

Connection

What is an example of a promise you will make in your life that you intend to never break?

Content

God established covenants with His people in the Old Testament; these were binding promises He made to them. As the pages of the New Testament open, we see He makes another binding promise: the new covenant in Christ. Today we as we read through Ezekiel and how the Word speaks into the chaos, we will delve into the origin and purpose of both of these covenants.

1. Read Exodus 19:3-8 and Deuteronomy 11:8-15. Moses is given the commandments as well as a reaffirmed promise of the land. Although it may be a difficult path ahead, this was meant to set God's people apart. Why did God give this promise to His people?

2. Read Ezekiel 36:22-23. Why is it proper for God to remind us that He is higher than anything? Yet why are we not to do that for ourselves?

Ezekiel And The New Covenant

3. Read Ezekiel 36:24-28. Why is it important that in our new covenant with Christ we don't have "stony, stubborn hearts"?

4. What promises do you see in this passage, and why is it pivotal to a new believer today, as well as to those who heard it thousands of years ago?

Jeremiah And The New Covenant

5. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. Jeremiah also speaks of the New Covenant we have in Christ. How does this passage compare to that in Ezekiel?

6. God promises a "new covenant" with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. What are the key differences between this new covenant and the Old Testament covenants made with their ancestors, and how does the role of the law change in the new covenant?

Jesus And The New Covenant

7. Read Hebrews 8:6-8, Hebrews 8:13, Hebrews 9:13-15 and Hebrews 10:18-19.

How do these passages highlight the relationship between God's promises and the role of Christ in establishing the new covenant?

Commitment

8. Read Luke 22:20 and 2 Corinthians 3:6. Jesus institutes the new covenant through His blood during the Last Supper. In 2 Corinthians 3:6, Paul speaks of the "ministry of the new covenant" as one of the Spirit. How can we take this ministry, and share it with others this week?