

Behold, God Makes All Things New

I love this verse in Revelation 21: “And He who sits on the throne said, Behold, I am making all things new. And He said, Write, for these words are faithful and true.” (Revelation 21:5). I love it because while it speaks of God making a new heaven and new earth at the culmination of the ages, it also speaks of the very nature of who our God is and what He does now and then. He makes all things new.

I especially appreciate the new covenant that Jesus spoke about when He met with His disciples for the last time for the Passover meal on the night He was betrayed. As He served them bread and wine, He instituted what we know as the Lord’s Supper (aka communion, or the Lord’s Table):

“‘Take, eat; this is My body.’ And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.’” (Matthew 26:26-29)

With this He was instituting The New Covenant God had promised in Jeremiah 31:

“Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them, declares the LORD. I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

In a parallel promise through Ezekiel, God used similar language concerning what God will do for Israel in the last days when He gathers them again in their land:

“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.” (Ezekiel 36:25-27). We also know that all believers in Christ experience such new things in this age and don’t have to wait for Christ’s return.

While the promises concerning the Lord’s forgiveness of sins and removing of our iniquity are great things we must always be grateful for and thank God for, the other new things in these promises that come to believers through the New Covenant are also things to be grateful and

thankful for: A new law written within our hearts and a new way of being taught by and knowing God for all believers. It is these things that make us God's people. A new spirit, new heart, and new Spirit enable us to walk according to His law because of his operation from within.

The next time you stop to remember the Lord at His Table and look forward to His coming Kingdom, thank Him for His New Covenant with all of these things in mind and it may deepen your understanding and praise.

As we take the Lord's table we are called to both remember the Lord Jesus and His suffering for us and to look forward to His coming kingdom when He will drink this cup of blessing anew with us in person.