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Promise of a New Covenant

Definitions in **bold letters** are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance
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or Roget's Thesaurus - **November 12, 2017**

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Introduction: The NEW COVENANT The first part of the chapter is a **PROMISE** to the Northern Kingdom (Ephraim) that, due to their **repentance** and **reformation** they shall again be **restored** to their **land** and to their former favor in the eyes of God. These **promises** to Ephraim are recorded in Jer. 30:2-22; and the next large portion of the chapter applies the same marvelous prophecies of return, prosperity and favor to the Southern Kingdom. Some scholars seem to become almost ecstatic, reveling in the unification of the **two ancient Israels**, and in the **restoration** of their **status** as "**the virgin Israel**" (Jer. 30:4 and Jer. 30:21). It is the conviction of this writer that verses Jer. 30:2-26 of this chapter are nothing more than the recital of the blessings that will be ultimately available to the **whole Israel**, along with **everyone else on earth**, "**in the TIMES of the Messiah.**"

It is impossible to construe these verses (Jeremiah 30:2-26) literally, because nothing even remotely resembling these predictions ever occurred in the historical racial Israel. The Northern tribes were never restored to "their land." They were never reunited with the Southern Israel. They never repented. They never returned to the literal Jerusalem to worship God. A few from the Northern tribes did return, as in the case of a few individuals from those tribes, who are mentioned in the New Testament, as for example **Anna** (Luke 2:36) of the **tribe of Asher**. Every one of the extravagant blessings mentioned here was nothing more than an agricultural symbol of some great **spiritual reality** that would be realized under the **New Covenant**.

The proposition that we encounter in most of the current commentaries is that God Himself could hardly wait to marry the scandalous old Whore Israel; and that God actually calls her "**The Virgin Israel**" in Jer. 30:4, 21; but we are absolutely certain that such expressions could NOT have been applied by a prophet of God to the **old RACIAL Israel** which historically became actually **worse** than Sodom and Gomorrah (Ezek. 16) and which shamelessly BROKE the Old Covenant, nullifying it absolutely.

Yes indeed, **God** did indeed **MARRY** the **Virgin Israel** in the **New Covenant**, but it was the **NEW ISRAEL!** (See a full discussion of this in my commentary Vol. 2 of the minor prophets, pp. 49-67.) A total failure to understand the difference in the **two Israels** has confused the writings of a great many scholars. The designation of the Israel intended in these verses as "**the Virgin Israel**" makes it absolutely certain that it is the Israel which constitutes the Messianic kingdom which is meant. It is the **church of Jesus Christ** which is the "**PURE virgin**" which is **married** to God in the person of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:1-3).

For these reasons, there is little reason to concern ourselves with any exhaustive explanations of the agricultural metaphors which abound in these first 26 verses. Their meaning is exactly the same as that of similar metaphors found so frequently in the Old Testament.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/jeremiah-31.html>)

Jeremiah 31:31, Behold, the DAYS come, saith the LORD (the self-Existent, Jehovah

[Yahweh]), that **I will make a NEW (fresh [recently made]) COVENANT** with the house of **Israel**, and with the house of **Judah**...

Covenant defined 1285, (in the sense of cutting); a compact [an agreement; a contract between parties] **(because made by passing between pieces of flesh): - confederacy, league** [a union of two or more parties for the purpose of maintaining friendship and promoting their mutual interest, or for executing any design in concert].

Covenant, in theology the covenant of works, is that implied in the commands, prohibitions, and promises of God; The covenant of redemption, is the mutual agreement between the Father and Son, respecting the redemption of sinners by Christ.

The covenant of grace, is that by which God engages to bestow salvation on man, upon the condition that man shall believe in Christ and yield obedience to the terms of the gospel.

Jeremiah 31:32, NOT according to the **COVENANT** that I made with their **fathers** in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my **covenant** they **BRAKE**, although I was an **husband** unto them, saith **the LORD** (Yahweh).

NOTE: ...This was the **covenant** made at **Sinai**, which is here referred to; but the above covenant was NOT according to that; for, though it was NOT properly a covenant of works, but a typical one; yet it was in some sense faulty and deficient; or, however, the **persons** under it **were faulty**, and did NOT keep it; and besides, it was made with the Israelites; whereas this **NEW COVENANT** belongs both to **Jews** and **Gentiles**. That the Sinai covenant is intended is clear by the following circumstances: in the day [that] I took them by the hand, to bring them out of the land of Egypt; that is, immediately after their being brought out of Egypt, the covenant was made with them; see (Ex. 19:1-8) (Ex. 24:7-8) ; at which time of their bringing out, the Lord took them by the hand, as being **unable to deliver themselves**, and to go out of themselves; which is expressive, as of their WEAKNESS, so of his POWER and goodness, kindness and tenderness to them; and is an **aggravation** of their **ingratitude** to him in breaking the covenant, made with them at such a time by the Lord, who was so kind and indulgent to them; and which is still more fully expressed in the following clause: which my covenant they brake, although I was an **husband unto them**, saith the Lord; they promised fair, but did not perform; their hearts (MINDS) were not right with God, nor were they steadfast in his covenant; though it was such a solemn transaction, and had the nature of a **matrimonial contract**; it was the day of their **espousal**; they were **betrothed** to the Lord, and he acted the part of a **husband** to them in nourishing and cherishing them in **providing** food and raiment for them; manna that continued with them, and clothes that waxed not old; and in protecting them from their enemies, and bringing them to a good settlement in the land of Canaan. The Septuagint version renders it, "and I regarded them not"; and so the apostle, (Hebrews 8:9); for the reconciliation of which to the Hebrew text (See Gill on Hebrews 8:9). (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/jeremiah-31.html>)

Hebrews 8:6-9, But now hath HE (*Jesus*) **obtained** a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the **mediator** of a **BETTER COVENANT**, which was **established** upon **BETTER promises**. For if that first covenant had been FAULTLESS, then should NO place have been sought for the **second**. For **finding fault** with them, He saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant** with the **house of Israel** and with the **house of Judah**: Not according to the **covenant** that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because **THEY** continued NOT in **my covenant**, and I **regarded (neglect)** them NOT, saith the Lord.

QUESTION: With all of this in mind, then, what was the reason for the FIRST covenant?
ANSWER: The answer is found written in Galatians 3:19-22.

Galatians 3:19-22, Wherefore then **serveth** the **LAW**? It was added because of TRANSGRESSIONS, **till** the **SEED** should come to whom the **PROMISE** was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a **mediator (go-between)**. Now a mediator is NOT a mediator of one, but God is one.

Is the **LAW** then **against** the **promises** of God? God forbid: for **IF** there had **been a law** given which **COULD have GIVEN LIFE**, verily **righteousness** should have been by the **LAW**. But the scripture hath concluded ALL under sin, that the **PROMISE by FAITH** of Jesus (Yahshua) Christ might be given to them that **BELIEVE**.

Believe defined 4100, to have faith in a person, i.e. to entrust (especially one's SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING to Christ).

Jeremiah 31:33, *But this shall be the COVENANT that I will MAKE with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put MY law in their inward parts, and WRITE it in their HEARTS; and will be their God, and they shall be MY people.*

Hearts defined 3820, mind (the SOUL [the spiritual { consisting of SPIRIT}, RATIONAL { endowed with reason }, and IMMORTAL part in_man.] 1913 Webs. Dict.).

NOTE: The several articles or branches of the covenant next follow, which show it to be different from the former: I will put **my law** in their **inward parts**, and write it in their hearts; not the ceremonial law, which was **abolished** when this covenant was made; but rather the moral law still in force, which is a transcript of the nature and will of God; was inscribed on **Adam's heart** (spirit) in **innocence**; is greatly obliterated by **sin**; a contrary disposition to it is IN man; this is re-inscribed in **regeneration** (NEW BIRTH by the grace of God); and hence a regard is had to it by regenerate persons, in which lies part of their conformity to Christ: or else, since the word here used signifies doctrine or instruction, the Gospel and the truths of it may be meant; see (Isaiah 2:2) (42:4) (Rom. 3:27); which have a place and dwell in the hearts of renewed ones. The Septuagint version reads it in the plural number, "laws"; and so does the apostle, (Heb. 8:10); and may design the ordinances of the Gospel, and the commandments of Christ; which such, who are called by GRACE, have at heart to keep, and are made willing to be subject to...

(Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/geb/jeremiah-31.html>)

Romans 13:8-10, Owe no man any thing, but to **LOVE** one another: for he that **loveth** another **hath fulfilled (satisfy** [MEET requirements], **complete**; performed) **the LAW**.

For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, and IF there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt **LOVE thy neighbour as** (just like) **THYSELF**.

LOVE worketh **no ill** to his neighbour: therefore **LOVE is the fulfilling (completion [execution: performance]) of the LAW**.

Thought 1. When Adam sinned, and lost innocence in his spirit, the main thing is the **LIFE** of God left his spirit and **DEATH** from Satan entered his spirit. And ALL born of Adam's seed (sperm) were born spiritually dead with nature of Satan called the "FLESH or human nature." So, now it was needful that ALL born of Adam's seed be **born again** by the Holy Spirit **cutting away** the "old human nature: FLESH" and receiving God's nature: LIFE. God pointed to this when he instituted **circumcision**.

Genesis 17:10-14, This is my **covenant**, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy **SEED after thee**; Every **MAN** child among you shall be **circumcised**.

And ye shall **circumcise** (**destroy** [do away with, get rid of]) the **FLESH** of your **foreskin**; and it shall be a **token (sign)** of the covenant betwixt me and you. And he that is eight days old shall be **circumcised** among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be **circumcised**: and my **covenant** shall be in your **flesh** for an **everlasting covenant**.

Thought 2. First, notice that ALL of the **FLESH** of his foreskin is destroyed ([done away with, gotten rid of]). This physical truth is known and accepted worldwide, by saints and sinners alike. And since ALL of the foreskin” is removed, God was pointing to ALL of our old “human nature” called the flesh being removed when we’re born again, thereby, having only God’s nature and not TWO natures.

When people of today want to determine the father of a child, they check the DNA of the child and father. If a spiritual DNA check is done on Christians, the result will always come back that God (Yahweh) is their Father. Also, Jesus is our **BROTHER**, the first-born of God from the SPIRITUALLY DEAD.

Colossians 1:18, And he (*Jesus*) is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the **FIRSTBORN** (**firstbegotten**, first brought forth) from the **DEAD**; that in ALL things HE might have the **preeminence (be FIRST in rank or influence)**.

And that Yahweh is our **ONLY** Father, just LIKE he is the Father of Jesus.

Hebrews 8:10, For this is the **covenant** that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my **LAWS** into their **mind** (spirit), and write them in their **hearts (mind [SPIRIT])**: and I will be to them **a God**, and **they** shall be to me a people...

2 Corinthians 3:3, Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written **NOT** with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; NOT in tables of **stone**, but in **fleshy (SOFT) tables** of the **heart (mind [SPIRIT])**.

Romans 2:28-29, For he is not a **Jew**, which is one **outwardly**; neither is that **circumcision**, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the **HEART**, IN the **SPIRIT**, and not in the letter; whose **praise** is not of men, but of God.

Spirit defined 4151, pneuma pnyoo'-mah: vital (of LIFE) **principle** (source), **the RATIONAL soul**. (*The “spirit” is the source of life*)

Spirit, the intelligent, immaterial (not made of matter) and **IMMORTAL** (able to last forever) part of human beings.

Romans 3:21-24, But now the **righteousness** of **God** without the **LAW** is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the prophets; even the righteousness of God *which is* **by FAITH** of Jesus Christ unto all and upon ALL them that BELIEVE; for there is no difference: for **all have sinned**, and **come short** of the **glory** of God; being **justified** freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...

Romans 5:12-13, Wherefore, as by one man (*Adam*) **SIN entered** into the world, and death by sin, and so DEATH **passed** upon **all men**, for that **all have sinned**: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

Romans 8:1-9, There is therefore now NO condemnation to them which are IN Christ Jesus, who **walk (LIVE) not after (together [in union with]) the FLESH**, but **after (together [in union with]) the Spirit**.

For the law of the Spirit of **life** IN Christ Jesus hath made me FREE from the LAW of sin and death. For what the LAW could not do, in that it was **weak** through the **flesh (human nature)**, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the **righteousness** of the **law** might be fulfilled in us, who **walk (LIVE) not after (together [in UNION with])**, the **flesh (human nature)**, but **after (together [in UNION with])** the Spirit.

For they that are **after (together [in union with])**, the **flesh (human nature)**, do MIND the things of the **flesh (human nature)**; but they that are **after (together [in union with])**, the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

For to be carnally minded is **DEATH**; but to be spiritually minded is **LIFE** and **PEACE**. Because the **carnal** mind is **enmity (hostility)** against God: for it is NOT subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

So then they that are IN the **flesh (human nature)**, cannot please God.

But YE are **NOT** IN the **flesh (human nature)**, but IN the **Spirit**, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell IN you.

Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Jeremiah 31:34, *And they shall **teach NO MORE** every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, **Know** the LORD: for they shall all **KNOW ME**, from the least of them unto the greatest of them,*
*saith the LORD: for I will **FORGIVE** their **iniquity**, and I will **REMEMBER** their **SIN** no more.*

Forgive defined 5545, pardon (to remit [to surrender the right of punishing a crime; as, to remit punishment.]; as an offense or crime. Guilt implies a being bound or subjected to censure, penalty or punishment. To pardon, is to give up this obligation, and release the offender. We apply the word to the crime or to the person. We pardon an offense, when we remove it from the offender and consider him as not guilty; we pardon the offender, when we release or absolve [free] him from his liability to suffer punishment.).

Forgive, to cease to FEEL resentment (excitement of passion which proceeds from a sense of wrong offered to ourselves, or to those who are connected with us; anger) against, on account of WRONG committed; to give up claim to requital from or retribution upon (an offender); to absolve; to pardon;

NOTE: Keil and a number of others thought that the principle of men **teaching** other men the truth about God was here nullified, Because the **sinner** is placed in direct **relationship** with God through the Holy Spirit. But we know that Keil cannot possibly be correct in this, since Christ himself ordained that, They shall all **be taught** of (about) **God** (John 6:45); and the Great Commission itself commanded that **ALL nations**, the whole creation, must be taught.

Hebrews 8:11-13, And they shall NOT teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, **Know the Lord:** for all shall KNOW ME, from the least to the greatest. For I will be **merciful** to their **unrighteousness**, and their SINS and their iniquities will I remember NO more. In that he saith, A **new covenant**, he hath made the **FIRST old (declare obsolete (NO LONGER IN USE)).**

The significance of this passage is very great. It means that **NO untaught** person can be a Christian, hence **no infants** in the true sense are Christians. "Ye must be **BORN AGAIN**," Jesus said; and all infants have been born only ONCE. Infant membership allows many **unregenerate people** to grow up in various churches without regard

either to their FAITH or obedience, opening the gate for many outright **unbelievers** to gain and exercise power in some so-called Christian communions.

Furthermore, there is NOT a line in the whole Bible that even hints that **God's salvation** is "**unconditional.**" ...

The forgiveness of sins is the grand hallmark of the New Covenant. Never before in the history of mankind was there anything like it. When **ANGELS sinned**, there was **NO forgiveness**; when any of God's laws were ever violated, there was never any forgiveness; there is no forgiveness in nature; there was NOT even any forgiveness under the Mosaic Law. Why? Because, "**It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away SIN**" (Hebrews 10:4). In all of those Old Testament passages where forgiveness of sins is promised, the reference is actually to the **Messianic age**. (Source: <https://www.study-light.org/commentaries/bcc/jeremiah-31.html>)

Hebrews 10:1-4, For the **law** having a shadow of good things to come, and NOT the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto **perfect (complete)**. For then would they not have ceased to **be offered?** because that the worshippers once **PURGED** should have had no more conscience of **SINS**. But in those sacrifices there is a **remembrance** again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the **BLOOD** of bulls and of goats should **take away sins**.

Colossians 2:9-10, For in him (*Jesus*) dwelleth all the **fullness (perfection)** of the Godhead (divine nature) bodily (united with a body). And YE are **COMPLETE** (having NO deficiency; perfect) IN him, which is the **HEAD** (one who has the FIRST place) of all **principality** and **power**...

Jeremiah 31:35-37, Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; **The LORD** (*[Yahweh]*, **the Eternal**) of hosts is **his name**: If those **ordinances** depart from before me, saith the LORD (*Yahweh*), then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being **a nation** before me FOR EVER.

Thus saith the LORD (*Yahweh*); If **heaven** above can be measured, and the foundations of the **earth** searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the **SEED of Israel** for ALL that they have done, saith the LORD.

NOTE: The **perpetuity** (continued uninterrupted existence) of God's Israel is **ASSURED** by these verses; but it is most certainly the **Spiritual Israel** in Christ Jesus which dominates the passage. The **racial Israel** also is represented in the promise that their "**seed**," that is, not "**all**" of them shall be cut off, implying, of course, that the vast majority of racial Israel shall indeed **be cut off** because of **rebellion** against God. As Keil stated it, "That the whole of Israel cannot perish is no bolster for the sin of a single individual."

In this connection, it should always be remembered that it was indeed the **racial Israel** that **provided** the nucleus of the **Spiritual Israel** in the person of the holy apostles and the first great ingathering of Christians. The essential truth in this is that Christ alone is the "**True Vine**" (John 15:1), that is, the **True Israel**, and that by virtue of their being "IN Christ," IN the "true Vine," in the "true Israel," the whole company of **the redeemed** throughout this dispensation are actually the Israel of God (Galatians 6:16).

Thus we see the **absolute identity** of the **New Israel** (composed of **all Christians** from EVERY tribe, **RACE** and nation) with the old, in this manner achieving the perpetuity of Israel as promised in this chapter. As Paul expressed it in Galatians: "For as MANY of YOU as were baptized INTO Christ DID put on Christ.

There can be **neither Jew NOR Greek**, there can be **NO male and female**; for ye are all **ONE man** IN Christ Jesus. And if ye are Christ's, THEN are ye **Abraham's SEED**, **HEIRS** according to PROMISE" (Galatians 3:27-29).

(Source: <https://www.study-light.org/commentaries/bcc/jeremiah-31.html>)