## The New Covenant for the Church is BETTER Than the Old Covenant of Law (pt 5)

*Scripture Reading:* Galatians 2:20-3:3, 10-14



## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of Paul's letter to the Hebrew Christians was to encourage them to let go of the Mosaic Law Covenant, and embrace New Covenant for the Church. This New **Covenant provided Eternal** Life for daily Christian living instead of impotent, personal, self-effort

### INTRODUCTION (continued)

The purpose of Paul's letter to the Galatian churches was to encourage Gentile Christians to continue to live by the grace-provided Eternal Life, which Life came from the New Covenant for the Church. No longer were they to place themselves under the Mosaic legal system of self-effort.

### The Gentile Christians Were Saved by Faith and Are to Live by Faith

The Gentiles were never under the Mosaic Law – Rom 2:14, 4:15

The Gentiles (and everyone), are saved by faith, not by (law) works – Eph 2:8-4

The Gentiles who believed the gospel received the Holy Spirit – Gal 3:2, cf Acts 10:44-47

The Gentile believers were to also mature by faith – Gal 3:3,11

If Gentiles placed themselves under the Law for daily living, they would: 1) have to <u>continue</u> to practice the <u>whole</u> Law – Gal 3:10, and 2) <u>Not</u> be living by faith – Gal 3:12, cf II Cor 5:17, Gal 5:16-17

## Jewish Christians Were Saved by Faith and Are to Live by Faith, Not by the Law

#### The Jews now have a <u>better</u> covenant than the OT Law Covenant

- Guaranteed to provide a better high-priesthood
  - Uninterrupted by death Heb 7:21, 23-24
  - Guaranteed to provide a <u>complete</u> salvation Heb 7:25

#### This <u>better</u> covenant is activated by <u>better</u> promises – Heb 8:6

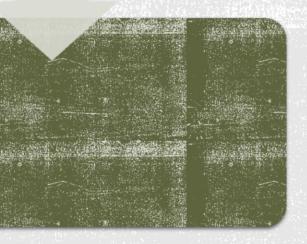
- A promise of a singular Seed (Christ)
- A promise of all nations being blessed by individuals from all nations being <u>placed into Christ</u> - Gen 22:1-18, Gal 3:27-28

This <u>new covenant for the Church</u> can cleanse the conscience of these *transitional* Jewish Christians from "dead (law) works" – Heb 9:12-15

# Two Reasons Why Paul Mentions The New Covenant to Israel in The Letter to the Hebrew Christians

To show these Jewish Christians that their OT Scriptures foretold of a replacement covenant for the Mosaic Law covenant - Heb 8:7-8, 13

> To give a <u>second</u> OT witness to the "taking away" of the Mosaic Law covenant





# Two Reasons Why Paul Mentions The New Covenant to Israel in The Letter to the Hebrew Christians (continued)

#### The problem:

- the OT animal sacrifices could not
  - Cleanse the conscience (of dead law works)
  - Could not take away sin Heb 10:1-4

#### The solution:

- 1<sup>st</sup> witness Ps 40:6-8
- 2<sup>nd</sup> witness Jer 31:31-34 summarized
  - God's provision of a human body for His Son in order to be the "once for all" consummating, final sacrifice for sin
    - cf Heb 10:5-10 (notice vs 9!)

#### The conclusion:

• Heb 10:18!