

Kingdom and Covenant in the New Testament

Journal Questions

LESSON
ONE

WHY STUDY NEW
TESTAMENT THEOLOGY?



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Journal Questions

1. In 2 Timothy 2:15, the apostle Paul indicated that understanding the Scriptures requires hard work. How do you stay motivated in your endeavors to understand New Testament theology?
2. How can the New Testament be authoritative for you when it was not written directly to you? Why are you convinced that the Scriptures are applicable to you?
3. God chose to produce the words of Scripture through organic inspiration. How is this view helpful to us in affirming that the Scriptures are true and reliable?
4. What are some specific ways you can help and encourage others to study the background of the New Testament?
5. When you interpret and apply the New Testament, what methods can you use to overcome the cultural discontinuities between our day and New Testament times?
6. New Testament authors often expected their audiences to infer their implicit purposes. What steps can you take to discover the implications of New Testament texts for your circumstances?
7. List and explain some specific epochal, cultural, and personal continuities between New Testament times and today. Do these continuities help you feel connected to the Christians who lived in the New Testament age? Explain your answer.
8. How do you defend your commitment to the relevance of the Bible even though there are the discontinuities between our day and the New Testament age?
9. How is being aware of the continuities and discontinuities between today and the New Testament age helpful for evangelism? Give an example of how you might use these continuities and discontinuities to evangelize.
10. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
TWO

THE KINGDOM OF GOD



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Journal Questions

1. How are the implications of the good news of God's kingdom affecting the way you live in your present circumstances?
2. God has unwavering sovereignty over all of creation. How do we respond to this truth in the midst of hard circumstances, such as natural disasters, sickness, poverty, persecution, war, and injustice?
3. How have your personal failures deepened your appreciation of Christ's work?
4. As we await God's final victory and the defeat of his enemies, how do you remain hopeful and faithful to God?
5. How can you encourage others to remain hopeful for the final victory over God's enemies that will come when Jesus returns?
6. List some obstacles, struggles, and/or strongholds that God has delivered you from. Has this deliverance changed the way you minister to others? Explain your answer.
7. How can the biblical outlook of "the already but not yet," help you live a faithful Christian life in this fallen world?
8. In the Gospels there are many royal titles used to identify Jesus as the one who was inaugurating God's kingdom. How can you use the royal titles of Jesus as an evangelistic tool?
9. As we look forward to the final deliverance from the enemies of God, how does your anticipation of this day motivate you to persevere?
10. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
THREE

THE NEW COVENANT



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1. Christ is the new covenant representative of the church. How does this covenant arrangement help you better understand New Testament theology?
2. How do you deal with your failures in light of God's kingdom purposes in Christ?
3. How have your personal failures deepened your appreciation of Christ's work?
4. How are you loving God deeply in your present circumstances?
5. God promised to intervene and write his law on our hearts. What are some specific ways you have experienced this promise in your life?
6. How can you spread a passion for God so that others will want to be in covenant with him?
7. God tests the loyalty of his people. How have the temporary hardships and discipline of God been sanctifying influences on you?
8. What are some specific ways you can fulfill your covenant obligations to God eagerly and joyfully in your present circumstances?
9. As true believers, we will receive our eternal inheritance in the glorious new creation. How can you use this promise to motivate yourself and others to persevere?
10. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?