

Kenyon, E. W.The Blood Covenant

13. Contrast of the Two Covenants

The chapter contrasts the Old Covenant with the New. It argues the first covenant was really the Abrahamic Covenant (with the Law of Moses belonging to it), which only covered sin and gave promises and types. The New Covenant, sealed by Jesus' blood, actually cleanses and fulfills what the old only foreshadowed.

Key takeaways

- The first covenant was between Abraham and Jehovah, sealed by circumcision; the Law of Moses was part of it, not a separate covenant.
- The old covenant only 'covered' sin (atonement), gave protection and physical provision, but did not remove sin, give eternal life, or true fellowship — only promises and types of these.
- Because Jesus' blood cleanses rather than covers, the word 'atonement' never appears in the New Testament.
- When the covenant was fulfilled, the Law was fulfilled and set aside with it.

- The old high priest could fail, cutting off the people's approach to God; Christ, the High Priest of the New Covenant, can never fail His people.

Passages worth keeping

“The blood of bulls and goats did not cleanse the conscience, did not take away sin consciousness from man.”

Sums up the old covenant's core limitation the chapter builds on.

Scripture referenced

- **Hebrews 10:1-2** -- The Law was a shadow; its sacrifices could not make worshippers perfect.
- **Romans 8:1** -- No condemnation now for those in Christ.
- **Hebrews 8:6** -- Christ mediates a better covenant on better promises.