

New Covenant and the Third Angel's Message

Fred Bischoff

Elements of the New Covenant

<p>1. Based on God's promise, choice, word, and faith (NOT man's promises, choice, word, and faith)</p>	<p>2. Made primarily between the Father and the Son (NOT between God and mankind)</p>	<p>3. Required the death of the Testator (NOT the death of the recipients of the covenant)</p>	<p>4. Has universal dimensions and applications (NOT for a select few in intent)</p>	<p>5. Expects, plans, desires the initial, basic human response of faith (NOT the response of works)</p>	<p>6. Involves law being written on our hearts (NOT just on table of stone)</p>	<p>7. Leads us back to identity with God, giving up the enmity in our flesh against Him, and thus against one another (NOT my identity where I am my own god and king)</p>	<p>8. Restores an intimacy with the Lord that existed before sin (self-serving) severed our connection (NOT the shallow knowledge that results in His saying, "I know you not")</p>	<p>9. Forgives sin through God's faith and love towards sinners, the victory of Christ over sin, and thus over death (NOT make-believe forgiveness that leaves sin and self enthroned)</p>
<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Based on God's promise, choice, word, and faith, the New Covenant encompasses mankind's as well. In fact the nature of the New Covenant provides the very possibility of theirs to exist. In its being stated, God's promise is an expression of faith, of what His plan for humanity is.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Made primarily between the Father and the Son, the New Covenant encompasses humanity as well. In fact the nature of the New Covenant provides the very possibility of humanity to be restored, primarily through the humanity of the Son.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Requiring the giving of the life of the One pledged as surety, the New Covenant encompasses also mankind's death. In fact the nature of the New Covenant was such that due to the humanity and position of the Son, when the Testator died, all humanity died.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Having universal dimensions and applications, the New Covenant will be experienced fully only by those who through their heart response enter into its reality. In fact the nature of the New Covenant provides the very possibility, but not inevitability, for any individual to receive all of it.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Calling for faith as the basic response, the New Covenant encompasses what faith does. In fact the nature of the New Covenant envisions all of the fruits of faith. God's promise engenders faith and the fullness of what that promise includes when received by faith.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Writing the law on our hearts, the New Covenant encompasses the fulfilling of the law. In fact the nature of the New Covenant is the working out of what the tables of the covenant represent, the eternal, unchanging principles of <i>agape</i> engraved on hard hearts, leading to a change of nature.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Restoring us to Him as His, the New Covenant encompasses the establishment of the kingdom of God on earth. In fact the nature of the New Covenant is kingdom authority, setting up for eternity the loyalty to Him and the harmony with one another that comes from the oneness of self-sacrificing love in His earthly domain.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Leading us to know the Lord, the New Covenant encompasses eternal life. In fact the nature of the New Covenant is everlasting righteousness, the preservation of life by the giving of it.</p>	<p><i>Working out of this element:</i> Having wrought out our forgiveness in the Lamb which takes away the sin of the world, the New Covenant encompasses the full removing of the curse (disobedience to the law, self-seeking instead of Other-seeking) and its consequence (death), providing for full and eternal reconciliation of God and mankind.</p>

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"The Messages of the Past 50 Years" (December 22, 1890)

"Wake up the mighty men. Let the messages of the past 50 years that have been sounding now be seen in their true force and bearing by repetition. Let the same spirit which attended these messages come into our hearts in these last days. These things are not [to] be mentioned with gloom and sadness. We are [to] think how heaven regards these events, and to be in harmony with the transactions going on in heaven in preparing a people to stand in this, the day of the Lord, and having done all to stand. Let the light and power of the sunbeams of righteousness enter into the soul." {1888 763}

The Six Messages as covered in *Early Writings*

First Angel's Message	Second Angel's Message	Midnight Cry	Third Angel's Message	Laodicean Message	Loud Cry
Rev. 14:6, 7	Rev. 14:8	Matt. 25:1-13	Rev. 14:9-12	Rev. 3:14-22	Rev. 18:1-8
<i>In 1858: Past</i>					<i>In 1858: Future</i>
Clear reference to it in chapter "William Miller" Date: prior to 1843 EW232 chapter "The First Angel's Message"	EW237 chapter "The Second Angel's Message" Date: early summer 1844 , EW304	EW14 reference to it in first vision Date: near the close of 2AM October 1844 , EW238 cf. EW304	EW254 chapter "The Third Angel's Message" Date: at move of Christ to Most Holy Place in 1844 , EW 253, 254	EW107 reference to it in chapter "Hope of the Church" Date: 1852 EW270 described in chapter "The Shaking"	EW277 chapter "The Loud Cry" Date: Future (to 1858)

Future: "the people of God are thus prepared to stand in the hour of temptation, which they are soon to meet " (EW277; also EW279); "this message will close with power and strength far exceeding the midnight cry" (EW278) (added to 3AM like MC added to 2AM: EW277)

Final: "the last great work of the third angel's message" (EW277); "the last solemn warning", "the last call" (EW278)

More on Date: **1888 and future**

Said my guide [in 1886], "There is much light yet to shine forth from **the law of God and the gospel of righteousness. This message, understood in its true character, and proclaimed in the Spirit, will lighten the earth with its glory.** The great decisive question is to be brought before all nations, tongues, and peoples. The closing work of the third angel's message will be attended with a power that will send the rays of the Sun of Righteousness into all the highways and byways of life, and decisions will be made for God as supreme Governor; His law will be looked upon as the rule of His government." (1888, pp. 165, 166) November 1888 manuscript entitled "A Call to a Deeper Study of the Word"

Let every one who claims to believe that the Lord is soon coming, search the Scriptures as never before; for Satan is determined to try every device possible to keep souls in darkness, and blind the mind to the perils of the times in which we are living. Let every believer take up his Bible with earnest prayer, that he may be enlightened by the holy Spirit as to what is truth, that he may know more of God and of Jesus Christ whom he has sent. Search for the truth as for hidden treasures, and disappoint the enemy. **The time of test is just upon us, for the loud cry of the third angel has already begun in the revelation of the righteousness of Christ, the sin-pardoning Redeemer. This is the beginning of the light of the angel whose glory shall fill the whole earth.** For it is the work of every one to whom the message of warning has come, to **lift up Jesus**, to present him to the world as revealed in types, as shadowed in symbols, as manifested in the revelations of the prophets, as unveiled in the lessons given to his disciples and in the wonderful miracles wrought for the sons of men. Search the Scriptures; for they are they that **testify of him.** (1888, p. 1073) 11/22/1892 article entitled "The Perils and Privileges of the Last Days" in RH11/22/92 to RH11/29/93