



Benefits of Believing the New Covenant

June 2, 2019

Mark 14:17-25 & Hebrews 8:6-13

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (Hebrews 8:10).

In the verse above, the writer to the Hebrews quoted what the LORD promised in Jeremiah 31:33. The old covenant could not do what a new covenant promised; therefore, the LORD promised to send a Messiah, a promise the LORD fulfilled through Jesus the Messiah. Indeed, in Hebrews 8:13, the writer referred to the LORD’s promise and declared: “In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.” In AD 70, the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple; then, the old covenant with its ritual sacrifices and Levitical priests vanished. Under the new covenant, those who trust in and follow Jesus the Messiah have God’s laws put into their minds as they learn more about and obey Jesus as revealed in the Bible. Jesus restores their conscience, and the Holy Spirit indwells them and helps them overcome temptations and conformity to this world. Day-by-day they understand the mind of Jesus Christ better as they seek to do what Jesus would do. Jesus also writes the law of God on their hearts, so they love God and others as themselves—as Jesus and the law of God commands. Through Jesus Christ, they know and enjoy a loving and personal relationship with God; therefore, the writer to the Hebrews could write that Jesus’ followers no longer need to say to one another, “Know the Lord,” for they know Him (Hebrews 8:11).

1. Do you think the other eleven disciples suspected that Judas would be the one to betray Jesus? Give a reason for your answer.
2. How might you apply what Jesus said in Mark 14:21 today?
3. Give one reason Jesus may have chosen to institute His Last Supper during a Passover celebration?
4. Give one reason why the new covenant is better than the old covenant.
5. What are the benefits of the new covenant revealed in Hebrews 8:10?