

A covenant is where God commits to a relationship between Himself and a person, group of people, or all mankind. Covenants may be temporary or permanent. Some are conditional on people doing certain things. Others are unconditional where God says “I will” instead of “you must.”

Scofield identifies these covenants:

Edenic (Gen. 2:16) guides innocent man in the Garden of Eden.

Adamic (Gen. 3:15) gives conditions for fallen man and the promise of a redeemer.

Noahic (Gen. 9:16) establishes the basic principles of human government.

Abrahamic (Gen. 12:2) begins the nation of Israel and expands on the promise of redemption.

Mosaic (Ex. 19:5) condemns men under the law.

Palestinian (Deut. 30:3) promises the gathering and restoration of Israel.

Davidic (2 Sam. 7:16) places David and his descendants on an everlasting throne.

New Covenant: The subject of our study (also see Matt. 26:28, 1 Cor. 11:25)

Questions:

1. How is Jesus’s priesthood better than the human priests who came before Him?
2. Although Jesus visited the temple during His earthly life, it is nowhere recorded that He entered the areas reserved for priests or performed the temple service of a priest (see v. 4). Can you think of times He *did* act as a priest?
3. Extra credit: The tabernacle was a shadow or picture of the reality to come. What actual features of the tabernacle depicted Christ or His grace toward sinners? (Whole books have been written on this subject. You can attach more sheets if needed.)

4. Verse 7 tells us that the old covenant of the law had flaws. Was the problem in the way it was designed, or the way it worked?
5. Verses 8-12 quote Jeremiah 31:31-34 when the Lord declares a new covenant He will establish in the future. Who is the covenant made with? Does anyone else share in some of its promises?
6. When will the new covenant be fulfilled, or has it already?
7. How does the new covenant compare to the old in:
 - Giving of the law
 - Access to God
 - Equality of people before God
 - Handling of sin
 - Conditions (or lack thereof)
8. Why was it so vital to convince the Hebrews that the old covenant was vanishing away?