

New Covenant Inheritance: Lesson 1 – It’s All About Jesus

This course has provided you with a good understanding of Blood Covenants and their culmination in the New Covenant in Jesus body and blood. This is the wonderful eternal covenant that God made for the redemption of mankind and their restoration into His family. We have been made partakers of His divine nature through the grace and righteousness that He provided to us in the New Covenant.

You have seen from **Galatians 1:4** that, via the New Covenant, God’s plan for your daily life on this earth is to live free from the curse that’s in the earth; i.e. to live in the blessing and protection of His love. When we look at The Church today we see that very few Christians enjoy the full benefits of the New Covenant. Three key reasons for this are: the New Covenant has not been correctly taught; living in the mixture of law and grace has nullified the New Covenant benefits; and unbelief (due to past experience and mixture teaching) has prevented Christians entry into God’s rest.

This course has explained these reasons and hopefully provided you with teaching to correct your thinking and believing. Now we have one subject left to cover: the details of what is provided for us in the New Covenant. God calls this our inheritance which we received through what Jesus did as a man. His death paid the price for our sins and when He rose again He received the inheritance of the New Covenant. In this module we are going to study this inheritance because we are joint heirs with Jesus in everything it includes.

This first lesson in the New Covenant Inheritance module looks at our wonderful Lord and Savior, Jesus. Since He is the author and provider of our eternal inheritance, we start out this module by looking at Him and His completed work for us. He is the man who paid the complete price for the forgiveness of sins and for the redemption of man. Accordingly, He is the focal point of history. Everything in this universe declares his beauty and reflects the glory of his person and work. Everything we have and are is wrapped up in Him.

Read **John 1:1-18** and answer the following questions:

Who was in the beginning with God (v1) _____.

What did the Word become (v14) _____.

What did the Word make (v3) _____.

What is in the Word (v4) _____.

In verses 1 and 4, all the verbs translated “was” are in the imperfect tense. What does the imperfect tense mean? _____.

What does this tell you about Jesus as God (v1)? _____.

What does this tell you about the life Jesus has given us (v4)? _____.

What is the Word full of (v14)? _____.

Verse 16 says “of (*‘ek’* (GK) = *origin, exceeding, abundantly above*) his fullness have all we received (AOR)”. What have you received in exceeding abundance (v14/v16)? _____.

When did you receive it (given received is in Aorist tense)? _____.

Additionally verse 16 says we receive “grace for grace”. This means that every time you use grace, more is immediately supplied. An example of this would be trying to empty the sea water out of a hole in the sand at the beach. As fast as you get it out, it seeps back in. As we let grace flow out of us, God’s limitless supply floods in. We can never exhaust the abundance of God’s grace (His divine favor).

In verse 17, how did the law come? _____.

How did grace and truth come (v17)? _____.

How did God show himself to man (v18)? _____.

Now read **Colossians 1:15-19** and answer the following:

Who does Paul say is the image of God (v15/v13)? _____.

Who created all things (v16)? _____.

Write out verse 17: _____

Who is Jesus’ body (v18)? _____.

Verse 18 identifies three things about Jesus. What are they? _____

What do these three things identify Jesus as (v18)? _____.

What dwells in Jesus (v19)? _____.

Now let’s look at a few passages in Hebrews. Hebrews is a wonderful treatise about the person and work of Jesus. It is written to the Jews who are very familiar with covenants and Jewish history. The book starts out identifying who Jesus is and proceeds to explain how He became our high priest and replaced the Old Covenant with the New Covenant. The book finishes with the reality that we access the New Covenant blessing by our walk of faith – our faith (belief) in the fullness of Jesus faith and what He completed by His faith. Let’s first look at how the book identifies and extols our wonderful Jesus. Start by reading **Hebrews Chapter 1**.

How has God spoken to man in these last days (v2)? _____.

What has God appointed Jesus as (v2)? _____.

What did God do through Jesus (v2)? _____.

What three characteristics describe Jesus (v3)? _____

What allowed Jesus to sit down at God’s right hand (v3)? _____

What made Him so much better than the angels (v4)? _____.

Verses 5 through 14 continue to expound the magnificence of Jesus as recorded by the prophets. Verse 8 tells us that Jesus' throne is forever and ever and the core nature (scepter) of His kingdom is righteousness.

Now read **Hebrews 2:5-18**. This passage presents the truth that man is made above the angels, but slightly lower than God and that Jesus became the preeminent man. Verse 7 is a quote from **Psalms 8:5** and the Hebrew words translated as 'angels' is 'Elohim', one of the main Hebrew names of God. Man is made in the God class (in His image - **Genesis 1:27**), but as a "little lower" being because he is contained in a physical body with its associated limitations. This passage goes on to explain man's position of dominion over all things (v8) and then recognizes that man lost this "we see not yet all things put under him" (v8). Because of Adam's treason, Satan and his hosts were no longer under man's dominion. Then we see what God did to fix this in verse 9 & 10. "But we see Jesus...". Oh, the glory and magnificence of our Lord and His redemption for us. These scriptures are a few that give us revelations of the glory, fullness and preeminence of Jesus. He was, is and always will be God. All the fullness of God is found in Jesus, along with all power, dominion and might.

At this point let me take a paragraph to correct a common misuse of verse 10. This verse states "... to make the captain of their salvation (Jesus) perfect through suffering." This phrase is used by many to teach that God brings, allows and/or uses suffering to perfect us. Hopefully, you realize that this is a false doctrine. Therefore, we need to find out what the suffering was that perfected Jesus. The good news is that the answer is found in verse 18 which states that Jesus "suffered being tempted". The perfecting suffering is not talking about what Jesus suffered at the cross or any suffering that comes from the curse. It is talking about the temptation that Jesus suffered to do things by his own self effort. When Satan tempted Him in the wilderness (**Luke 4:1-13**), Jesus was under the same temptation to operate by self effort that Adam faced and failed. This is that same temptation that we suffer and giving in to it allows the curse to operate in our lives. But the captain of our salvation did not give in to the temptation of self-effort and accordingly He is able to succor (help, relieve, aid) all of us in overcoming the temptation of self-effort.

Now that we had a small reminder of the magnificence of Jesus, let's look at how His grace had impacted our lives. Let's start with **Hebrews 2:9-11**.

What did Jesus do for every man (v9)? _____.

What is Jesus crowned with (v9)? _____.

Who did God also bring to glory through Jesus (v10)? _____.

Who is He that sanctifies (v11)? _____.

Who are the ones He sanctified (v11)? _____.

What Has God done to these two entities (v11)? _____.

In **Hebrews 2:14**, what did Jesus take on himself? _____.

Why did He take this on (v14)? _____.

How did He do this (v14)? _____.

What has this death done for us (v15)? _____.

Because of this deliverance, what two things does Hebrews 3:1 say you now are? _____.

What does **Hebrews 4:9** tells us that we have because of Jesus destruction of Satan? _____.

How does **Hebrews 4:10** say we enter into this provision of Jesus? _____.

What does **Hebrews 4:11** say can cause us to fall out of rest? _____.

Continuing on from the reality of Jesus having destroyed Satan by His death, read **Ephesians 1:20-23**.

Where is Jesus now seated (v20)? _____.

What is He far above (v21)? _____.

What has been placed under His feet (v22) _____.

Who is He the head of and how is it related to Him (v22&23) _____.

What is this entity relative to Jesus (v23)? _____.

Ephesians 1:23 gives us an amazing revelation, that even though Jesus is the one that fills all in all, without all of us (His body, the Church) he would not be full. We have been placed in Jesus to fulfill Him. The next chapter goes on to declare just how real this being in Jesus is. **Ephesians 2:5** tells us we have been made alive and have divine welfare by God's grace. Then verse 6 declares that our position now is on the throne in Jesus (at the right hand of Father God). We have done nothing to earn it, but the love of God has united us with Jesus.

Now read **1 Corinthians 15:25-27**. How long must Jesus reign? _____.

What is the last enemy to be destroyed? _____.

What has been placed under Jesus feet? _____.

Since we are the body, what has been placed under us? _____.

Now write out **Acts 17:28**. _____

Write out **2 Peter 1:3**. _____

Write out **Romans 8:32**. _____

The reality of our position in Christ is that we are part of Him and His life is in us. **1 John 4:17b** states that we are as Jesus is (present tense). This means that everything that Jesus has and is right now, we have and are. God has already supplied it freely and is conforming us to the character and fullness of Jesus.

As a final comment, in **1 Corinthians 15:34**, Paul makes two powerful statements: from the literal Greek it translates as "Awake (rouse up) to righteousness that you sin not; for some hold not a relationship (intimacy) with God: I speak to your shame." Firstly, Paul clearly states that focusing on our righteousness in Jesus is what prevents us from sinning. Secondly, he reinforces that intimacy with God comes through the revelation of our righteousness. Knowing you are righteous, seeing yourself as righteous and living in that righteousness is foundational to living sin free and in intimacy with Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit. This truth is born out in **Hebrews 5:13** which reveals that a mature Christian is one who is skillful in the word of righteousness. This is God's definition of a mature Christian, which is very different to what most people think a mature Christian is.