

**TITLE: A BETTER COVENANT**

**TEXT:** Hebrews 8:6-8 (KJV) Emph. vs. 6 *“But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.”*

**Word for the Week:** Col. 1:27 *“To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”*

**BIBLE READING:** (For the week) Romans 7:1-25

**INTRODUCTION:**

In the Old Testament times, God had established a covenant (*i.e. a binding agreement*) with the people of Israel, which detailed certain requirements that they needed to fulfill in order to fully enjoy its provisions. This old covenant through Moses has a high priest to continually intercede before God on behalf of the people and sacrifice animals to atone for their sins. According to the Bible, something was not quite right with the workability of the old covenant. Therefore, in His infinite wisdom and at the perfect time, God set aside the old and established a new covenant through the blood of Jesus, the sinless Son of God, for the atonement of the sins of all men forever. Jesus became the mediator, the High Priest and the sacrificial lamb for the new covenant. The new covenant allowed the Holy Spirit indwell and empower the believer to live right with God from within rather than a lifeless and outward fulfillment of laws devoid of true relationship with God. In today's outline, we shall be discussing further to understand the superiority of the new covenant over the old.

**DISCUSSION:**

1. In your personal opinion, what was wrong with the old covenant that made it necessary for God to establish a new covenant? Discuss.
2. Whatever limited the old covenant has been fully addressed by the establishment of the new covenant. More than anything else, with the new covenant, God has gone beyond just Israel to have relationship with believers in Christ from all races in the world. The new covenant is better than the old covenant in the following ways:
  1. Better mediator: Jesus our High Priest lives forever to intercede for us before the Father. Heb. 8:6; John 1:17.
  2. Better Blood Sacrifice: The sinless blood of Jesus cleanses from sin once and forever and gives us absolute victory over the enemy. Heb. 12:24; Rev. 12:11.
  3. Better Promises: Exceedingly great and precious, giving to us all things that pertain to life and Godliness 2 Pet. 1:2-4; 1 Cor. 2:9-11.

**CONCLUSION:**

The new covenant is the promise that God makes with humanity that He will forgive sin and restore fellowship with those whose hearts are turned toward Him. Jesus Christ is the mediator of the new covenant, and His death on the Cross is the basis of the promise (Luke 22:20). You need to live in the consciousness of this new covenant to live a life of an overcomer. You will have victory in Jesus Name.