

October 9, 2021  
Letter to the Messianic Jews 9:15-19  
Testament or Covenant

Danish artist Jens Haaning received \$84,000 from the Kunsten Museum of Modern Art in Aalborg, Denmark, to use for a piece, but when he delivered the artwork, it was not what had been promised, CBS News reported Thursday.

Artist Jens Haaning presented the Kunsten Museum of Modern Art in Aalborg, Denmark, with two blank canvases and explained they were called “Take the Money and Run.”

\$84,000!

[<https://thejewishvoice.com/2021/10/museum-gave-artist-84k-for-artwork-he-delivered-blank-canvases-called-take-the-money-and-run/>]



NPR screenshot

Messianic Jews (Hebrews) 9:15-17  
Testament or Covenant

To many Jewish people, the New Testament is a foreign book, suspected to be full of anti-Semitic goading. The name doesn't even sound like a religious Jewish book. Testament? We'll find out it's partially a true name.

Hebrews/MJ 9.15-17 **It is because of this death that he is mediator of a new covenant [or testament]. Because a death has occurred which sets people free from the transgressions committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promised eternal inheritance. Outline as contained in this verse:**

1. *Meaning of “covenant or testament”*
2. *What “new covenant?”*
3. *Transgressions before?*
4. *Eternal inheritance and covenant.*

Heb/MJ 9.15-17 **For where there is a will, there must necessarily be produced evidence of its maker's death, since a will goes into effect only upon death; it never has force while its maker is still alive. [Sounds like a “last will and testament.”]**

**What is the context, from last week ...**

Heb/MJ 9.14 **The blood of Messiah [who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God] will cleanse our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.**



Jerusalem Temple



Heavenly Temple?

[<https://templeinstitute.org/yom-kippur-part-6/>]

[<https://duckduckgo.com/?q=christ+entered+the+holy+of+holies+in+heaven&iax=images&ia=images&iai=https%3A%2F%2Fi.pinimg.com%2Foriginals%2Ffa3%2F89%2F86%2Ffa389860fff5e6b793b9b6fed4be2e6d4.jpg>]



Outline:

1. Meaning of “covenant”
2. What “new covenant?”
3. Transgressions before?
4. Eternal inheritance and covenant.

MJ 9.15-17 It is because of this death that he is mediator of a new covenant [or will, testament <sup>KJV</sup>].

This phrase has mystified Messianics:

KJV: And for this cause he is the mediator of the

new testament,

[Testament 13x in the Messianic scriptures.

New Testament is the wrong term. Only half wrong.

Old Testament vs New Testament

But, **WHAT** does that word really mean?

Scientists explore phenomena, and draw conclusions. We explore scripture evidence ... and draw conclusions!

MJ/ Heb 9:15

Kai	dia	touto	diathēkēs	kainēs	mesitēs	estin
Καὶ	διὰ	τούτο	διαθήκης	καινῆς	μεσίτης	ἐστίν
And	because of	this	of a covenant	new	[the] mediator	He is

[Sounds like Yoda talk.]

diá, "thoroughly," intensifying

títhēmi, "place, set"

**diathēkē** a set-agreement

This word, diathekes, appears 3x in this reading, in vs 16, 17, 18. A Hebraic reading of it changes everything from replacement thinking to covenant thinking.

**diathēkē** a set-agreement having complete terms determined by the initiating party, which also are fully affirmed by the one entering the agreement.

Meaning: between a will and a covenant.

[One-sided-leaning covenant.]

*W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary: "In contradistinction to the English word "covenant" (lit., "a coming together"), which signifies a mutual undertaking between two parties or more, each binding himself to fulfill obligations, **diathēkē does not in itself contain the idea of joint obligation**, it mostly signifies an obligation undertaken by a single person."*

*[also are fully affirmed by the one entering the agreement.*

*W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary:*

[https://studybible.info/vines/Covenant%20\(Noun%20and%20Verb\)](https://studybible.info/vines/Covenant%20(Noun%20and%20Verb))

MJ 9.15-17 It is because of this death that he is mediator of a new covenant [or will].

*[Rethink the beginning of this verse in the clarified understanding ... Covenant = divine leaning, initiated, empowered, impassioned relationship. Application?]*

So, whenever you hear the words "New Testament" again, think of "love led, empowered covenant."

*[Not just a will, not just a covenant.]*

When we, people enter into a covenant, it's somewhat one-sided. YOU are the GIVER.



The profound words of Hoshea 2.19-20 were set to music by Rabbi Jan and Marlene Rosenberg, Messianic Rabbi in Jackson, NJ *[Makes a GREAT wedding march]*

*Note* betrothed = covenanted

Forever Loved <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOQ8WFTxedk&t=6374s>

Hoshea 2.19-20; Jeremiah 31.3 by Rabbi Jan Rosenberg © 1996 Tovah

Publications

וְאֶרְשָׁתִּיךָ לִי לְעוֹלָם

V'ay rastikh lee layolam

*[I will betroth you to Myself forever]*

וְאֶרְשָׁתִּיךָ לִי בְצֶדֶק

V'ay rastikh lee b'tsedek

*[I will betroth you to Myself in righteousness]*

וּבְמִשְׁפָּט וּבְחֶסֶד וּבְרַחֲמִים

Oov'mishpat oov'khesed oov'rakhamim

*[With justice, in love, and in compassion]*

יְיָ וַיְדַעְתָּ אֶת

V'yada at et Adoshem

*[And you shall know the L-rd]*

I will betroth you to Myself forever

I will betroth you to Myself in righteousness

With justice, in love, and in compassion

And you shall know the L-rd

וְאֶרְשָׁתִּיךָ לִי בְאֱמוּנָה

V'ay rastikh lee bey-emunah

I will betroth you to Myself in faithfulness

יְיָ וַיְדַעְתָּ אֶת

V'yada at et Adoshem

And you shall know Me intimately

Forever Loved, Forever Free,

Forever will you be married to me  
 For I've loved you with an everlasting love  
 And with cords of mercy have I drawn you near to me  
 My beloved, my beloved I've drawn you near to me  
 Wherever you go, I will follow you  
 Wherever you lead, I'll be there  
 Wherever you lodge, that will be my home  
 Forever will I be wed to you  
 Come away with Me My sister, My bride  
 Come away with Me into a new life  
 Come away with Me My sister, My bride  
 Come away with Me with Me to abide  
 Come away (Wherever You lead me)  
 Come away (I'll follow after You)  
 Come away (Where You lead, I'll follow)  
 Forever will we be together  
 Forever Loved, Forever Free,  
 Forever will you be married to me  
 For I've loved you with an everlasting love  
 And with cords of mercy have I drawn you near to me  
 My beloved, my beloved I've drawn you near to me  
 Wherever you go, I will follow you  
 Wherever you lead, I'll be there  
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 Come away with Me My sister, My bride  
 Come away with Me into a new life  
 Come away with Me My sister, My bride  
 Come away with Me with Me to abide  
 Come away (Wherever You lead me)  
 Come away (I'll follow after You)  
 Come away (Where You lead, I'll follow)  
 Forever will we be together  
 Forever will we be together  
 Forever will we be together  
 Forever and forever Together Forever and forever

**Betrothed = covenanted**

1. G-d in Messiah's covenantal love for us as individuals.
2. G-d in Messiah's covenantal love for Israel.
3. Our covenantal love for ...

MJ 9.15-17 It is because of this death that he is mediator of a new covenant [or testament]. Because a death has occurred which sets people free from the transgressions committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.



1. Meaning of “covenant”
2. What “new covenant?”
3. Transgressions before?
4. Eternal inheritance and covenant.

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Yermiyahu/Jer 31.31-33 “Here, the days are coming,” says Adoni, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Isra’el and with the house of Y’hudah ... “I will put my Torah within them and write it on their hearts; I will be their God, and they will be my

people ... all will know me, from the least of them to the greatest; because I will forgive their wickednesses and remember their sins no more.”

Lk. 22.20-21 He took the cup after the meal, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you.

1. Meaning of “covenant”
2. What “new covenant?”
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MJ 9.15-17 It is because of this death that he is mediator of a new covenant [or will]. Because a death has occurred which sets people free from the transgressions committed under the first covenant, *[In fact, all forgiveness in the Bible was because of Messiah Yeshua’s sacrifice. An animal has no moral value to lay down its life in your behalf. It can only lay down its life as your lamb chops or ribeye. All forgiveness in history has been through Yeshua. He is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.]*



MJ 9.15-17 those who have been called may receive the promised **eternal inheritance**.

1. Meaning of “covenant”
2. What “new covenant?”
3. Transgressions before?
4. **Eternal inheritance and covenant.**

Relatives awaiting the reading of the will.



[[https://s3.amazonaws.com/lowres.jantoo.com/families-last\\_will-testament-inherit-estate-will-99912684\\_low.jpg](https://s3.amazonaws.com/lowres.jantoo.com/families-last_will-testament-inherit-estate-will-99912684_low.jpg)]  
 [https://www.hoyweb.com/CMS/uploadedImages/reading-450x300.will]



[[https://www.cardcow.com/images/set382/card00139\\_fr.jpg](https://www.cardcow.com/images/set382/card00139_fr.jpg)]

## Eternal inheritance.

Ber./Gen 2.9 Adoni Elohim caused to sprout from the ground every tree that was desirable to look at and good for food. Now the Tree of Life was in the middle of the garden, and also the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. *[Implying eternal life]*

Ber./Gen 2.16-17 Then Adoni Elohim commanded the man saying, “From all the trees of the garden you are most welcome to eat. But of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil you must not eat. **For when you eat from it, you most assuredly will die!**

Ber./Gen 3.22-23 Adoni, God, said, “See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil. Now, to prevent his putting out his hand and taking also from the tree of life, eating, and living forever —” therefore Adoni, God, sent him out of the garden of ‘Eden.

Ber./Gen 9.16 The rainbow will be in the cloud; so that when I look at it, I will remember the **everlasting covenant** between God and every living creature of any kind on the earth.”

Ber./Gen 13.15 For all the land that you are looking at, I will **give to you and to your seed forever.** *[God promised Avraham and his seed the Land of Israel forever]*

Ber./Gen 15.7 “I am Adoni who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans, in order to give you this land **to inherit it.**

[the term "inherit" is first used in the Bible in connection with this promise]

MJ 9.15 CJB It is because of this death that he is mediator of a new covenant [or will or testament]. Because a death has occurred which sets people free from the transgressions committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

1. Meaning of "covenant"
2. What "new covenant?"
3. Transgressions before?
4. Eternal inheritance and covenant.

**MJ 9.16<sup>17</sup> For where there is a will / covenant, the death of the one who made it must be established.**

Hopou	gar	diathēkē	thanaton	anankē
ὅπου	γὰρ	διαθήκη	, θάνατον	ἀνάγκη
Where	for	[there is] a will	[the] death	[it is] necessary
pheresthai	tou	diathemenou		
φέρεσθαι	τοῦ	διαθεμένου	.	
to establish	of the [one]	having made [it]		

[There must necessarily be produced the evidence of its maker's death. For wills this is self-evident; but it is also true for God's covenants, insofar as sacrifices are stand-ins for the death of the one offering them. Noah offered sacrifices (Genesis 8:20, 9:9). In the case of Avraham there were actual sacrifices (Genesis 15:9, 17-18) as well as the symbolism of the blood shed at circumcision (Genesis 17:11 The context <sup>(vv. 15, 18-22)</sup> is that of covenants as set forth in the Tanakh, where the Hebrew word "b'rit" must be translated "covenant" and cannot be rendered as "will." Although "will" is suggested by the last word of v. 15, "inheritance," the Tanakh uses "inheritance" to mean "that which is to be received" and knows nothing of wills.]

MJ 9.16-17 For where there is a will / covenant, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a covenant is secured upon the basis of dead bodies, since it has no strength as long as the one who made it lives

diathēkē	gar	epi	nekrois	bebaia	a will goes into effect only upon death, sacrifices are stand-ins for the death of the one offering them.
διαθήκη	γὰρ	ἐπὶ	νεκροῖς	βεβαία	,
A will	for	after	death	[is] affirmed	[On the day God cut a covenant with Avram that his descendants would inherit the

Land, Avram cut animals in pieces and saw a burning lamp pass between them (Ber/Gen 15:7-21).]

MJ 9.16-17 TLV For where there is a covenant, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a covenant is secured upon the basis of dead bodies, since it has no strength as long as the one who made it lives.

[Shmot/Ex 24.8 Then Moshe took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which Adoni has cut with you, in agreement with all these words.]

## **Application**

- **G-d made covenants of infinite unimaginably great love. It's NOT 50/50. We just receive.**
- **When we make covenants, it's not 50/50. We just give.**

- 1. Do you KNOW Yeshua and the assurance of sins forgiven?**
- 2. Are you hearing daily from His Word?**
- 3. How are you applying what you heard?**
- 4. Are you asking this of another?**