

Provisions of the New Covenant

Parallels:

- In Genesis 1 the careful bible student finds, “God said...” ten times (Gen. 1:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29). These **Ten Declarations** establish the initial rule of God on earth. God as the sovereign creator places the man and woman, who bear His image, in the original garden paradise to rule as His representatives. Most often this statement is followed by “Let there...”, as God is speaking and establishing how things will be under His rule in a perfect creation. Much like an ancient king who set up images (statues) of himself throughout his land to represent his dominion, God spreads humans over the earth to represent His dominion.
- In Exodus 20 the **Ten Commandments** of the Old Mosaic Covenant provide a guide for Israel’s role in representing God as His people (Ex. 20:1-17). Here, after the fall of mankind and the selection of Israel to represent God as His special “chosen people”, laws are set forth regulating how they are to behave as His people/priests before a watching world.
- In the “New Covenant” we find **Ten Provisions** which will bring to completion what God set in motion in the garden, regulated at Sinai and now brings to fulfillment in a “New” Covenant inaugurated by what Jesus accomplished at His first coming (Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25; 2 Cor. 3:6; esp. Phil. 2:5-8; Heb. 8:8; 9:15; 12:24) and will bring to complete fulfillment at His second coming (Zech. 6:13; Acts 1:6-11; esp. Phil. 2:6-11). Mankind, both Jews and Gentiles brought together in the church, could not accomplish on their own all that God intended, however, God’s grace expressed through the work of His Son on the cross and the gift of the Holy Spirit provides the enablement to do what He calls us to do. Notice how the New Covenant shifts from what we must do to what God will do.

Passages:

- Isaiah 54:1-17
- Jeremiah 31:1-40
- Ezekiel 34:1-34; 36:1-38; 37:1-28
- Hebrews 7-10 = *Fulfillment in Christ*

Provisions:

1. God will restore Israel to the Promised Land and they will remain there forever (Isa. 54:3; Jer. 31:2, 8, 11, 16, 21, 23, 27-29, 36, 40, Eze. 34:11-16, 28; 36:8-11, 24, 28, 33; 37:21).
2. God will allow Israel to dwell in peace and safety in their land, without fear of danger or terror (Isa. 54:4, 14; Jer. 31:4-6, Eze. 34:22, 25-27; 36:15).
3. God will renovate all of nature so that all signs of the curse will be forgotten as all nature fulfills its destiny undisturbed (this is the meaning of “peace” - שָׁלוֹם) (Jer. 31:12, Eze. 34: 26-27, 29, 36:8, 29-30, 34-35).
4. God will purify the nation so that their sins would be removed (Jer. 31:18-19, 34; Eze. 36:25, 29).
5. God will write His Law on their hearts so that they will be a holy people (Isa. 54:13; Jer. 31:33, Eze. 36:26).
6. God will pour out His Holy Spirit on Israel to make the bones live and also on all nations (Isa. 44:13; Eze. 36:27; 39:25; cf. Joel 2:29).
7. God will cause everyone to know the LORD, so that no one will have to evangelize (Jer. 31:34).
8. God will empower His people to rebuild the city of Jerusalem (and possibly the Temple) of the finest of creation (Jer. 31:38-40; Eze. 40-46).
9. God will gather the nations to worship the LORD in Jerusalem and bring their tribute and their gifts (Isa. 2:2; 25:6-7; 43:9; 56:7; 66:18, 20; Jer. 3:17; Eze. 37:26-28; Zach. 8:22; 14:16; Matthew 28:16-20).
10. God will establish a righteous, powerful, divine King who will rule in Jerusalem and over all the world (Eze. 34:23-24; 37:22, 24; Zach. 6:11-13 Psalm 2).