

Hebrews 8:6 – 13

New American Standard Bible 1995

1 ⁶ But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as
2 much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant,
3 which has been enacted on better promises.

4 ⁷ For if that first *covenant* had been faultless, there would
5 have been no occasion sought for a second. ⁸ For finding
6 fault with them, He says,

7 “Behold, days are coming, says the Lord,
8 When I will effect a new covenant
9 With the house of Israel and with the house of Judah;

10 ⁹ Not like the covenant which I made with their fathers
11 On the day when I took them by the hand
12 To lead them out of the land of Egypt;
13 For they did not continue in My covenant,
14 And I did not care for them, says the Lord.

15 ¹⁰ “For this is the covenant that I will make with the
16 house of Israel
17 After those days, says the Lord:
18 I will put My laws into their minds,
19 And I will write them on their hearts.

20 And I will be their God,
21 And they shall be My people.

22 ¹¹ “And they shall not teach everyone his fellow citizen,
23 And everyone his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’
24 For all will know Me,
25 From the least to the greatest of them.

26 ¹² “For I will be merciful to their iniquities,
27 And I will remember their sins no more.” [*Jeremiah*
28 *31:31-34*]

29 ¹³ When He said, “A new *covenant*,” He has made the first
30 obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing
31 old is ready to disappear.

Read the passage through completely before looking at these questions.

Observation (What does it say?):

Consider the observation questions on the back of this page. What do you notice in this passage?

- Repeated words or ideas?
- Comparisons or contrasts?
- Purpose or explanation?
- Unusual or symbolic language?
- Commands or instructions?
- Conditional (if–then) statements?
- What else do you observe in this passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

After observing the passage:

- What parts seem clear and straightforward?
- What parts seem unclear or confusing?
- What parts challenge your previous thinking?
- What questions come to mind as you read?
- How would you title this passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?):

- What parts of this passage fit your current life situation?
- What parts seem unrelated to your circumstances?
- How might this passage affect your understanding of who God is and what He is doing?
- What part of this passage would be the most challenging for you to apply?
- What would be different (attitudes, behavior) if God used this passage to change you?

For additional thought and discussion:

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>

For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation (What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer's thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose ("in order that...")?
- Are there conclusions ("Therefore...")?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good "headline" for the passage?

Interpretation (What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application (What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.