

# New Testament Survey

## *Class 14: What Happened to the Old Covenant?*

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### **Why discuss this now?**

We have worked through sufficient material to begin asking and answering this question (e.g., Mat 5-7; Acts 10-28; Rom 7-11; 2 Cor 3; Gal 3-5), and we will continue to confront it throughout the remainder of the NT.

### **The Old Covenant was fulfilled in Christ (e.g., Mat 5:17; Rom 10:4; 2 Cor 1:20; Gal 3:24; Heb 7:18-22)**

1. The Old Covenant was only a shadow of the real thing (“the substance” Col 2:17; Heb 10:1; Mark 7:14-23)
2. It pointed forward to God’s purposes in Jesus (Mat 1:1-16; the kingdom of heaven, Luk 17:20-21; John 18:33-36; perfect sacrifice, Heb 9:23-26; 10:11-14; perfect high priest, Heb 9:11-14)
3. Christians inherit the promises made to Abraham (e.g., Rom 11:17-24; Gal 3:7; Gal 3:24-4:7; 1 Pet 2:9-10 = Ex 19:5-6)
4. The church is God’s temple, the place where God’s Spirit dwells (1 Cor 3:16-17; 6:19; 1 Pet 2:5)

17-Dec-23	Ephesians
24-Dec-23	----- NO CLASS -----
31-Dec-23	----- NO CLASS -----
7-Jan-24	Philippians
14-Jan-24	Colossians
21-Jan-24	1 Thessalonians
28-Jan-24	2 Thessalonians
4-Feb-24	Intro to the Pastoral Epistles
11-Feb-24	1 Timothy
18-Feb-24	2 Timothy
25-Feb-24	Titus

## The Old Covenant is now obsolete (Heb 8:13)

1. It was being brought to an end (2 Cor 3:11)
2. The Old Covenant's inferiority was revealed by the New Covenant (cf. "better" covenant in Heb 7:18-22; 8:1-7)
3. We are no longer "under the Law" (e.g., Rom 6:14; 1 Cor 9:20; Gal 3:25; 5:18)
4. So, for instance, the Sabbath is fulfilled in Christ and we are no longer required to keep the seventh day rest (Rom 14:4-13; Col 2:16)

## Yet the OT continues to have relevance for Christians (~1600 OT quotations in NT!)

1. Revelation of God's person and character (e.g., Is 55:6-7; Hos 11:8-9)
2. History of God's dealings with his people (Ps 136)
3. Explanation of the patterns and purposes of God (e.g., Mic 7:18-20)
4. Wisdom and guidance for our lives (e.g., 1 Cor 9:8-10; 10:1-13; Heb 13:5-6 = Josh 1:5 + Ps 56:4, 11)
5. Foundation for all that we believe (Gal 3:8; Hebrews)