

September 27

THE SPIRIT UNVEILS THE NEW COVENANT

"Whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a man turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away."

2 CORINTHIANS 3:15-16

One of the most important truths the Holy Spirit unveils for us is the glory of the New Covenant.

The Old Testament contains many veiled statements, types, prophecies, and parables. The Israelites didn't understand most of those things because the Old Testament didn't have plainness of speech. Its glory was veiled and was even described as fading away (2 Cor. 3:13-14).

In contrast to the Old Covenant, the present New Covenant age is characterized by the clarity of all the key doctrinal and practical passages in the New Testament. This progress from the veiled glory of the previous era to the unveiled glory of the present era occurred when the Holy Spirit came in the Book of Acts. All that God wants us to know and do is clearly brought into focus now because of the teaching ministry of the indwelling Spirit.

The Spirit guides and enlightens New Covenant believers as they read and study God's Word. Therefore, there is no longer any need, for example, to unscramble the pictures and prophecies regarding Christ. Thus Paul can say, "We use great plainness of speech" (2 Cor. 3:12, KJV). He goes on to say in verses 17-18, "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."

Those verses describe the essence of the Christian life: becoming like Jesus Christ. The only way to do that is to know well the unveiled glory of the New Covenant and allow the Holy Spirit to change you more and more into the Savior's image.

Suggestions for Prayer: As you go through this day, ask the Lord to remind you often of the glory, clarity, and freedom you have under the New Covenant. Pray that all your actions would reflect this truth.

For Further Study: Hebrews 8 begins a discussion and outline of the superiority of the New Covenant. Read this chapter, and record what it says are differences and improvements from the Old to the New Covenant. Who mediates the New Covenant?