

Distinctions Between the Old and New Covenants (Con't from page 3)

3) It has no physical tabernacle or temple. Christians themselves are the “temple of God” (1 Cor. 3:16) and together make up “the house of God” (1 Tim. 3:15). 4) It has no continual animal offerings. Christ himself is the only sacrificial offering and that offering was made only once (Heb. 9:12). 5) It has no literal burning of incense. Rather the prayers of Christians ascend before God as a sweet smelling “odor” (Rom. 5:8). 6) It has no acts of purification for the flesh. The only purification relating to the new covenant is the washing away of sins that takes place in water baptism (Acts 22:16). This is not for the cleansing of the flesh, but of the spirit (1 Pet. 3:21). 7) It has no physical circumcision. The only circumcision pertaining to the new covenant is the cutting away of sin when people become Christians (Gal 6:15; Col. 2:11-12). 8) It has no keeping of days, months, times and years. The literal keeping of such periods is something that contradicts the very nature of Christianity (Gal. 4:9-10). 9) It has no tithing. Christianity has no strict system of giving 10%. Rather, it has a uniquely simple way for God's people to show their generosity. This involves giving as one has been prospered, giving purposefully and giving cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:7).

These contrasts between the two covenants clearly illustrate the superior spiritual quality of the Christian system. In order to appreciate the exalted nature of Christianity, it is important to recognize these distinctions. ~Jon Gary Williams

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.Kennewickcofc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: kenncoc@gmail.com

Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; Vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449

billgreg67@gmail.com

Bill Gregory's office hours are from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. (Please call to make sure he is in before stopping by)

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 06/21 44

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution 06/21 \$2883.46

June 27, 2020

Kennewick Church of Christ

Mountain Tops and Valleys

Spiritual lives are not always characterized by “mountaintop experiences.” It was wonderful for Moses to be in the presence of God on Mount Sinai, but eventually he had to leave the mountain and return to the reality of dealing with the Jewish rebellion in worshipping the golden calf.

In the same way, Peter, James and John were at the Mount of Transfiguration and saw Moses, Elijah and the transformation of Jesus, but they eventually had to leave that mountain and confront their failure to cast out the demon in the child.

Elijah experienced this same problem in the contest he had with 450 prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. The fire from heaven totally consumed the prophet's sacrifice and shortly afterwards there was the slaughter of all the false prophets. Yet, when Elijah descended from that mount, he was so overwhelmed with the sinfulness of Israel, he asked God to take him, for he thought he was the only person in Israel who faithfully served Jehovah.

“Mountaintop experiences” are so wonderful. There are those times when we see great spiritual victories and figuratively are on top of the world. You may remember in great detail that day when you obeyed the Gospel and how exhilarated you were. It may have been that day when some loved one of yours became a Christian. It may have been one of the unexpected times when you were worshipping, and you were so enthralled that you forgot about all those distractions from daily life. Thank God for “mountaintop experiences.”

However, the reality is that life always has deep “valleys” when we must leave the mountaintop. Life probably has more valleys than it has mountaintops. Situations develop and doubts and fears seem to threaten our faith. Do not despair. Look at those heroes who were in that same situation. Abraham (Gen. 15:1; 20:10-11), Isaac (Gen. 26:24), Moses (Num. 21:34), Joshua (Josh. 1:9; 8:1), David (1 Sam. 23:17), Elijah (2 Kgs. 1:15), Jehoshaphat (2 Chron. 20:15) and Daniel (Dan. 10:12) are just a few of those individuals who were fearful when in the valleys of life.

There is a great principle of life to be learned when we look deeply into the lives of our Biblical heroes. Godly people have always had clouds of adversity around them. Their response was often like ours, but this does not mean they were not approved by God. All mankind has valleys, but Christians have something others do not have. When we are walking in valley of death may our hearts proclaim, “I will fear not evil for You are with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.” Thank God for those “mountaintop experiences,” but let us thank God for the blessings of His help in the valleys! ~Dan Jenkins

In you O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be put to shame. Deliver me in Your righteousness, and cause me to escape; Incline Your ear to me, and save me. Be my strong refuge, to which I may resort continually, You have given the commandment to save me, for You are my rock and my fortress (Ps. 71:1-3)

Keep These Dates in Mind	July Birthdays and Anniversaries	
Since we have entered into this time of uncertainty with those in the government asking us to keep our assemblies to a minimum and to use caution and discretion as we meet, any activities that may be planned will be announced in a timely fashion a week before they are planned to happen and will be put out on the call multiplier.	Kael Botts 7/3 Marilyn Davis 7/15 Danny & Shannon Mendoza 7/22 Alec Minor 7/22 Jim & Holly Preston 7/22 Dorothy Bryan 7/27	Sarah Mendoza 7/28 Ila Stephens 7/28

Please come and join us in our worship to God. We will be studying Matthew on Sunday Mornings and Ephesians on Sunday night,
Please be respectful of those who need to wear masks and practice social distancing because of health issues in their family.

Bible Studies

Adult Bible Classes Sunday am – O.T. Wed pm – Acts 13-28 (Paul's Journeys)	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Cancelled until further notice
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Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Shirley Childers, Marji Lindholm, Marilyn Davis, Eunice Petros, Tami Pennington, Helen Pierce, Lupe Mendoza, Panzy Caywood

There are many in our congregation who are dealing with serious health issues currently. Please keep all of them in your prayers. I will list them below:

Jack Danley – recovering from Diverticulitis

Leland and Marilyn Davis – health issues

Sandy Gray – as she waits for the operation on her thyroid

Bill Henniger – Multiple health issues, Kidneys and water retention around lungs

Pat Lindsay – Lymphedema, low sodium, open wounds on her legs

Doris Pennington and Daughter – asking for prayers

Jim Preston – Leg infection

Judy Ward – A - fib heart condition

This is the last Sunday to contribute food and money for this collection for the Children's home. Please remember to bring your food and items sometime today.

Our Ministries

Mountain States Children's Home

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

Peru Ministry - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

Food Pantry - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

Distinctions Between the Old and New Covenants

By God's design, the Old Testament law of Moses was principally physical and material in nature. Though it had moral qualities and provided a way for man to worship God, the function of the old covenant related largely to temporal matters.

Why was the law of Moses given? It was a covenant between God and the nation of Israel for the purpose of guiding the people civilly as well as religiously. One distinct feature of that law was that it contained multiple restrictive statutes meant to regulate the live of the people, a people who for several hundred years had been under the influence of a sinful world and needed a moral directive. Hence, Paul wrote, "...it was added because of transgressions..." (Gal. 3:19).

The Mosaic covenant amplified the sinfulness of sin and served to illustrate the fact that man could not save himself by keeping such a covenant. This is one reason the law of Moses was called a "bondage" (Gal. 5:1).

The Mosaic covenant was characterized by many things that were tangible in nature. Here are several notable examples. **1)** It had a law that incorporated both civil and religious matters. The lives of the people, including many of their everyday, domestic affairs, were strictly governed. **2)** It had a physical priesthood including a high priest and multiple ordinary priests all of whom wore specially designated garments. **3)** It had a physical tabernacle and later, a temple. The law of the old covenant mandated, that a material structure be used for the religious functions of the priestly tribe. **4)** It had continual offerings of animals. Multiple laborious daily, weekly and yearly sacrifices were required under the Mosaic law. **5)** It had the burning of incense. The law required that there be a perpetual smoke of incense within the tabernacle. **6)** It had physical acts of purification. Uncleanness involving the flesh was purified by isolations and ceremonious washings. **7)** It had physical circumcision. To be identified with the Israelite nation, a requirement of the law of Moses was that all males be fleshly circumcised. **8)** It had the keeping of days, months, times and years. It had its sabbaths, its new moons, its feasts and its sabbatical and jubilee years. **9)** It had tithing. Submitting 10% of one's prosperity in one's tribe was required. The tribe of Levi received a tenth of all other tribes and a tenth of that received by the tribe of Levi was for the priests.

The time came when the old law was nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14). It was "taken away" so that another covenant, more spiritual in nature, could be established (Heb. 10:9). In many ways it served merely as a "shadow" of the "better" covenant to come (Heb. 8:6; 10:1).

To students of the Bible it is obvious there are distinct contrasts between the temporal aspects of the religion of the Old Testament and the spiritual nature of the religion of the New Testament. The Christian system is void of those material things found in the Jewish religion. Note the following contrasting features found within the new covenant of Christ.

It has no law incorporating both civil and religious matters, for the function of the Christian system is purely spiritual in nature. However, Christians are to respect the civil authority under which they live (Rom. 13:1-5; 1 Pet. 2:13-14). **2)** It has no physical priesthood composed of men wearing special garments. Christ is its only high priest who reigns in heaven (Heb. 8:1). All Christians are a part of God's spiritual "royal priesthood" (1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 1:6)

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