

## The Kingdoms' Fall

May 25, 2025 – Chapter Seventeen  
Adult Bible Class

### Chapter 17: All's Lost, All's Found

*The gifts and sacrifices being offered were not able to clear the conscience of the worshiper. They are only a matter of food and drink and various ceremonial washings—external regulations applying until the time of the new order.*

Hebrews 9:9-10

The law was three-fold in purpose:

- \_\_\_\_\_ — to teach Israel to be a holy nation
- \_\_\_\_\_ — reveals the nature and character of God and sin
- \_\_\_\_\_ — demonstrated the need for a Savior

But something more was needed...

*Yes, the old requirement about the priesthood was set aside because it was weak and useless. For the law made nothing perfect...*

Hebrews 7:18-19

*If the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need for a second covenant to replace it.*

Hebrews 8:7

### Jeremiah

*"The day will come," says the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. This covenant will not be like the one I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand and brought them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant, though I loved them as a husband loves his wife," says the LORD.*

*"But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day," says the LORD. "I will put my laws in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. And they will not need to teach their neighbors, nor will they need to teach their family, saying, 'You should know the LORD.' For everyone, from the least to the greatest, will already know me," says the LORD. "And I will forgive their wickedness and will never again remember their sins."*

Jeremiah 31:31-34

## Ezekiel

*"For I will gather you up from all the nations and bring you home again to your land. 'Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. Your filth will be washed away, and you will no longer worship idols. And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart. And I will put my Spirit in you so you will obey my laws and do whatever I command.'"*

Ezekiel 36:24-27

*That old system of law etched in stone led to death, yet it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses' face. Shouldn't we expect far greater glory when the Holy Spirit is giving life? If the old covenant, which brings condemnation, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new covenant, which makes us right with God! In fact, that first glory was not glorious at all compared with the overwhelming glory of the new covenant.*

2 Corinthians 3:7-10

### Old Covenant

Law brought awareness of sin  
Carved on tablets of stone  
Time-sensitive, limited atonement  
Sinful High Priest  
Externally based  
A response of fear  
Passover looks back to bitterness/slavery  
Letter of the law kills  
Stopgap/patchwork

### New Covenant

New brought freedom from sin  
Written with the Spirit on human hearts  
Eternal purging of sins  
Timeless, perfect High Priest  
Internally based—matter of the heart  
A response of gratitude  
Passover looks back & forward  
Spirit gives life  
Turnkey/Seamless

*And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. This is the new, life-giving way that Christ has opened up for us through the sacred curtain, by means of his death for us. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's people, let us go right into the presence of God, with true hearts fully trusting him. For our evil consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.*

Hebrews 10:19-22

## Discussion Questions

1. Why does God sometimes let things fall so far before a word of hope?
2. How dark has your place of loneliness, separation, or captivity been?
3. How has God put you back together again?



**WOODLANDS**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH