

The New Testament Agreement!

Acts 11: 19-23

What did Jesus mean when He said..."This cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

The book of Acts is the spring board of the New Covenant offered by Jesus purchased by His blood.

In acts there are two great explosions that took place that changed the world.

Acts 13: 4-15 – It was fully on!

- I. The making of the Messenger of God (Saul to Paul)
- II. The Making of the Message – Grace instead of Law

1. The Making of the Messenger of God

Chapter 8 --The Powerful Beginning

- The Powerful Transition – Saul to Paul (Acts 13: 9)
- The Rejection
- The Three Year Wait
- The Return in Time
 - * Saul new that he did not have the respect to do His calling.
 - * Saul new that he did not have the knowledge to follow His calling.

Then he returned in time on time after Patience and Learning, a new man and a new message... (Chapter 13: 9)

2. The Making of the Message

OT Law Vs NT Grace

Acts 11: 18 When they heard these things, they held their peace and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life."

Peter's declaration in Chapter 11: 10-12

3 visions

3 men

7 men all together

Law – Sacrifice/ offerings/ Commands

Offerings of the Tabernacle:

There were five main offerings and each kind is described by separate chapters in Leviticus

1. The burnt offerings
2. The meal offering
3. The peace offering
4. The sin offering
5. The trespass offering

These five offerings were divided into two categories:

1. Those offerings to be used for the purpose of restoring broken fellowship. This would include the sin offerings.
2. Those offerings to be used for the purpose of maintaining fellowship. This would include the burnt, the meal, and the peace offerings. The special red heifer offering of Numbers 19 would also be included in this category.

There were Holy Feasts of the tabernacle. There were actually 9 special feasts and rest times in Israel's calendar. The first three were to remind the believers of God's creative work and the last six of His redemptive work.

A. The Creative Work

1. The Weekly Sabbath
2. The Seven-year Sabbath feast
3. The fiftieth year of God's creation, as they come to the endless cycles of seven, just as God rested on the seventh day. $7 \times 7 = 49$ the 50th they really celebrated and rested.

B. His Redemptive work

1. The Passover feast pointing to Calvary's lamb!
2. The feast of first fruits pointing to the resurrection!
3. The feast of Pentecost pointing to the coming Spirit!
4. The feast of trumpets feast pointing to the Rapture – the calling up!
5. The day of atonement feast pointing to tribulation or judgment!
6. The feast of tabernacles pointing to the millennium!

Then we have the Commandment life:

The 10 Commandments as well as the many other commands all through the Leviticus Law!

Moses delivered three sermons to the people:

1. The splendor of God that they had experienced/Their tragic sin at Kadesh-Barnea/Reminded them of their sin and why they were in such trouble/He set up three eastern cities of refuge.
2. He Repeated the 10 Commandments to them, warning them of judgment if they further sinned. He described Canaan and then reminded them of their financial obligations before God. He summarized the purpose of their adventure out of Egypt and where they were going and why.
3. He ordered the blessings and judgments to be read to the people when they entered the promise land. He ordered the disbursement order when they get there.

He was offering God's people a choice between God's blessings or God's judgments.

But God sent His Son:

Once the law had so frustrated all the Jewish people to the point of utter failure, the God sent his son...

God stepped out of Heaven and offered grace!

Acts 19: 38 tells us that no one can be justified by the law!

Galatians 3: 22-25 tells us that the law is a schoolmaster – 3807 – leader, instructor, teaching children...

“But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. But before faith came, we were kept under law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.”

Acts 4: 33 *“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus; and great grace was upon them all”*

Acts 11: 23 then Barnabas when he got to Antioch saw the believers, was glad to hear that they, the Gentiles at Antioch had seen the grace of God...they experienced it, he saw it and rejoiced.

Acts 13: 43 Paul and Barnabas were encouraged by many who had believed to continue in the grace of God.

Acts 14: 3 Paul and Barnabas spoke long and boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace.

Acts 14: 26 they sailed to Antioch and were recommended to the Grace of God for the work which they fulfilled.

Acts 15: 11 Paul was talking about the law and said, “...we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved.”

Acts 18: 27 the believers had believed through grace...

Acts 20: 24 they testified of the gospel of Grace and stated in vs 32 “... and now brethren, I commend you to the grace of God...”

GRACE – OT – 2580 – favor

GRACE – NT – 5485 Charis – joy, favor, acceptance, kindness or favor granted one without paying anything for it...

“Grace” is mentioned 128 times in NT...only 4 times before the book of acts

Luke 2: 40 Jesus as a child...”...and the grace of God was upon Him”

John 1: 14 “And the word was made flesh and dwelt among us,full of grace and truth.”

John 1: 16 “And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace” He was grace and traded himself for grace for us!

John 1: 17 “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”

The New Message was... there is nothing that you can do for favor. He came and was favored and gave Himself for us to have the ability to be favored. This is the message of the NT! What will we do with the wonderful open door purchased by Jesus Christ the Author and Finisher of our faith.