

## **Part 7: The New Covenant**

### **The Covenant Itself**

- ✦ Jeremiah 31:1-14
- ✦ Jeremiah 31:31-40
- ✦ Hebrews 8:1-13 and 9:15

### **Promised blessings**

- ✦ A remnant will be restored to its inheritance.
- ✦ The law will be written on the hearts of God's people.
- ✦ God's people will be forgiven and know Him personally.

### **Faithful response**

- ✦ Hope for restoration and train the next generation to do so (esp. during the exile).
- ✦ Repent (31:18-19).

### **Jesus' fulfillment**

- ✦ 1 Corinthians 11:23-26—Jesus' sacrifice officially inaugurates the new covenant (true forgiveness is now accomplished).
- ✦ Hebrews 8:4-7—The old covenant(s) were shadows, but the new covenant is the true fulfillment of God's promises.
- ✦ John 16:7, 13—Jesus had to finish His work before the Holy Spirit would be sent into the hearts of God's people.

### **Continuing promises**

- ✦ Jesus is the only mediator we need because our sins are forgiven once and for all (Hebrews 9:15).
- ✦ We now know that all of the Bible's promises will be completely fulfilled at Jesus' second coming. We don't have to worry about the geographical promised land or the restoration of the earthly temple.
- ✦ We can be thankful for fulfilled promises and peaceful about remaining evil because victory is assured.

### **Old Testament Readings**

- ✦ Terms and ideas to look for: remnant, restoration, forgiveness, New Jerusalem, new hearts.
- ✦ Ezekiel 40-48—We can read all the promises about earthly restoration of the temple, Jerusalem, Israel etc. (like this elaborate and detailed description of a new temple), as symbols of the real church and New Jerusalem.
- ✦ Isaiah 60:1-5—The church is the “Israel of God” (Galatians 6:16), so all these promises are ours!