



"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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~ All articles are written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. unless otherwise stated ~

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George L. Faull, Editor

Dear Brother Faull,

Regarding the Old and New Covenants - when did the New Covenant go into effect; at the cross or at Pentecost?

Here is the line of reasoning.

1. We know that the Old Covenant was finished at the cross.
2. There had to be a covenant. There could not be a time period without one.
3. So, the time period between the resurrection and Pentecost HAD to be covered. Was it covered with the New or Old Covenant?

ANSWER

A covenant goes into effect at the death of the testator.
Hebrews 9:16-17

Let's suppose I died. My will would be in effect, but those who were going to be my heirs do not know the terms of my will.

At the reading of the will they will hear the terms of the will and who the heirs are and under what conditions. It will also tell who is excluded and who will serve as those in authority to carry out my will. Once appointed by my will they then will carry it out in the heirs' favor.

In my personal will I have excluded anyone from inheriting who would try to call in doubt or file suit against the will. They are automatically disinherited.

Jesus died.

That was the requirement for the Will to have force. Jesus then sent out the apostles with the terms of the Will.

On Pentecost they were endowed with power and were the announcers and the authority who was to see that

Christ's Will was known and obeyed by those who desired to be heirs.

I believe that those who believe and are baptized shall be heirs and whosoever believeth not shall not inherit. They cannot enter into the Kingdom's inheritance because they were not born of the water and the Spirit. **John 3:5**

Just as those under the preaching of John rejected the counsel of God by not being baptized of him, those who will not enter into Christ are outside of Christ and therefore are not heirs according to the promise.

A personal illustration may help.

My uncle wanted my four sisters and me to inherit his money. He put us as beneficiaries to an Annuity. It was mailed on December 18th. He died on December 24th. It did not reach the insurance company until after he died and therefore the insurance company would not give us the inheritance.

The second wife of my cousin, whom my uncle never met, received a great part of it. In fact, more than his intended heirs.

This is because if you do not have a will, it goes to your wife, children, father and mother, brothers and sisters. He had none of these as they had all died. So the law insists it go to his sibling's children equally.

So one third of his money went to one of his sister's deceased son's daughter (that he saw once in his life), one third went to his sister's other son (whom he did not want to get any, and did not because he died a week before the inheritance was issued, so his new wife got it), and one third went to his brother's kids (which was whom he intended to have all of the money).

You see, if you do not have a will, you have a will by State law. The above is how the State of Illinois determines who gets the inheritance.

The point is, for a while I thought I was going to get one fourth of all he had. As it ended up I only received a fourth of a third of his money.

The death is essential and the valid will at the time of death must be determined.

If I would have gone out and bought a new car, thinking that I was going to get the larger amount, I would have been in trouble because I was not heir of a fourth of the whole but only a fourth of a third of the inheritance.

The Jews thought they would inherit just because they were the physical descendants of Abraham.

Those living between the death of Christ and Pentecost were obviously in a transition period.

Many on Pentecost thought they were saved and were not and were told they had to repent and be baptized in order to receive the remission of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Suppose an assumed heir finds at the reading of the Will that he is not really an heir to the house he is living in, the car he is driving, or that the money he is spending cannot or will not meet the terms of the Will.

He may have assumed he would inherit them but finds he must move from the house, give up the keys to the car, and spend no more money.

So likewise, once the terms of the Will of Christ were made known, those not complying with the Terms of the Will forfeited any rights to the inheritance. It is those "In Christ" who are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:27-29, "27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

I hope this helps.