

Lesson 13

The Difference Between Covenants

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VIDEO OUTLINE

Note: All scriptures used in this lesson are quoted from the *New King James Version*.

- I. Nowhere in the Bible do we find that God created sickness.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

- A. There will be no sickness or disease in heaven.

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

Revelation 21:4

- II. Believers today are in covenant with God. God is for you because He is good, not because you are.

- III. Sickness came as a result of Adam and Eve's unbelief. Their disobedience to what God told them was the sin that opened the door to spiritual death, and physical death was a result.

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

Genesis 2:17

- A. All sickness is the result of a universal sin, or what we would call the original sin.

- B. Adam and Eve had God-given authority, but they gave up their authority to Satan through their disobedience.

- C. God created mankind in His image, and that is our identity. Out of identity flows authority, and this is what Satan is after.
 - D. The first sickness mentioned is in Genesis 12:17, and the first healing is in Genesis 20:17.
- IV. The Bible, God's written Word, is a progressive revelation that has to be understood in context.
- A. We don't really see the full representation of God until the Word becomes flesh in the New Covenant.
 - B. God has always existed in covenant relationship. That is His mode of operation. So, that is what He established on the earth when He created man in His image.
- V. A covenant is a chosen relationship in which promises are made to each other that are binding.
- A. The Old Covenant was God responding to our choice, which is representative of Adam and Eve. The New Covenant is about us responding to God's choice, which is representative of Jesus.
- VI. Approximately 2,500 years transpired from Adam to when the law was given. For 2,500 years, God did not hold their sins against them. This shows us His nature and how longsuffering and merciful He is.

For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

Romans 5:13

- A. The Israelites promised that they would follow the Mosaic law, but they didn't do it. This covenant was conditional, and their obedience determined whether they would experience the blessings of the law or its curses.
- B. God knew He had to do something to show them right from wrong because of how things had progressed over the years. He showed them their need for a Savior. That is why the law was given.
- C. The law was not given to the Gentiles. It was given to Israel, and it was meant to make them realize that they could never measure up. It was meant to lead them into God's mercy.

D. Blessings were theirs if they obeyed, and the curses were the result of disobedience.

And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known, but will lay them on all those who hate you.

Deuteronomy 7:15

VII. Once the law was given, another 1,500 years passed before the better covenant could be established on better promises.

A. The New Covenant started after Jesus died and rose again. The New Covenant is His written will for you and me.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:22

B. Jesus is confirming to us over and over again that He was the fulfillment of the Old Covenant.

“For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” In that He says, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Hebrews 8:12–13

C. Jesus wanted a people who would be spiritually alive instead of a people who were spiritually dead. He would have to come to the earth Himself as a human being. He needed to establish a better covenant, as well as the strength of the covenant.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

D. He became sin so that we could have right standing with Him—so that we could become the righteousness of God in Christ. He became the curse on our behalf.

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Galatians 3:13-14

- E. In Jesus becoming a curse for us, He fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy by taking our sicknesses.

Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4-5

- F. Jesus had zero tolerance for sickness and never turned anyone who desired healing away. Jesus went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil.

- G. For the first time ever, we could and can now enter into the finished work of Jesus.

For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day.

John 6:38-39

- VIII. We need to believe to receive. And we need to be under the right covenant.

- A. Healing through Jesus isn't something that can happen; it's something that has already happened. Healing has already been provided, but it must be believed to be received (or for one to experience the benefits).

- IX. Jesus's last words were to follow what He had commanded them to do.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Matthew 28:18-20

- A. Signs follow those who are going somewhere. Signs follow the preaching and the teaching of the Word of God, and signs follow those who believe.
- B. Healing is not based on what you've done. It's based on what Jesus did. And when we enter into the finished work of Jesus, we realize that He is the Healer, not us.

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