

#353 Kingdom: Restoring the New Covenant Reality

After 2000 years there should be no need to speak about the New Covenant to any New Testament believer who had been redeemed for more than 1 year. The fact is that most Christians have no idea what the New Covenant is after 30 years of being born again. I have asked believers to explain the New Covenant in meetings in different parts of the world. I have never heard an adequate response from even the elders of churches. How could this be? Most assume that the New Covenant is Calvary and that is the general response. "I will forgive their sins" is certainly included but is just one part of the New Covenant. The "blood of the Covenant" certainly inaugurated and sealed the New Covenant but the New Covenant has many other provisions that are essential to the Christian Life and certainly to the next restoration. For that reason I will once more share a very small insight into the magnitude of what God has provided for the church that Jesus Christ is building.

Even the Lord's Table is based upon a clear understanding of the New Covenant.

Mat 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. 29 "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on **until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.**"

The Cup of wine of the Lord's Table, which represents the Blood of the New Covenant, will have a definite fulfillment in the Kingdom of God. At that time, "THIS fruit of the vine" will no longer be a remembrance but the spiritual reality to be corporately drunk. Today the "cup" can be just letter and a ritual or it can be a wonderful revelation of God's tremendous provision of the New Covenant that permits us to participate in the Kingdom and then the reality of that eternal cup.

In the last many, many years we have heard the blood used in all kinds of Christian cliches,

in deliverance, in songs and in prayers. I can't remember very much emphasis upon the Covenant that the Blood inaugurated. Many were trying to use the blood and ignore the Covenant. These two are intricately linked together.

2Co 3:5 Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as *coming* from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, **6 who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant**, not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter kills,

but the Spirit gives life.

It is obvious that the natural man with a natural ministry is not adequate to minister the New Covenant. To minister the New Covenant by the “letter” fails to bring any life and very little understanding but no Spirit of revelation . According to this scripture, the New Covenant must be ministered by the Spirit! Why? Because the New Covenant is linked to the Spirit of Christ and to the Holy Spirit who link us to whole new spiritual dimensions of Life and the Kingdom.

Eze 36:26 "Moreover, I will give you a **new heart** and put a **new spirit within you**; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 "And **I will put My Spirit** within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

(1) New Heart = New Inner Man

(2) New spirit = The Spirit of Christ

(3) Remove the heart of stone = Old man after Adam

(4) My Spirit = Holy Spirit

The “New Born Again Spirit” is the Spirit of Christ, the Living and abiding Word of God. 1Pe 1:22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, 23 for **you have been born again** not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, **through the living and abiding word of God.**

The “born-again experience” is by the “Living and Abiding Word of God” which IS the Spirit of Christ. When Jesus said “I will come to you” He was not speaking about coming “in the Holy Spirit” whom Jesus said “I will send Him.”

Joh 14:16 "I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Helper**, that He may be with you forever; 17 *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you as orphans; **I will come to you.**

“Another Helper” or “ANOTHER paracletos” means more than one! In other words

“I will come AND the Holy Spirit will come.” Then John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our abode with him.**

This IS the Promise of the Father but is one more aspect of another provision of the New Covenant. The Spirit of Christ is Spirit. The Holy Spirit is Spirit. The Father is Spirit. We can clearly say that “God Is Spirit” and they that worship Him MUST worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

The New Covenant IS the Promise of the Father that includes the Gift of the Holy Spirit and the other provisions. The ‘My Spirit’ is the Holy Spirit that came on the day of Pentecost that was promised by Jesus in John 14-15 & 16.

Luk 24:49 "And behold, I am sending forth **the promise of My Father upon you;** but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Act 1:4 And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to **wait for what the Father had promised,** "Which," *He said,* "you heard of **from Me;** 5 for John baptized with water, but **you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now."

Act 2:33 "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and **having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit,** He has poured forth this which you **both see and hear.**

Gal 3:14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so **that we might receive the promise of the Spirit** through faith.

Heb 9:15 And for this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been **called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.**

There is no question that the “promise of the Father” Is the New Covenant provision! Receiving the Holy Spirit is PART, along with and ALL the other provisions. In fact, receiving the Holy Spirit is clearly called “the baptism with the

Holy Spirit.” What the disciples received in Acts 2 is called the “promise of the Father” identified as the baptism with the Holy Spirit. In addition to this, it certainly includes the forgiveness of sins but so much more than forgiveness of sins.

Since the baptism of the Holy Spirit was part of the New Covenant we can assume that the “promise of the Father” was the New Covenant with **all** its various provisions. We can hardly separate the baptism with the Holy Spirit from the New Covenant OR the New Covenant from the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

This should be understood to be a serious mistake to preach one part of the New Covenant and ignore the other parts. It is one Covenant with various provisions, including the forgiveness of sins AND a new inner man, along with the Laws of God written upon the new inner man, a Kingdom within AND a Kingdom of Priests without. Those who have participated in the New Covenant provisions are called “the New Covenant Church” [His body] which relates to the Lampstand Church which He is building.

Experiencing the 7 Outer Court preparations is experiencing the provisions of the New Covenant. To stop at the forgiveness of sins is popular but too shallow for the New Testament church or for the next restoration of the Priesthood ministries. To assume that the Lampstand Church is in the Outer Court has been a serious mistake.

Eze 11:19 "And I shall give them **one heart**, and shall put a **new spirit within them**. And I shall take the heart of stone out of their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, [20] that they may walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances, and do them. **Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God.**

The unity of the Lampstand Church is not because of a certain conformity to dress or doctrine but because they were given ONE HEART and a NEW SPIRIT and a NEW INNER MAN. These are the ones that God can call “My People” and can declare that “I shall be their God.”

Universalizing the church outside of the New Covenant experience and the New Covenant provision is a huge mistake. This is universalizing the Lampstand Church and assigning it a place outside the Holy place Life and Ministry. In other words, as soon as someone’s sins are forgiven we declare them to be members of the church or members of the body of Christ. We fail to differentiate between those who believe and those who are hammered into one piece as the pure gold Lampstand Church. Men build churches according to their own design but Christ builds His

church according to the eternal design, with gold purified by the fire. Christ will build His church within the confines of the New Covenant!

Some may ask “What does the blood of Jesus that was poured out at Calvary have to do with the Kingdom Of God?” “What relationship does the New Covenant have with Kingdom of God?” What is the relationship between the Bread and the Cup in the Lord’s Table?

In fact there are many more questions that can be asked about these provisions of God that was unveiled at Calvary. For example; What does the sprinkled blood have to do with the Lord’s Table? We may soon see that Calvary was the pulling back of the curtain on many mysteries contained within the New Covenant and the eternal inheritance that has been provided within the provisions of the New Covenant!

We will begin with a short glossary of some of the terms used in the Book of Hebrews to speak about these provisions and how they are made available to us. We will take 7 terms from the Book of Hebrews and try to show the meaning of each term. All these are related to the New Covenant. However, some are implied by the various uses of the word or within the context.

(1) The Testator (2) The Guarantor (3) Executor (4) The Mediator (5)The Testament(6) The Inheritance to be distributed (7) Beneficiary. The first four of these terms apply to Jesus Christ. The Inheritance is applied to us but is administered by the Lord Jesus Christ. Of Course number 7, the beneficiary, speaks of those who qualify as the heirs of the inheritance under the terms of the New Covenant.

testator noun Law; a person who has made a will or given a legacy.

testament >noun 1 a person's will. 2 evidence or proof of a fact, event, or quality. 3 (in biblical use) a covenant or dispensation. 'a will', from testis 'a witness'

executor >noun Law; a person appointed by a testator to carry out the terms of their will .

mediate >verb 1 try to settle a dispute between two other parties. 2 technical be a medium for (a process or effect). -ORIGIN Latin mediare '**place in the middle**'

guarantor >noun a person or organization that gives or acts as the guarantee.

Inheritance. Property that is passed from one generation to another. Something of value that has passed from parent to their offspring.

beneficiary >noun (pl. beneficiaries) An heir or a person who benefits from something, especially a trust or a will. The one who receives the inheritance.

1Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us **to be born again** to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] **to obtain an inheritance** which is **imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you**, [5] **who are protected by the power of God through faith** for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

IF we are heirs of the inheritance and **IF** God has reserved the inheritance in heaven for us AND **IF** we are protected by the power of God until the final salvation is revealed, it should be obvious that we are sharing a very secure destiny in Christ! We are the beneficiary of His Will / Covenant and His Testament and He is the Executor of that Will / Covenant. He also stands as the Mediator of the Will / Covenant and presents Himself as the Guarantor; that everything written in the Will / Covenant will be distributed exactly according to the purpose and will of God.

We as the “beneficiaries” of the covenant or will, are guaranteed that the inheritance is laid up for us in heaven. Does that mean that we must just wait until we get to heaven? Since this inheritance is identified as “the eternal inheritance” it supercedes time so that we should be enjoying, at least some of, the provisions now. How do we know that? Because several scriptures identifies certain provisions of the eternal inheritance that are available now.

Acts 20: 32] "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up **and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified**.

Acts 26: 17] delivering you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, [18] to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, **in order that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.**'

Eph 1: 11] also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined

according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, [12] to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. [13] In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, [14] who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.****

Eph 5: 5] For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, **has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.**

Col 1:12] giving thanks to the Father, **who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.**

Heb 9: 15] And for this reason **He is the mediator of a new covenant,** in order that since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, **those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.**

While it is apparent that some of these verses apply to the future, there are others that

apply to the present life. The Holy Spirit is given as a “pledge of our inheritance” or as a down-payment [present tense] upon our full inheritance [future tense.] We should be experiencing the “down-payment” part of our inheritance now during this life. Since we should be experiencing the “in part” part of our inheritance now, it seems clear that there should be no conflict between the present aspect of the inheritance and the future aspects of the inheritance.

If we can taste of the power of the age yet to come, during this church age, then there should be no conflict between “the in-part” or “down-payment part” and the complete whole. Both are valid in their time. To be “filled with the Holy Spirit” in the “in-part” measure doesn’t mean there is no fullness measure of the Seven Spirits of God.

The church that functions in the in-part measure should not be satisfied IF a full measure is available. It is my opinion that when we experience the full measure of the New Covenant provision, we will be advancing toward the fullness measure of Christ. Surely we have not yet experienced the “fulness of Him who fills all in all.”

Surely the church has not yet grown up into the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ and into One Perfect Man. If that is true, we are still living in the “in-part” provision.

My theory is this; Because of the blood of Christ that inaugurated the New Covenant we have the absolute right to enjoy everything contained within the provisions of the New Covenant. Since that same blood that established the New Covenant was also carried into the Holiest and sprinkled on the Mercy Seat in Heaven, God’s mercy has been released for us to follow Him into that higher dimension of His Life.

The “in part measure of our inheritance” is a down payment upon the full measure that is laid

up in heaven for us and is fully protected by the power of God. Therefore, to assume that the “in part measure” is Cadillacs and summer homes, ocean cruises and earthly riches is rather ignorant.

1 Pet 1:4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, [5]_who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

The inheritance is defined as “salvation that is not yet revealed.” However, the inheritance is NOT perishable, temporary, earthly and just for this life.

It should be obvious that the Lord’s Table, with the Cup / Blood of the New Covenant, is indicating something eternal in its power and context. It will be fulfilled in the Kingdom of God when there is a “corporate drinking of the reality and fulfillment. It should also be obvious that the Lord’s Table today is just in the “in part” measure or down payment upon the eternal reality.

It would be reasonable to assume if the Cup / Blood has its fulfillment in a corporate “drinking” in the Kingdom of God that the “Bread / body” also has a corporate fulfillment in the Kingdom.

Mat 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. 29 "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on **until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom.**"

The Cup of wine of the Lord's Table, which represents the Blood of the New Covenant, will have a definite fulfillment in the Kingdom of God. At that time, "THIS fruit of the vine" will no longer be a remembrance but the fulfillment of the reality! Even though this is still a mystery today there will be a corporate fulfillment when **He drinks it with us**. We could guess that this will be also the full measure of the New Covenant and the full measure of the inheritance that was laid up for us in heaven.

Part of the unrest and dissatisfaction in the church today is with the "in part measure" that falls far short of the "in part" measure that God has made available to the church in this dimension of the restoration.

However, we can hardly expect to experience the blessings of the full measure of the New Covenant life when we haven't participated in the basic New Covenant provision. To reject ANYTHING connected to the SPIRIT today is a serious mistake. However, a casual reading of scriptures will not reveal the New Covenant except superficially. Many aspects of the New Covenant are not identified as New Covenant. If you do a search of the term "New Covenant" these verses will not appear.

For example; John 14-15 and 16 all speak about the New Covenant provision but the term "New Covenant" does not appear. Romans 8 and 1 Cor 2 is another example. Many things that Jesus taught was introducing the Kingdom of God that was "at hand" which is also the TIME of the New Covenant. Several things Jesus taught was referring to the Kingdom AND the New Covenant which we may have separated but are of the same dimension and function together. In other words the Kingdom is effective within us by the provision of the New Covenant! Example; "I will put my laws within you, in your mind I will put them, and upon your heart or Inner man I will write them."

After we see and understand the "essence" of the New Covenant and where it is put and what it is supposed to accomplish, we see the New Covenant in many scriptures that do not say "this is the New Covenant."

Also after we see why the Law of Moses and the Old Covenant was abandoned and why it was defective and see what replaced it, we see more provisions of the New Covenant that are easily available to those who have eyes to see and a heart to understand. For example; The Old Covenant was not able to impart life. That means that New Covenant is now able to impart Life because it is a better Covenant built

on better promises. The Bible doesn't say that the New Covenant imparts LIFE but it is certainly true or it wouldn't be an improvement over the Old Covenant. The Old Covenant priesthood was not able to bring anyone to perfection. That means that the New Covenant priesthood IS ABLE to bring the church to perfection. To be adequate as ministers of the New Covenant requires that we share every provision of the New Covenant experience that will lead the church into God's completed purpose.

The New Covenant is much more full and inclusive than we have shared in the past because we only shared what was clearly identified as "New Covenant."

Today if we quoted the New Covenant in fulness we would have to include dozens of verses that we left out before. In these verses, that we failed to associate with the New Covenant before, we now discover many provisions of the New Covenant that we didn't ever consider before.

I am speculating that it is these multiple provisions of the New Covenant, that are available to us today in the absolute of "Covenant", that will be the provision for us to transition from the Outer Court dimension into the Holy Place and priesthood dimension of God's purpose!