

INTRODUCTION:

- 1) TODAY WE WILL BEGIN OUR STUDY OF APPLYING SCRIPTURE BY LOOKING AT *THE COVENANTS AND THE KINGDOM*

THINGS WE WILL LOOK AT IN THIS LESSON:

- 1) THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW COVENANTS
- 2) THE TWO COVENANTS AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD
- 3) THE *ALREADY* AND *NOT YET* ASPECTS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

PART 1 – THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OLD AND NEW COVENANTS:

Q 1) WHAT DOES GENESIS 1-12 TEACH US?

Q 2) WHAT DOES THE OLD COVENANT TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

Q 3) WHAT DO THE FIVE POETIC BOOKS TEACH US?

Q 4) WHAT DOES THE OLD COVENANT SHOW US OUR NEED FOR AND HELP US UNDERSTAND?

EXAMPLE 1) PROMISES UNDER THE NEW AND OLD COVENANTS...

God gives the church many promises that are better than the promises of the old covenant:

Topic	Old Covenant	Old Promise to the Nation of Israel	New Promise to the Church	New Covenant
Sins and forgiveness	Leviticus 4–5	God would forgive all sins that were not planned and some sins that were planned—if the guilty person repented, obeyed the law, and brought an animal sacrifice.	God will forgive all sins as we repent and follow Jesus. “I will forgive their wickedness and remember their sins no more,” based on the sacrifice of Jesus, once for all.	Hebrews 8:12; Jeremiah 31:34
Inheritance	Genesis 12:1; 15:18–21	The emphasis was on the earthly land of Canaan.	A heavenly place to live with God forever. We are joint heirs with Christ.	John 14:2; Romans 8:17
Warfare	Deuteronomy 28:7	If Israel obeyed God, their human enemies would come from one direction, but flee in seven directions.	As believers are filled with the Spirit, pray, and have faith, we have spiritual authority over Satan and demons.	Matthew 10:1; Luke 9:1
	Isaiah 54:17	“No weapon formed against you will prevail.” (Note that this promise seems to be a prophecy of the Millennium.)	Although we may be like sheep for the slaughter, nothing can separate us from the love of God.	Romans 8:35–39
Persecution	Deuteronomy 28:15–68	Persecution would come if Israel disobeyed.	The world will hate and persecute those who love Jesus.	Matthew 10:22–23; John 15:18–20
Protection/assurance of God’s presence	Psalms 91:7, 13	“A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.” “You will tread upon the lion and the cobra.”	Brother will betray brother to death. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. He will never leave or forsake us, so we do not fear.	Matthew 10:21–23; 28–31; Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5–6; Romans 8:35–39; Luke 10:19
Health	Exodus 15:26	“I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians.”	Healing is provided for all believers through Christ’s sufferings and atonement.	Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24
Blessings	Deuteronomy 28:1–14	The Lord will make you the head and not the tail.	As we seek God’s kingdom first, He will supply all of our needs.	Matthew 6:33; Philippians 4:19
Expansion	Genesis 12:2 (See 2 Samuel 7:5–16)	“I will make you into a great nation.”	“I will build my Church and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”	Matthew 16:18

PART 2 – THE TWO COVENANTS AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD:

Q 5) WHAT TWO THINGS MUST THERE BE FOR A KINGDOM TO EXIST?

EXAMPLE 2) THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN...

Matthew	Kingdom of heaven	Kingdom of God	Mark	Luke
8:11	“I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.”	“People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.”		13:29
11:11	“I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”	“I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”		7:28
13:11	“He replied, ‘The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.’”	“He told them, ‘The secret of the kingdom of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables.’”	4:11	See 8:10
13:31	“He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.’”	“Again he said, ‘What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground.’”	4:30–31	See 13:18–19

Q 6) WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "THE KINGDOM OF GOD" AND "THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN?"

Q 7) WHAT THREE TRUTHS ARE THERE REGARDING GOD'S ETERNAL RULE?

Q 8) WHAT DO WE ENJOY UNDER THE NEW COVENANT?

PART 3 – THE ALREADY AND NOT YET ASPECTS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD:

EXAMPLE 3) ALREADY BUT NOT YET ASPECTS OF THE KINGDOM...

Topic	Already	Not Yet
1. Salvation	Christians are forgiven and growing in grace.	Christians will be perfect, having attained "the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13).
2. Knowledge	"We know in part and we prophesy in part . . . Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror" (1 Corinthians 13:9–12).	"Then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known" (1 Corinthians 13:12).
3. Rewards	We have joy, peace, love, acceptance, assurance, and fatherly care.	"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done" (Revelation 22:12).
4. Health	The prayer of faith heals the sick (James 5:14–15). Also, God has given us doctors, dentists, and medicine to help with health.	"There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Revelations 21:4).
5. Wealth	God supplies our needs, but not our greeds, as we seek His kingdom first (Matthew 6:33; Philippians 4:19).	We will see, touch, and possess the unlimited treasure of our Father's kingdom that is now reserved for us in heaven (Luke 12:32–34).
6. Suffering	Our sufferings are measured and tempered. God does not allow us to be tried beyond what we can bear (1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Timothy 2:12; 1 Peter 2:19–23; 4:19).	"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Revelation 21:4).
7. Protection	Sometimes miraculous protection takes place, yet God does not always overrule the destructive forces of this world. Thieves still break in, moth and rust still corrupt, accidents still happen, persecution occurs (Matthew 6:19–20).	No weapon formed against us will prosper (Isaiah 54:17).
8. Believer's judgment	Christians are partially disciplined, punished, and judged (John 15:2; 1 Corinthians 11:30; Hebrews 12:5–6).	"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" (2 Corinthians 5:10).
9. Sinner's judgment	Sinners receive a portion of the wages of sin. They are separated from fellowship with God and suffer some results of their evil acts (Ephesians 2:1; 1 Timothy 5:24).	The dead will be raised and every sinner will be judged according to what he has done. Each one whose name is not written in the book of life will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 21:8).
10. Satan's judgment	Satan has been thrown out of the highest heaven. Believers rejoice in partial victory over him (Luke 10:18–19).	The devil will be thrown into the lake of fire and tormented day and night forever and ever (Revelation 20:10).
11. Will of God	It is accepted by a few but rejected by most (Matthew 6:10; 18:14; 1 Timothy 2:3–4).	Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord. God will dwell on earth with His people (Philippians 2:10–11; Revelation 21:1–4).

PART 4 – WRAPPING UP:

Complete this chart by defining the terms using your own words:

Topic	Already	Not Yet
1. Salvation		
2. Knowledge		
3. Rewards		
4. Health		
5. Wealth		
6. Suffering		
7. Protection		
8. Believer's judgment		
9. Sinner's judgment		
10. Satan's judgment		
11. Will of God		

