

# Steve Aravelo: After Those Days (5/10/19)

**Scripture Reading:** Ephesians 2:8,9

The coming of Jesus is drawing nearer and nearer.

**2 Peter 3:9** - God wants to come back and restore harmony to the universe. but, in His great mercy, He is willing to wait! Why? Because we matter to Him!

When we read about the coming of Jesus in the Bible we are given repeated admonition not to be deceived. As Catalina shared in her story today, it is important that we don't just hear what we want to hear.

When studying with others about the law of God, Steve has observed that the main stumbling block is the idea of the New Covenant.

What is this New Covenant all about?

- **Hebrews 8:6-11 (Jeremiah 31:31-34)** - What was the first covenant?
- **Exodus 19:1-6** - The first covenant was established upon the basis that God delivered us (by Himself).
- **Exodus 19:8** - "All that God says, we will do!"
- **Exodus 24:3** - "All that God says, we will do!"
- **Jeremiah 22:9** - The people had forsaken the covenant of the Lord.
- **1 Corinthians 10:1-6,11** - The people went away from the Lord, seeking instead their own lusts.
- **Hebrews 8:7,8** - What was the fault? The fault was with "them," not with 'it.'
- **Romans 9:30-32** - The fault of the people was that they were seeking to fulfil the covenant without faith.

The Israelites had failed to meet the Divine requirements, because they had sought to be righteous by their own steam.

Daniel, in chapter 9, finds hope from the book of Jeremiah. Hope in the promise of another deliverance from the hand of God.

When the Israelites stood at the border of Canaan they were given opportunity to see, through the eyes of faith, the inheritance that God had promised them. Only two, however, were able to see through faith.

Where are we today? Are we, like them, failing to see through the eyes of faith?

Are we relying in our strength to be faithful? rather than trusting fully in God?

**Hebrews 8:10,11** - "After those days..."

God desires this experience for us today. He wishes for us to have His law written in our hearts and minds, to be our God, and us to be His people.

But this can only happen 'after those days' when we are to surrender every part of ourselves to Him. After those days when self has been crucified. After those days when the glory of the gospel has become preeminent in our lives.

**Isaiah 1:18-20**