

The Old & New Testaments

The word TESTAMENT is defined as a "COVENANT." A covenant is a binding agreement or contract between man and God or between men to do or refrain from doing an act; an oath or compact.

In effect, any promise made by the Heavenly Father is a covenant that is certain to be carried out and can be relied upon with confidence for its fulfillment. For example, when the LORD entered into an EVERLASTING COVENANT with Abraham, it was stated:

"And I will establish my COVENANT between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee." Genesis 17:7.

It must be well understood that an EVERLASTING COVENANT can never be broken. The covenant is still in effect today amongst the children of Israel as when it was made. It was carried over from the Old Testament/Covenant to the New Testament/Covenant. The LORD has not changed nor altered His word in any way, shape, form or fashion!

"For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." Malachi 3:6.

The EVERLASTING COVENANT/TESTAMENT is in the (New Testament) in the book of Hebrews 6:13-20 because God had sworn to it by an oath and because it is impossible for God to lie. The COVENANT is immutable, meaning it is unchangeable.

The EVERLASTING COVENANT/TESTAMENT, between the Almighty God and Abraham (Genesis 17:4-8) which was established in Isaac, (Genesis 26:1-5) and finally confirmed with Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel, (Genesis 35:10-12) is viewed unconditional, absolute, unqualified and complete.

In the Old Testament, the children of Israel entered into a COVENANT OF LAWS with the Heavenly Father at Mt. Sinai, where they agreed with one accord to the keeping of His Laws, Statutes, Judgments, and Commandments. This covenant is also written in the book of Hebrews (New Testament) where it directly quotes from Exodus 24:6-8 where the word COVENANT is unmistakably spoken of:

“For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.” Hebrews 9:19-20.

Now compare the covenant written in Hebrews to it written in Exodus:

“And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basons; and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.” Exodus 24:6-8.

The Old Testament and the New Testament are simply one and the same. It is clear to see that nothing has been changed or done away contrary to what many clergymen, ministers, priests, preachers and church-going people so vehemently proclaim!

This particular Covenant, known as the LAW COVENANT, must not be confused with the Covenant made with Abraham, which was made some four hundred years previously. The LAW COVENANT made at Mt. Sinai was made conditional. The LAW COVENANT was to be held contingent upon the strict adherence of keeping and obeying the Laws of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

There are five groupings of these **LAWS** and **COMMANDMENTS** which are:

- *CEREMONIAL: Given to acknowledge and worship the LORD’S Holy Days.
- *CIVIL: To give understanding and wisdom in the operations of municipal and governmental proprieties.
- *MORAL: To impart ethical and principled character in a righteous manner.
- *DIETARY: To clarify and explain the clean and unclean foods; to explain that which is lawful to eat and that which is unlawful to eat.
- *SACRIFICIAL: This was the **ONLY** law that was done away with in Christ. Read Hebrews 9:11-15

Christ himself spoke of this OLD TESTAMENT/COVENANT which contains the first five books of Moses called the Torah and all the books of the Prophets when he said:

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, (meaning the Statutes, Judgments and Commandments that were given to the Nation of Israel) or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. (meaning to give knowledge, wisdom and understanding on putting into effect the laws of the Most High in a righteous and spiritual manner.)” Matthew 5:17.

In conclusion, let there be no misunderstandings about the OLD and NEW TESTAMENTS which were given only to us, the Nation of Israel. These agreements and laws, when understood, kept and incorporated into our lives in a sincere and obligatory manner, will lead us out of the darkness of uncertainty and into the light of certainty in order for the perfect will of the Heavenly Father to operate in our lives.

“Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.” Psalms 119:152.