**The New covenant Commands**

**Old covenant vs New**

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ

The bible is divided into two parts the old testament and the new testament and another word for testament is covenant. The Bible outlines the two major covenants.

The first covenant was established through laws. Rabbinic Judaism tells us that Moses presented the Jewish religious laws, 613 mitzvot (LAWS) of the Torah, to the Israelites, and that those laws do not apply to Gentiles (non-Jews). They are only binding to the descendants of those who accepted God’s covenant at Mt Sinai (Exodus 19:3-6) and to any who takes on the yoke of the commandments voluntarily.

These laws included dietary & ritual laws and includes such things as “burn a city that has turned to idol worship” & “killing false prophet”.

On the other hand, According to Torah tradition, God gave Noah and his family seven commandments to observe when he saved them from the flood. These commandments, referred to as the Noahic commandments, are learned by tradition but also suggested in Genesis Chapter 9, and are as follows:

* not to commit idolatry
* not to commit blasphemy
* not to commit murder
* not to have forbidden sexual relations
* not to commit theft
* not to eat flesh cut from a living animal

(Sounds kind of like the ten Commandments)

According to the Torah only those Gentiles who observe these laws, because God commanded them in His Torah, will enjoy life in the World to Come. The Noahic commandments are binding on all people, because all people are descended from Noah and his family.

The Jewish Law (Mosaic Covenant) was about you doing something to get something. It was given as a means of instruction to show people their inability to avoid sin and eventually lead them to Christ.

Galatians 3:23-25 Let me put it another way. The law was our guardian until Christ came; it protected us until we could be made right with God through faith. And now that the way of faith has come, we no longer need the law as our guardian.

So then we leap forward to Jesus who said he came to fulfill the old law not to abolish it and ushered in the new covenant

Matthew 5:17-18 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them **but to fulfill them**. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished'".

Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 3:6&9 6 He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter (the law) but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life… 9 If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!

**So the old covenant led to death while the new covenant brings Life**

So, we see the new covenant is better and more glorious than the old covenant

The Law, Set up under the old Covenant, stated that if you sinned you deserved to die (“ The wages of Sin is death” Romans 6:23 & “ The Soul who sins shall die” Ezekiel 18:20) but God set up a substitution program using animals pointing to the day when Jesus could come and Pay the Price once and for all. So Jesus **fulfilled** this covenant on our behalf.

When Jesus came, he told us he had a new covenant.

Mark 14:24 And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.

This covenant was to put our faith in Christ and not in our actions

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

This covenant was for told in Jeremiah

**Jeremiah 31:31-34:** “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when **I will make a new covenant** with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, declares the Lord. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. **I will be their God, and they will be my people.** **No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,”** declares the Lord. **“For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”**

The old covenant based on all these laws wasn’t to be mixed with the new covenant and we see this when Jesus told the following parable about how you cant mix the old with the new

**Matthew 9:14-17**: “No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.”

We read in Acts 15 that the Apostles and elders meet to consider whether the gentiles were required to follow the law

Acts 15:5-40 Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, “The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses.”6 The apostles and elders met to consider this question. 7 After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: “Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. 8 God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. 9 He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. 10 Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? 11 No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”

We are no longer under the old covenant but that does not mean that we are free to do as we please. Jesus gave us guidelines of how we are to live.

**Number 1:** **Love one another**

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (John 13:34).

"This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you." (John 15:12).

"This ﻿﻿I command you, that you love one another." (John 15:17).

"And He said to him, “ ‘YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'" "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'" (Matthew 22:37–39).

**Place God First**

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you," (Matt 6:33 NIV).

**Repent**

"From that time Jesus began to preach and say, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'" (Matthew 4:17).

**Follow Him**

"And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me." (Mark 8:34).

**Let your light shine**

"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16).

**Be reconciled**

“Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering." (Matthew 5:23–24).

**Make no oaths /Swearing**

"But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God . . . 37 But let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes’ or ‘No, no’; anything beyond these is of evil." (Matthew 5:34, 37).

**Go the Second Mile**

“Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: but I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away” (Matthew 5:38–42).

**Love and pray for your enemies**

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 “For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?" (Matthew 5:44–46)

**Seek God's Kingdom first**

“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33).

**Don't Judge**

"Do not judge so that you will not be judged." (Matthew 7:1).

**Treat people as you want to be treated**

“In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 7:12).

**Come to Jesus for rest**

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28).

**Confront brothers in private first**

"If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother." (Matthew 18:15–17).

**Forgive**

"Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.'" (Matthew 18:21–22).

**Partake of Communion**

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is My body. 27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you.” (Matthew 26:26–27).

**Keep guard against sin**

"Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41).

**Make Disciples**

"Go therefore and ﻿﻿make disciples of ﻿﻿all the nations, ﻿﻿baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, ﻿﻿I am with you ﻿﻿always, even to ﻿﻿the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20).

**Preach the Gospel**

"And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." (Mark 16:15).

**Be on guard against greed**

"Then He said to them, “Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.” (Luke 12:15).

**Give to the poor**

"And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and that will be your repayment. “But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, since they do not have the means to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." (Luke 14:12–14).

**Be Perfect**

“If ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:46–48).

**Don’t Lay Up Treasures**

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matthew 6:19–21).

**Do Unto Others**

“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets” (Matthew 7:12).

**Be a Servant**

“. . . Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:26–28).

**Be Born Again**

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again” (John 3:5–7).

**"Do not Worry**

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Matt 6:25-26 NIV).

**Don't Lust (This is a little more harsh)**

"You have heard that it was said, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY’, but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. “If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. “If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell."(Matthew 5:27–30).

**The different covenants of God in the Bible**

**The Edenic Covenant**

The Edenic Covenant is a conditional one, found in Gen. 1:26-31;2:16-17, that traces the **consequences of the sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden**. Their disobedience determined the fate of all of humanity. In the Edenic Covenant, God promises Adam that blessings and curses depend on the faithfulness of mankind. Because of their sin, the covenant provides that man ultimately falls to a spiritual and then physical death.

**The Noahic Covenant**

Found in Gen 9:1-18, the Noahic Covenant is an unconditional one that God made with Noah and his sons after the flood waters receded and everyone left the Ark. The Bible says that God caused a rainbow to appear in the sky on that day and used it to promise Noah, as well as all of mankind, that he would **never again destroy the earth and all its inhabitants in a worldwide flood.**

**The Abrahamic Covenant**

The Abrahamic Covenant is an unconditional covenant in which God makes a promise to **Abraham that he would be the father to many different nations** of people and that he would prosper and be blessed. Through Abraham came the race of the Jews, and the sign of the covenant is circumcision. The details of the Abrahamic Covenant can be found in Genesis 12:1-4;13:14-17; 15:1-7; 17:1-8.

**The Mosaic Covenant**

The Mosaic Covenant was a **conditional** one that God made between himself and Moses. Found in Exodus 20:1 - 31:18, this covenant contains **the commandments that God gave to the Israelites for uncovering God's will and for governing the people**. In Christian theology, the terms of the Mosaic Covenant, which are commandments, ordinances and judgments, expired on the cross when Jesus died for the sins of men, which started the "New Covenant."

**The Land Covenant**

The details of the Land Covenant are given in Deuteronomy 30:1-10. Some people have referred to this covenant as the "Palestine Covenant," however the Bible does not refer to this covenant in that manner. Here, God makes an unconditional **promise to the Israelites that he will give them a land** of their own. This covenant also includes a provision that when the land is given to that nation, the people will all be united once again in serving God and their enemies will be destroyed.

**The Davidic Covenant**

The Davidic Covenant is God's unconditional **promise to David that he would have an eternal dynasty**. Found in 2 Samuel 7:4-16 and 1 Chronicles 17:3-15, the provisions of the Davidic Covenant center around three major components: an everlasting throne, an everlasting King (Jeremiah 32:21) and an everlasting kingdom (Daniel 7:14). Christianity traces David's lineage to Jesus Christ, who was a descendant of David many generations removed, and see Christ as the rightful heir.

**The New Covenant**

The New Covenant is one that is mentioned many times throughout the Old Testament **to promise a future Messianic Age**. Christians believe that Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah who presides over the New Covenant. The main mention of the New Covenant is found in Jeremiah 31:31-40. This is an **unconditional covenant that was established between God and all of mankind who choose to partake in a life of obedience to a new source of eternal salvation** (Hebrews 5:9), read in Christianity as the promise of Christ. One of the provisions includes freedom from the laws given in the Mosaic Covenant.

