

Romans Series

Lesson #79

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Dean Bible Ministries

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The Epistle to the ROMANS

**The Holy Spirit; New Covenant; and
the Spiritual Life**

Romans 7:1–6; 2 Corinthians 3:1–10



**2 Cor. 3:2, “You are our epistle written in our hearts,
known and read by all men;**

**2 Cor. 3:3, “clearly you are an epistle of Christ,
ministered by us, written not with ink but by the
Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on
tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.”**

2 Cor. 3:4, “And we have such trust through Christ toward God.”

2 Cor. 3:5, “Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,

2 Cor. 3:6, “who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

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ἰκανός *hikanos*,

**enough, worthy, able, competent,
qualified;**

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ἱκανός *hikanos*,

διάκονος *diakonos*

acc masc plur servant, minister

**enough, worthy, able, competent,
qualified;**

2 Cor. 3:6, “who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2 Cor. 3:7, “But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away,

2 Cor. 3:8, “how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?”

Ex. 34:29, “Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses’ hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him.

Ex. 34:30, “So when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.”

The New Covenant: The eighth and final covenant in the Old Testament; the fifth Jewish Covenant and the fourth Jewish permanent Covenant.

1B. A covenant is a legally binding obligation of God to man.

2B. A covenant is God's solemn pledge to fulfill His promises to those included in the covenant.

3B. A covenant is a word for a legal contract or covenant.

4B. A contract can be between two parties of equal stature or one superior and one inferior.

5B. διαθήκη *diatheke*, (“to make a disposition of one’s own property”) in the sense of “a unilateral enactment.” In secular Greek this word usually meant “will” or “testament,” but even classical authors like Aristophanes (*Birds* 439) used it of a covenant wherein one of the two parties had an overwhelming superiority over the other.

6B. Though covenants have often been categorized as unconditional and conditional, these terms may not always be the most precise. The best term is permanent vs. temporary.

7B. The New Covenant is the third permanent covenant with Israel that is based on the Abrahamic Covenant.

8B. It is an unconditional covenant, meaning that the fulfillment of its promises does not depend on the obedience of Israel, although, in time, the covenant will be the cause of their obedience (Ezek. 36:21–22).

9B. Whereas most of the other covenants are material and national in nature, the New Covenant is primarily spiritual.

**10B. The New Covenant is everlasting in nature
(Isa. 61:8–9; Jer. 32:40; Ezek. 16:60; 37:26).**

- A. Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31–34 (cf., Isaiah 49:8; 54:10; 55:3; 59:21; 61:8-9; Jeremiah. 32:37–41; 32:39–40; Ezek. 11:19; 16:60–63; 18:31; 34:25; 36:25-28; Ezek. 37:21–28; Hosea 2:17–20; Amos 9:13–15).**
- B. Persons: God and the House of Judah and House of Israel**
- C. Importance: Provides for the regeneration of Israel, and the fulfillment of all other covenants and promises to them.**
- D. Provisions (10) which reinforce a unique state of salvation for the nation Israel in the Millennial Kingdom.**

Jeremiah 31:31, “Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah –

Jeremiah 31:32, “not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.”

Jeremiah 31:33, “But this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Jeremiah 31:34, “No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

Isaiah 61:8, “For I, the LORD, love justice; I hate robbery for burnt offering; I will direct their work in truth, and will make with them an everlasting covenant.

Isaiah 61:9, “Their descendants shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people. All who see them shall acknowledge them, that they *are* the posterity *whom* the LORD has blessed.”