

Covenant & Kingdom  
Week 15 - The Blood of the New Covenant  
Mark 1:14-15, Luke 22:14-20

- The Old Covenant is the context into which the New Covenant comes
  - Having returned to the land, the people were still waiting for the renewal of the kingdom
- After 400 years of prophetic silence, John the Baptist came proclaiming the kingdom - Mt. 3:1-3
  - Announcement of the era of fulfillment and consummation, promises coming to pass
  - Came to prepare the people for the arrival of the Day of the Lord
    - A day both of judgment and of restoration and renewal
  - Baptism was more typically a ritual for Gentiles - indicates that this is something new
- Jesus proclaimed the same message, demonstrating the newness of what He is doing in His life
  - Mk. 9:14-17 - Jesus work is borne out of the Old Covenant, but doesn't fit into the Old Covenant paradigms
- Healings, feedings, casting out demons all testified to restoration from the fall in this kingdom
  - King had authority over the spiritual world as well as physical (Lk. 10:17-19)
- Jn. 11:23-27 - Jesus' authority over death and embodiment of resurrection demonstrates newness
- The New Covenant had been pledged and announced since Genesis 3:15
  - Jesus announced that it had arrived, but it could not be ratified without blood
  - At the last supper, Jesus pledged His body and blood as the ratification of a new covenant
  - Unlike in the Old, death was not only threatened, but actualized
    - Jesus' promise *is* His blood, His blood is the covenant, He had to actually die for the covenant to go into effect
    - Without the shedding of God's own blood, there can be no end to the curse
- Man's problem has always been that his sin keeps him from dwelling in the presence of a holy God
  - Despite all the sacrifices of the OC, man was never able to dwell directly with God
  - The NC actually accomplished what the OC approximated - Heb. 8:1-7
  - The promises are secured by the one perfect sacrifice - Heb. 10:9-18
  - The NC is a completed covenant, and purely a grace covenant, entirely independent of works
  - Consummation is anticipated and ensured - paradise will be restored
  - The shedding of Christ's blood ensures all the blessing of the NC for everyone in it because He Himself earned all the blessings and they are mediated to His people by Him