



## OLD AND NEW COVENANTS

It is said by many that there are “two covenants” as if they are opposed to one another, being entirely different and at odds, as you say, like “night and day.” That would mean YHWH unilaterally decided to break the previous covenants, replacing them with something else, voiding His own Word and promise – heaven forbid. But He says in another place,

*“For I am YHWH, I shall not change, and you, O sons of Ya’aqov, shall not come to an end. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My laws and did not guard them. Turn back to Me, and I shall turn back to you,” said YHWH of hosts.*

And,

*“Ėl is not a man, to lie; nor a son of man, to repent! Has He said, and would He not do it; or spoken, and would not confirm it?”*

Since He does not change or lie, nor break His covenants with us, we can rest assured that we are indeed saved and redeemed to His coming Kingdom under the banner of Messiah. But if He could or did break any of His covenants, past, present or future, then the New Covenant would be unsure and at risk of His whim, as well as any other. Paul of Tarsos had this to say on the subject:

*“Brothers, as a man I say it: a covenant, even though it is man’s, yet if it is confirmed, no one sets it aside, or adds to it. But the promises were spoken to Avraham, and to his Seed. He does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ as of many, but as of one, ‘And to your Seed,’ who is Messiah.”*

The newer covenants of YHWH do not break or annul the older, but expand them progressively as needed, opening like a beautiful flower over time until the final realization of them in Messiah.

It is correct thinking that the older and newer covenants are the same in most respects: “The what is the same” – the Torah; “the where is the same” – in the land of Yisrael and the hearts of its people; “the recipient is the same” – the people of Yisrael and their descendants, whether native-born or grafted in; “the executor is the same” – YHWH. Both It is correct thinking that the newer covenant simply expands upon the older, making it possible for us to keep it through YHWH’s grace and mercy in forgiving our sins and writing the Torah on our hearts Himself, rather than leaving us to try to do these things on our own.

This progressive expansion of covenants has been the same since the very first in the garden of Eden until the last at the death and resurrection of Messiah. It’s all part of the plan. None of these is opposed to grace and mercy, but in fact makes them possible and brings them to maturity. With each expansion, YHWH reveals more of Himself and that plan to us, so that we can ultimately “know Him,” as He has promised.

The old and new covenants are not anathema to one another. The Torah and grace are not anathema to one another. The Word of YHWH is not anathema to that of Messiah and his apostles. Each depends upon and enables the other. And YHWH’s Word, past, present, and future, is True. Therefore, those who regard, observe and follow both are His people.

As for those who reject any of His covenants and commands, scripture has this to say:

*“To this day, when Moshe is being read, a veil lies on their heart. And when one turns to the Master, the veil is taken away. Now YHWH is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of YHWH is, there is freedom. And we all, as with unveiled face we see as in a mirror the glory of YHWH, are being transformed into the same likeness from glory m to glory, as from YHWH, the Spirit”*

**And,**

*“By this we know that we know Him, if we guard His commands. The one who says, ‘I know Him,’ and does not guard His commands, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever guards His Word, truly the love of Elohim has been perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him – The one who says he stays in Him ought himself also to walk, even as He walked.”*

**And finally,**

*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Master, Master,’ shall enter into the Kingdom of the heavens, but he who is doing the desire of My Father in the heavens. Many shall say to Me in that day, ‘Master, Master, have we not prophesied in Your Name, and cast out demons in Your Name, and done many mighty works in Your Name?’ And then I shall declare to them, ‘I never knew you, depart from Me, you who work lawlessness!’ Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does them, shall be like a wise man who built his house on the rock, and the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not do them, shall be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand, and the rain came down, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and they beat on that house, and it fell, and great was its fall.”*