



Hebrews 8:10-12

Matthew 11:20-30

1 John 5:6-21

The Times We Live In (Luke 21:34-36)

Christ Is Coming for His Church

- NOT for those who ignore His Word. (John 8:31; James 1:22; 1 John 2:3)
- NOT for those who do not serve His Body/Him. (John 12:26)
- NOT for those who are complacent. (Zephaniah 1:12; Hebrews 6:11-12; Romans 2:7)

Goals for 2025: PERFECTION

 (Philippians 3:12-14)

- RUN together (Hebrews 12:1-2; Romans 12:4-5)
- RUN to WIN (1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Luke 14:33)
- BE DISCIPLINED (1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Hebrews 6:11-12; 2 Peter 1:5-8)
- LIGHTEN OUR LOADS (Hebrews 12:1-2; Colossians 3:8-10; Eph 4:22-23)
- GATHER TOGETHER MORE OFTEN (Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:42-46)

What Do Churches Do?

 (Acts 2:42-47)

- They STUDY together.
- They FELLOWSHIP together.
- They BREAK BREAD together.
- They PRAY together.
- They love/care for each other.
- They MEET often! (Acts 2;; Hebrews 10:25)
- They GROW together. (Ephesians 4:11-16)
- They WORSHIP together.

God's Eternal Purpose

God's Covenant with His Special People

 (Hebrews 8:10-12)

- All of God's covenants are based on PROMISES. (See Jeremiah 33:20; Ephesians 2:12)
- All of God's promises are **YES** in Christ. (2 Corinthians 1:20-22)

- “established” (**PERFECT TENSE**) is νομοθετέω meaning “legally established” or “established by law”. This **new** and **better** covenant is established by the **authority of GOD**.
- (Hebrews 8:8b) **BEHOLD!**

Foundation of the Covenant: (Hebrews 8:12)

- (v. 12) “For” is a **causal conjunction** (“since”; “because”).
 - The first five promises of this **new** and **better** covenant are sure “because” of the two promises in this verse.
- (v. 12) “I WILL be **merciful** to **their** unrighteousness, **their** sins, and **their** iniquities.”
 - ❶ **“I WILL BE MERCIFUL”** (“merciful” means “propitiuous”) God sent His Son to be a PROPITIATION – an APPEASEMENT of His WRATH (anger) towards sinners. God’s mercy comes through God pouring out His wrath unto His Son **in our place**. (See the picture in Leviticus 16:21) (See Rom 3:25; 1 John 2:2 1 John 4:10; Hebrews 2:17)
 - ❷ **“I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE”** – THIS IS PARDON OF SINS – NOT JUST SIMPLE FORGIVENESS! (See Psalm 103:12; Isaiah 38:17; 43:25; 44:22; Micah 7:19)

THE PROMISES IN THIS COVENANT ARE NOT BASED ON ANY THING THAT MAN DOES or DOES NOT DO! IT IS WHAT GOD HAS PROMISED DESPITE WHAT HIS PEOPLE DO or DO NOT DO!

The first four promises of the Covenant (vv. 10-11)

- ❶ **“I WILL PUT MY LAW IN THEIR MINDS”** God gives us understanding (1 John 5:20). God gives us the mind of Christ (1 Cor 2:16). God gives us submission to His Law! (Romans 8:7). (See Eph. 4:18; 5:8; 1 Cor. 2:14; Romans 12:2) Disciples meditate on God’s Law day and night. (Psalm 1:1-3) ★ (1 John 2:3-4) Those who know God obey His Law.
- ❷ **“I WILL PUT MY LAW ON THEIR HEARTS”** - God causes us to love His Law and to do those things that please Him. (See 1 John 3:6-10; disciples LOVE God’s Law: Psalm 119:47, 48, 97, 113, 119, 127, 159, 163, **165**,167; disciples DELIGHT in God’s Law: Psalm 1:1-3; 112:1; 119:16, 24, 35, 47, 70, 77, 92, 143, 174)
- ❸ **“I WILL BE TO THEM GOD”** Meditate on this!
 - Who is God? - The supreme, all-knowing, almighty Creator of the entire universe and absolute Ruler over everything and everyone in the universe. (Acts 17:24-25; Isaiah 46:9-11)
- ❹ **“I WILL MAKE THEM MY PEOPLE!”** We do not choose God; God chooses us! Christ died to make us God’s **peculiar** (special) people.

- ★ What does this mean? (1 Peter 2:9)
 - God's people are a **CHOSEN** people. (Ephesians 1:4; 2 Thess 2:13)
 - Chosen by God **BEFORE time began**.
 - God's people are a **LOVED** people. (Jeremiah 31:3; Rom 9:13; **1 John 4:19**)
 - God's people are a **GIVEN** people. (John 10:28-30; 17:2-3; 6:38-40)
 - God's people are a **PURCHASED** people. (Acts 20:28)
 - God's people are a **PRAISING** people. (1 Peter 2:9)
 - God's people are a **WORKING/SERVING** people. (Titus 2:14)

Promise #5: "I WILL CAUSE THEM TO KNOW ME"

- (John 17:2-3) "This is eternal life - to *know* God." Remember when eternal life begins and what it is:
 - It begins at rebirth.
 - It is QUANTITY and QUALITY. It is a whole new of living.
 - Meditate: John 10:10 - It is REAL life. See Matthew 6:25!
- IF eternal life is **knowing** God why is it that many who **say** they are born-again do NOT know God?
- Consider God's charges against His people: Jeremiah 4:22; Hosea 4:1, 6
- Those who are **beneficiaries** of the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23) are now obligated to **walk/live** worthy of their calling and the Lord. (Ephesians 4:1; Colossians 1:10; 1 Thess 2:12)
- Those who do not deny themselves, die daily to themselves, love Christ more than their families and themselves, and follow Christ are not worthy of Him. (Matthew 10:37-38; Luke 14:27-33; 9:23)
- God's given goal for His **Churches** is to grow in the knowledge of the Son of God. (Ephesians 4:12-16; 2 Peter 3:18-19)
 - ★ God is INCOMPREHENSIBLE so Christians are commanded to continually grow in the knowledge of Him.
 - (Ephesians 4:13) The Holy Spirit uses the Greek word "ἐπίγνωσις" – this is more than just "head" knowledge. This is INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE or **RELATIONAL KNOWLEDGE**. This knowledge is the foundation of an INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP with Christ.
- ★ YOU CANNOT KNOW SOMEONE UNLESS **THAT** PERSON REVEALS HIM/HERSELF TO YOU.
 - You can know of or about someone BUT you cannot KNOW a person without THAT person revealing themselves.
 - ★ ILLUSTRATION: The intimate knowledge of a husband and wife. (See Genesis 4:1)

- ★ God does **NOT** reveal Himself to all mankind! God chooses to whom He will reveal Himself. (Matt 11:25-27; John 17:25)
 - One **cannot** KNOW God unless God **chooses** to reveal Himself to that person.
- ★ (1 John 5:20) God is the One who has given us **understanding** enabling us to **know** Him, the true God.
 - Consider Matthew 13:11.
 - (2 Peter 3:18-19) We are COMMANDED to continually add to our faith knowledge. (2 Peter 1:5-8)
 - We are to grow in the knowledge of God! (Col 1:9-11; 2 Peter 3:18-19)
 - **See Philippians 3:8-11** - NOTE the word "**may**" in vv. 8, 10 and 11.
- ★ (Psalm 9:10) Those who **know** God **will** put their trust in Him.
- ★ (Daniel 11:32) Those who **know** God **will** be strong and do great things.
- ★ (Jeremiah 9:23-24) God considers **knowing** Him more important than strength (health), money, and worldly wisdom. Knowing God is the only thing worth boasting about!

There is only **ONE IF** in this covenant!

IF CHRIST GAVE HIMSELF TO DIE FOR OTHERS!

This is a covenant of **PURE GRACE!**

How Do I Know that I Know God?

- (1 John 2:3-6) Are delighting in and keeping His commandments?
- (John 14:15) Do you love Christ? Does your obedience to His commands demonstrate your love? (John 14:21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3)
- (1 John 3:16-19) Are you laying down your life for your brethren? Are you serving your brethren in your church?

LET'S REMEMBER!

