

Believers Already Know God

From: In Defense of My Father:
Toward a Better Understanding of the Sovereignty of God

Chapter 1: God's Love Revealed to Us
by C. D. Hildebrand

In addressing the Children of Israel, who were under the Old Covenant and who had forsaken the Lord their God, Isaiah wrote:

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

The above passage is often lifted out of context and applied to believers today to mean that our sins separate us from God. We forget that these words were written to the Jews who had sinned against Him. At the cross, He forgave *all* of our sins—past, present, and future, and He remembers them no more.

Jeremiah foretold the coming of the New Covenant, expressing its loving purpose in which we can hear the heart of God who longs for us to know Him.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

*“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—³² not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, **My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord.**³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.³⁴ **No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”***

Believers in Jesus Christ are not under the Old Covenant. Our sins do not separate us from God, nor do they separate us from fellowship with Him. It was sin that separated those under the Old Covenant from God, but Jesus gave Himself in death to take away our sins forever (Jn. 1:29, Heb.

10:1-14), and He no longer holds sin against us (2 Cor. 5:19). The blood of Jesus Christ is continually cleansing us from all sin (1 Jn. 1:7).

This is why we no longer need to teach each other to “know the Lord” or, as we often heard in our youth, “to know the Lord *more*.” Believers in Jesus all know Him because

*He forgave our iniquities,
and our sin He remembers
no more.*