

# The New Covenant for the Church is **BETTER** Than the Old Covenant of Law

*Scripture Reading:*

**Hebrews 7:11-28**

# REVIEW

Paul wrote the letter to Hebrew Christians who were saved by grace, though faith in the gospel of Christ. They were addressed as “brethren” 4x: Hebrews 3:1,12; 10:19; 13:22

# INTRODUCTION

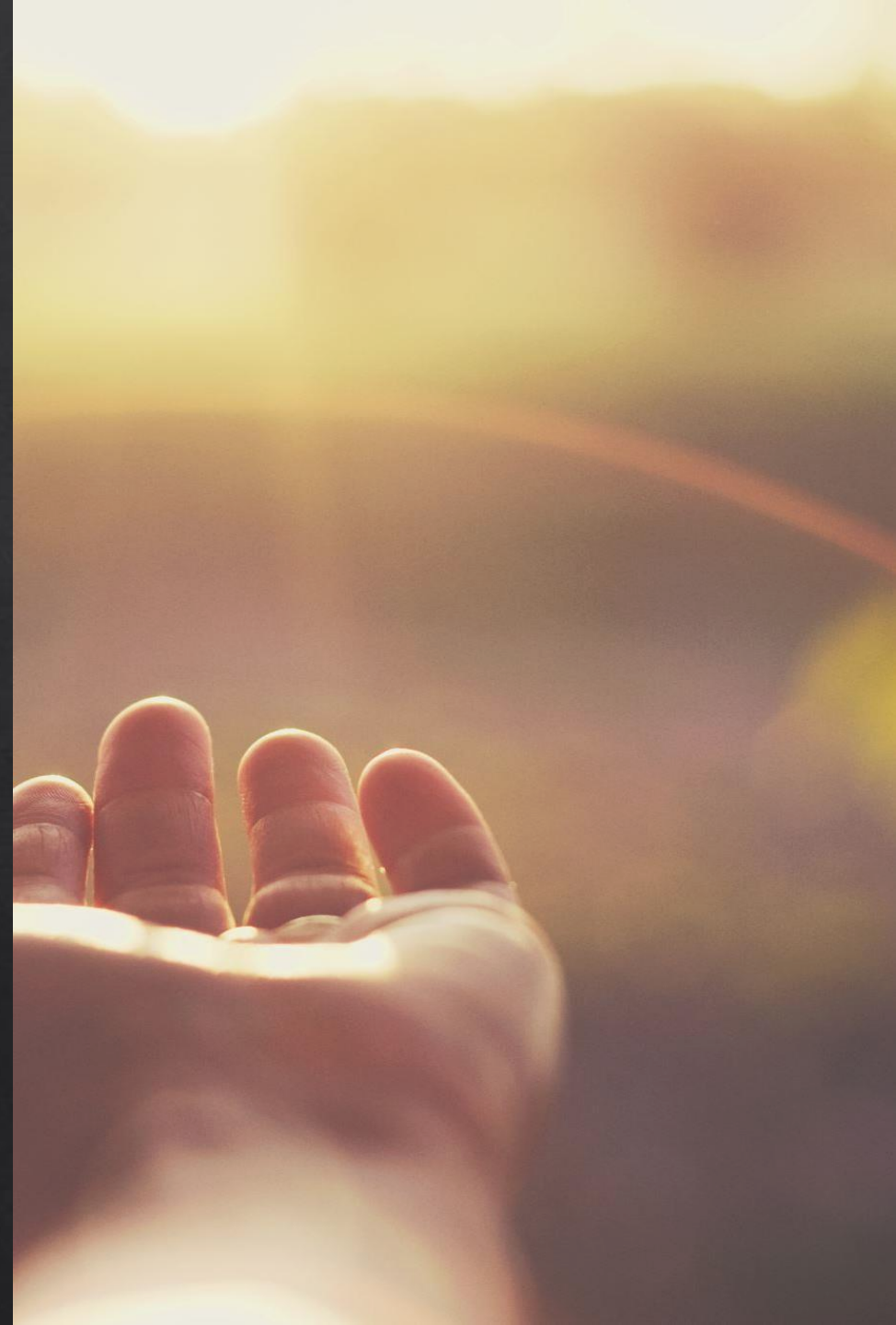
The problem of the Hebrew Christians: they were turning away from living out Eternal Life by means of grace, and were returning to live by self-effort, in their attempt to observe the legal requirements demanded by the Old Covenant of Law.



Paul refers to the New Covenant for the Church 5x in Hebrews, chapters 7-10

**This covenant provides these Jewish believers with the risen CHRIST'S INDWELLING LIFE which has the potential to empower them to live pleasing to God – something the Old Law Covenant could never do.**

◆ Hebrews chapter 7 shows the Jewish believers three things that they need to know



◇ Heb 8:7 “For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second”

◇ The Law was unable to mature them

◇ Heb 7:19, cf Matt 9:16-22

◇ Rom 13:9

## The Need for a BETTER Covenant

# The Need for a BETTER Priesthood and High Priest

- ◇ The Levitical priesthood was inadequate to meet the need of maturity
  - Heb 7:1
  - ◇ They were priests according to a commandment concerning flesh
    - ◇ They had to come from a family of Aaron through the tribe of Levi - 7:16
  - ◇ They had to offer sacrifices for the people AND for themselves continually
    - ◇ Heb 5:1-3, 7:27
  - ◇ They could not continue as priests because of death - 7:23

# The Need for a BETTER Priesthood and High Priest

- ◇ They needed a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek
  - ◇ Melchizedek's priesthood described – Heb 7:1-10
  - ◇ Christ was made a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek -Heb 7:20-21
  - ◇ This priesthood was made by an oath from God the Father to His Son, not by coming from a fleshly tribe of Israel - Heb 7:16, 20-22
  - ◇ Therefore, Christ was made a guarantee of a “better covenant” - Heb 7:22

# The Need for a BETTER Sacrifice

Animal sacrifices, under the old covenant, were inadequate and temporary - Heb 10:1-3



Christ, as a priest, offered ONE PERFECT SACRIFICE ONCE FOR ALL – completely sufficient for the payment for sins - Heb 7:27



The result: a BETTER covenant than the Law



# CONCLUSION

Lk 22:17, 20  
revealed two  
symbolic cups  
which pictured

Christ's payment  
for the New  
Covenant, and

The New  
Covenant, itself

# CONCLUSION

II Cor 3:3,6 reveals the content of the New Covenant:

ETERNAL LIFE, through the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit



Therefore, this New Covenant is better than the Old Covenant of Law, and is now the covenant by which these Hebrew Christians are to live their daily Christian lives

Therefore, let go of the Law and embrace the better covenant, which provides ETERNAL LIFE for daily living!