

Out With The Old, In With The New

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Do you know the difference between the Old and the New Testaments? A basic failure to “rightly divide the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15), has resulted in much of the religious confusion in today’s world. The word “covenant” is used synonymously with “testament” when referring to the two major divisions of the Bible. When we allow the Scriptures to speak, notice the contrast between the Old and the New Covenants.

- Priests and Levites were ministers of the Old (Hebrews 9:1-10); Christians are able ministers of the New Covenant (2 Corinthians 3:6)
- The Old was a ministration of the letter that brought death, while the New is a ministration of the spirit that giveth life (2 Corinthians 3:6-7)
- The precepts of the Old Covenant were written in stone (2 Corinthians 3:7); those of the New are written on the heart (Hebrews 8:10)
- The Old was a ministration of the spirit of condemnation, but the New is a ministration of righteousness (2 Corinthians 3:9)
- The Old Covenant was glorious but was done away; the New is more glorious and remaineth to this day (2 Corinthians 3:11)
- The Old Covenant is now aged and nigh unto vanishing away (Hebrews 8:13); ours is a New and living Covenant (Hebrews 8:8; 10:20)
- The Old Covenant was one of bondage; the New Covenant is of freedom (Galatians 4:24-26; 5:1)
- The Old Covenant was given to the Jewish nation by Moses and the prophets (Deuteronomy 5:2-3); the New was given to all the world by God’s Son (Hebrews 1:1; Mark 16:15)
- The Old was but a shadow of good things to come; the New is the real form and substance of God’s plan (Hebrews 9:1, 11; 10:1)
- The blood of animals dedicated the Old Covenant that could never take away sins (Hebrews 9:19-20; 10:4). The blood of Christ ratified the New (Matthew 26:28) and it does take away sins (1 John 1:7).
- The first Covenant was taken away (Hebrews 8:13) that He might establish the second (Hebrews 10:9).

May we always allow the Word of God to speak for itself, for there is no interpretation needed for such a spirit-filled and clarified document as the Bible. When all is said and done, are you following that which is old or that which is new?