

# New Covenant Theology



# The Structure and Message of the Bible

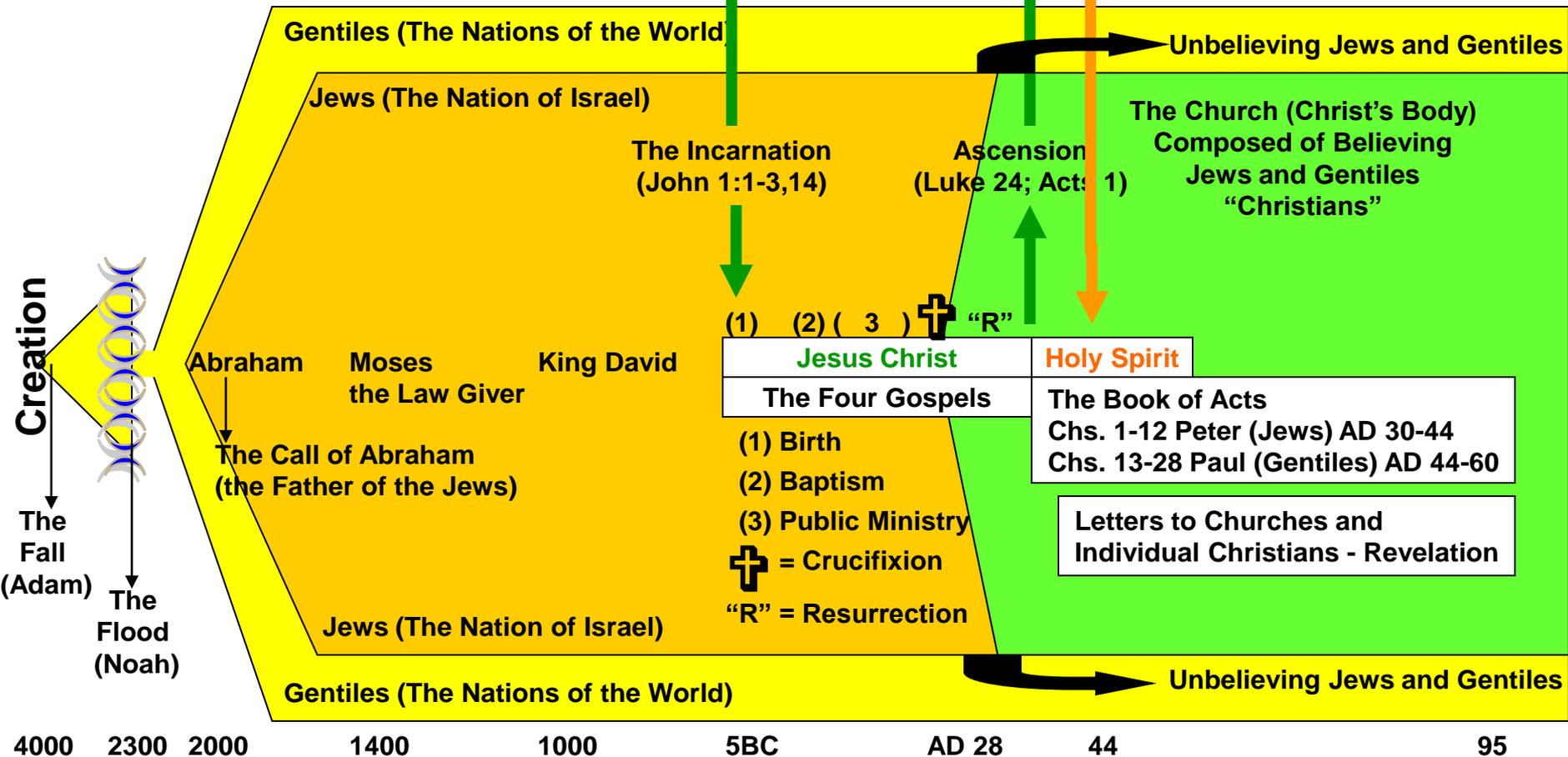
Based on a Chart Originally Developed by David N. Steele

## The Triune God

(1) The Father

(2) The Son (Jesus Christ)

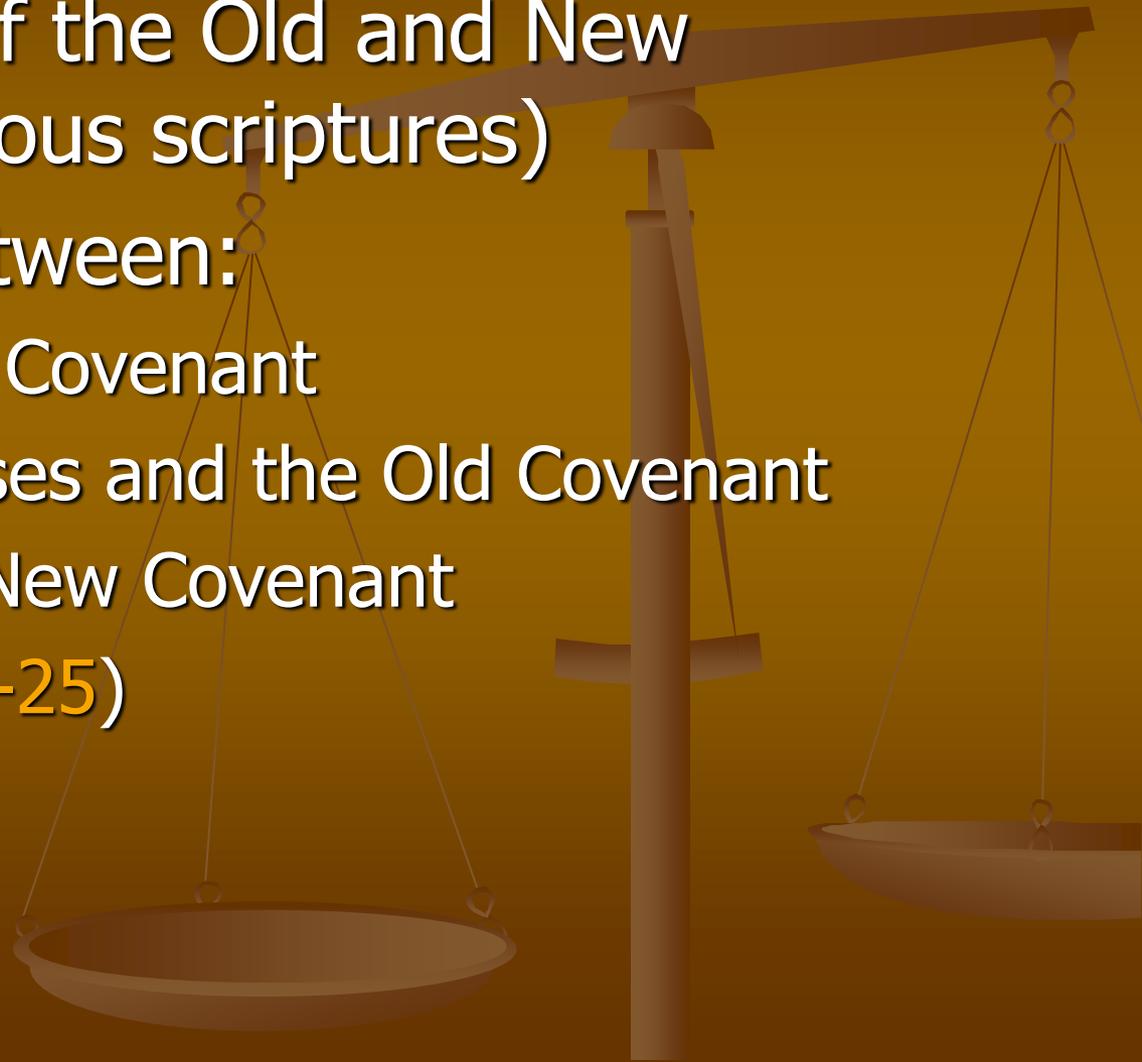
(3) The Holy Spirit



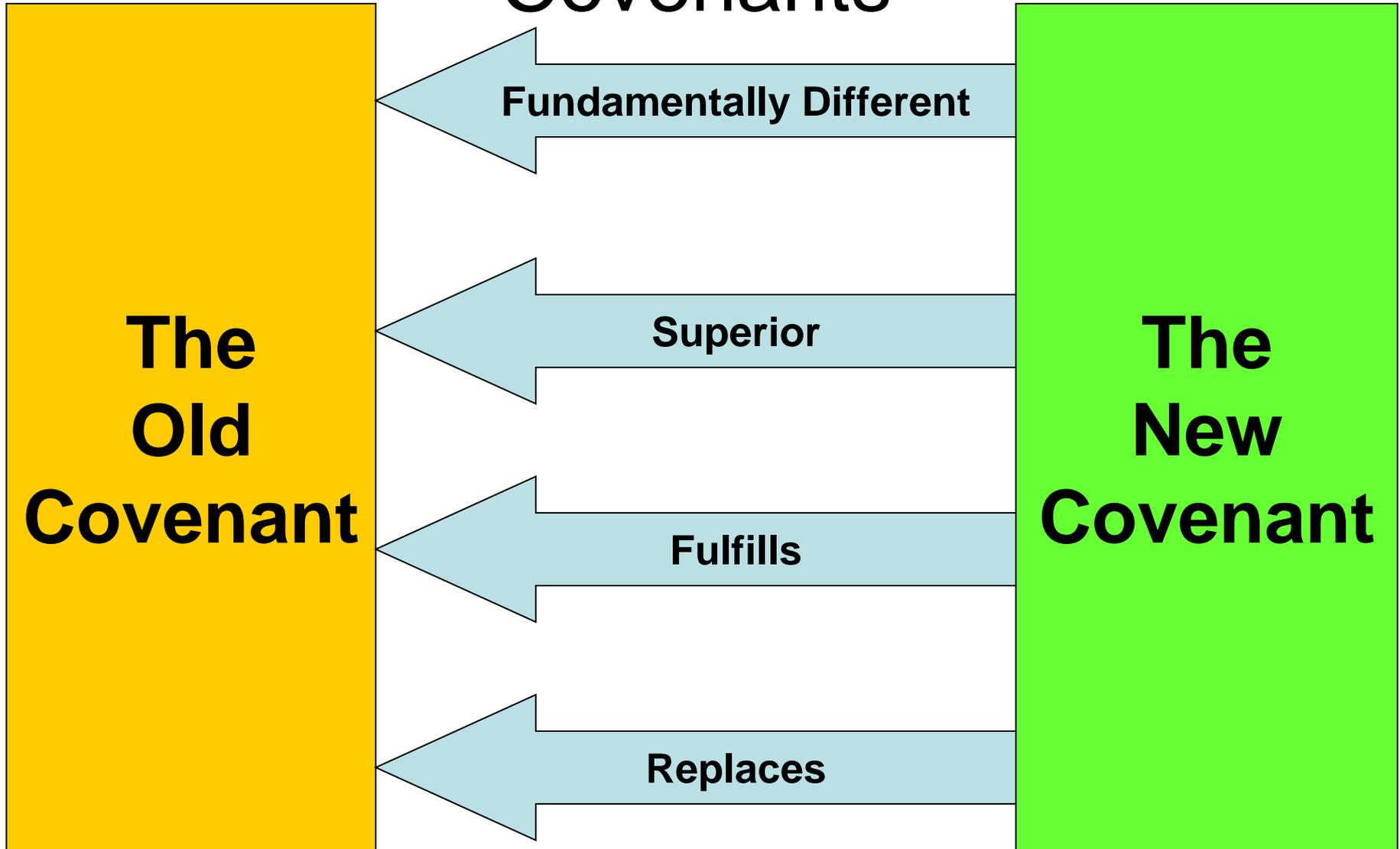
<p><b>The Old Testament (39 Books)</b> Written in Hebrew Genesis --- (Promises -- Prophecy) --- Malachi</p>	<p>400 Years</p>	<p><b>The New Testament (27 Books &amp; Letters)</b> Written in Greek Matthew ----- (Fulfillment) ----- Revelation</p>
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# Comparing and Contrasting the Covenants

- A Comparison of the Old and New Covenants (various scriptures)
- Relationship Between:
  - The Abrahamic Covenant
  - The Law of Moses and the Old Covenant
  - Christ and the New Covenant
  - (**Galatians 3:15-25**)



# A Comparison of the Old and New Covenants



**The New Covenant Is  
*Fundamentally Different*  
From the Old Covenant**



# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different*

- The **Old** Covenant Was Made With **One** Nation
  - **Exodus 19:3-5** – *The LORD called to [Moses] out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup> You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup> Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine;*
  - **Psalms 147:19-20** – *He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel. He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his rules. Praise the LORD!*

# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different*

- The **New** Covenant Includes **Many** Nations
  - **Matthew 28:18-20** – *And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*
  - **Acts 1:8** – *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*
  - **Galatians 3:8** – *And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed."*
  - **Revelation 7:9** – *After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands*

# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different*

- The *Old* Covenant Included *Believers and Unbelievers*

- *Believers*

- **Hebrews 11:23-40** – *Moses ... Rahab ... Gideon ... Barak ... Samson ... Jephthah ... David ... Samuel and the prophets ... These were all commended for their faith*

- *Unbelievers*

- **Jeremiah 2:8** – *The priests did not say, “Where is the LORD?” Those who handle the law did not know me; the shepherds transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.*
- **Jeremiah 4:22** – *For my people are foolish; they know me not; they are stupid children; they have no understanding. They are 'wise'-- in doing evil! But how to do good they know not.*
- **See also Rom 9:6ff**

# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different*

- The *New* Covenant Includes *Believers Only*
  - **Jeremiah 31:34** – *And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more .*

# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different*

- The **Old** Covenant Focused on **Physical** Blessings
  - **Physical Health**
    - **Deuteronomy 7:15** – *And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which you knew, will he inflict on you, but he will lay them on all who hate you.*
  - **Physical Wealth**
    - **Deuteronomy 28:11-12** – *And the LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your livestock and in the fruit of your ground, within the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give you. The LORD will open to you his good treasury, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hands. And you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow.*
  - **Military Victory**
    - **Deuteronomy 28:7** – *The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.*

# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different*

- The **New** Covenant Focuses on **Spiritual** Blessings
  - **Spiritual Health**
    - **1 Timothy 4:8** – *For while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.*
  - **Spiritual Wealth**
    - **1 Timothy 6:18** – *They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share...*
    - **James 2:5** - *Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him?*
    - **Revelation 2:9a** – *I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich)...*
  - **Spiritual Victory**
    - **Ephesians 6:12** – *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*
    - **2 Corinthians 10:5** – *We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ...*

# The New Covenant Is *Fundamentally Different* From the Old Covenant

<b>The Old Covenant</b>	<b>The New Covenant</b>
Made with <b>One</b> Nation	Includes <b>Many</b> Nations
Included <b>Believers and Unbelievers</b>	Includes <b>Believers Only</b>
Focused on <b>Physical</b> Blessings <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Physical Health</li><li>•Physical Wealth</li><li>•Military Victory</li></ul>	Focuses on <b>Spiritual</b> Blessings <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Spiritual Health</li><li>•Spiritual Wealth</li><li>•Spiritual Victory</li></ul>

# Questions

- Are you surprised that there are such stark differences between the Old and the New Covenant?
- Which of the differences between the Old and New Covenant did you find to be most surprising?
- Can you see how some charismatic Christians in our day could have come up with a false idea of a “health and wealth” gospel by misapplying Old Covenant concepts to the New Covenant believers?