

# Bite Size Bible Study

Renew #70

By Pastor Lee

As everyone is aware our word for this year is renew. I thought that it would be fun to look at some scriptures that speak of **renew**(al).

One of the stipulations of the covenant between God and Israel was that the covenant be read whenever Israel gathered together. ...*when all Israel comes to appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose, you shall read this law before them in their hearing.*

Deuteronomy 31:11 (NIV)

One year after the covenant was ratified, Moses **renews** the covenant by rereading it to the people. *These are the terms of the covenant the Lord commanded Moses to make with the Israelites in Moab, in addition to the covenant he had made with them at Horeb (Sinai).*

Deuteronomy 29:1 (NIV)

Joshua **renewed** the covenant again at Mt. Ebal. *Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the Lord, the God of Israel, as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded the Israelites. He built it according to what is written in the Book of the Law of Moses—an altar of uncut stones, on which no iron tool had been used. On it they offered to the Lord burnt offerings and sacrificed fellowship offerings. There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua wrote on stones a copy of the law of Moses.*

Joshua 8:29-31 (NIV)

Then later the Covenant was **renewed** at Shechem. *Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says:*

Joshua 24:1-2 (NIV)

King Josiah **renews** the Covenant. *Then the king called together all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. He went up to the temple of the Lord with the people of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. He read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant, which had been found in the temple of the Lord. The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the Lord—to follow the Lord and keep his commands, statutes and decrees with all his heart and all his soul, thus confirming the words of the covenant written in this book. Then all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.*

2 Kings 23:1-3 (NIV)

**Renewing** or Re-hearing the words of the covenant was very important. It brought back to mind all that they and their ancestors had promised to God and what He would do for them if they kept the covenant.

**Renewing** our promise we made to God when we first decided to follow His teaching is equally important today.

Remembering that everyone is as important to God as we are and that they deserve respect: *Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being **renewed in knowledge** in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.* Colossians 3:9-11 (NIV)

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.* Romans 12:2 (NIV)

*But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and **renewal by the Holy Spirit**, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,* Titus 3:4-6 (NIV)

*Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are **being renewed day by day**. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.* 2 Corinthians 4:16-17 (NIV)

**Renewing** the fruits of the Spirit daily is our strength and our joy. Those fruits are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23) And above all is our love for God and our neighbor. Love **renews** us as well as our neighbor and strengthens our bond between them and God.

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ... And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.* 1 Corinthians 13:4-7,13 (NIV)

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