p>5/ Promises eternal inheritance. <i>(Heb 9:15 NIV) 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 commit</i></p>
<p>6/ It's glory disappeared: 1 Cor 3:7 <i>(1Cor 3:7 NIV) 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,</i></p> <p><i>(1Cor 3:7 NIV) We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance died away.</i></p>	<p>6/ Has greater lasting glory. 2 Cor 3:11 <i>(2 Cor 3:11 NIV) B181</i> came with such glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!</p>

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7/
Stood opposed to us: Col 2:14-16
(Col 2:14) Having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and stood opposed to us: he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

(Col 2:15 NIV) And having disarmed the powers and authorities' he made a public spectacle of them' triumphing over them by the cross.

(Col 2:16 NIV) Therefore, do not let anyone judge you by what eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.

7/
Provided an Advocate in Christ.
(Heb 10:10 NIV) ... we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once and for all.

(Heb 10:10 NIV) 'This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds"

Needed to be replaced: Heb 8:7
(Heb 8:7 NIV) For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another.

(Heb 8:17NIV) By calling this covenant "new", he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.

8/
Is an everlasting Covenant.
(Heb 9:15 NIV) For this reason Christ is called the mediator of the new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised ETERNAL inheritance.

(2 Cor 3:11 NIV) And what if what was fading away came with such glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

9/
Was only a shadow: Heb 10:1
(Heb 10: 1 NIV) The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming -- not the realities themselves.

(Col 2:17 NIV) These are a shadow of things to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.

9/
The real substance.
(Col 2:17 NIV) These are a shadow of the things to come, the reality, however, is found in Christ.

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(Heb 8:5 NIV) They serve at a sanctuary that is copy and shadow of what is in heaven.

10/

Was ready to disappear: Heb 8:13

(Heb 8:13) By calling this covenant "new", he has made the first one obsolete and aging, will soon disappear.

11/

Christ ended O.C. for unity:

(Eph 2:15) 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, (Jews and Gentiles) thus making peace.

10/

Superior to the O.C. 2 Cor 3:7-11

(2 Cor 3:7) 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

11/

Sole purpose is Unity of His Body.

(Eph 1:10 NIV) to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

(Eph 2:14 NIV) For He himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.

(Eph 2:15 NIV) His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace.

(Eph 2:19 NIV) Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household.

(Eph 4:4 NIV) There is one body and one Spirit -- just as you are called to one hope when you were called --

(Eph 4:12 NIV) to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

(Eph 4:13 NIV) until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

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12/
Must be set aside: Heb 7:18
(Heb 7:18 NIV) The former regulations is set aside because it was weak and useless.

12/
Came as a better hope. Heb 7:19
(Heb 7:19 NIV) (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.

13/
Had to be changed: Heb 7:12
(Heb 7:12 NIV) For there is a change of priesthood, there must also be a change of law.

13/
Superior, promising better things Heb 8:6
(Heb 8:6 NIV) '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 is founded on *better promises*.

14/
Only a Guardian until Christ: Gal 3:24-25
(Gal 3:25 NIV) Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

14/
Christ, THE fulfilment.
(Gal 3:24 NIV) So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that might be justified by faith.

15/
Held us prisoners: Gal 3:23
(Gal 3:23 NIV) Before this (Christ) came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed.

15/
Set us free by faith Gal 3:23
(Gal 3:23 NIV) Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith (Christ) should be revealed.

(Gal 4:9 NIV) ...Do you wish to be enslaved by them (O.C. rules) all over again? You are observing special days

16/
Closes our minds: 2 Cor 3:15
(2 Cor 3:15 NIV) Even to this day when the law of Moses is read, a veil covers their minds.

16/
Takes away the veil of sin.
(2 Cor 3:16 NIV) When anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

(2 Cor 3:17 NIV) Now the Lord the Spirit, and where the Lord is, there is freedom.

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(2 Cor 3:18 NIV) 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.

17/
Alienates & robs life: Gal 5:4
(Gal 5:4 NIV) You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from

17/
Gives assurance before God now. 2 Cor 3:4
(2 Cor 3:4 NIV) Such confidence as this is ours through Christ before God.

18/
Ended by Christ: Rom 10:4
(Rom 10:4 NIV) Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who

18/
Came by Christ.
(Heb 7:22 NIV) Because of this oath, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

19/
Jews only born into promise:

19/
Non hereditary - free gift to all born again.

20/
Given only by Angels: Gal 3:19
(Gal 3:19 NIV) The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator. (Moses)

20/
Given by OATH of God Heb 7: 20-22, 6;13 (Heb 7:20 NIV) and it was without an oath!
(Heb 7:21 NIV) but he became a priest with an oath when God said to him: "The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever' . "
(Heb 7:28 NIV) For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath which came after the law appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.
(Heb 7:22 NIV) Because of this oath, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

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	(Heb 6:13 NIV) When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself.
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21/ <i>Needed a mediator:</i> (Gal 3:19 NIV) The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator. (Moses)	21/ No mediator necessary Gal 3:19 - 20 (Gal 3:19 NIV) The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator. A mediator, however, does not represent just one party; but God is one. <i>(Gal 3:20 NIV) A mediator, however, does not represent one party; but God is one.</i>
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22/ <i>Made a single nation:</i>	22/ For all individuals . (including Gentiles)
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23/ <i>Offers redemption & DEMANDS righteous:</i>	23/ Offers redemption & OFFERS righteous:
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24/ <i>Can't do enough to honour it:</i>	24/ Christ did it all. (We respond, He enables)
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25/ Was a written code: (Heb 9:4 NIV)the stone tablets of the covenant. (2 Cor 3:3 NIV) ...written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but	25/ Is of the Spirit. 2 Cor 3:6 (2 Cor 3:3 NIV) written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. (2 Cor 3:6 NIV) He has made us competent as
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tablets of human hearts.

ministers of a new covenant -- not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE NEW COVENANT: