A crown of thorns, made of dark, sharp, and tangled branches, is positioned on the left side of the image. The background is a dark, textured surface with a gradient of colors from deep red to black, suggesting a stone or metal surface. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the sharp points of the thorns.

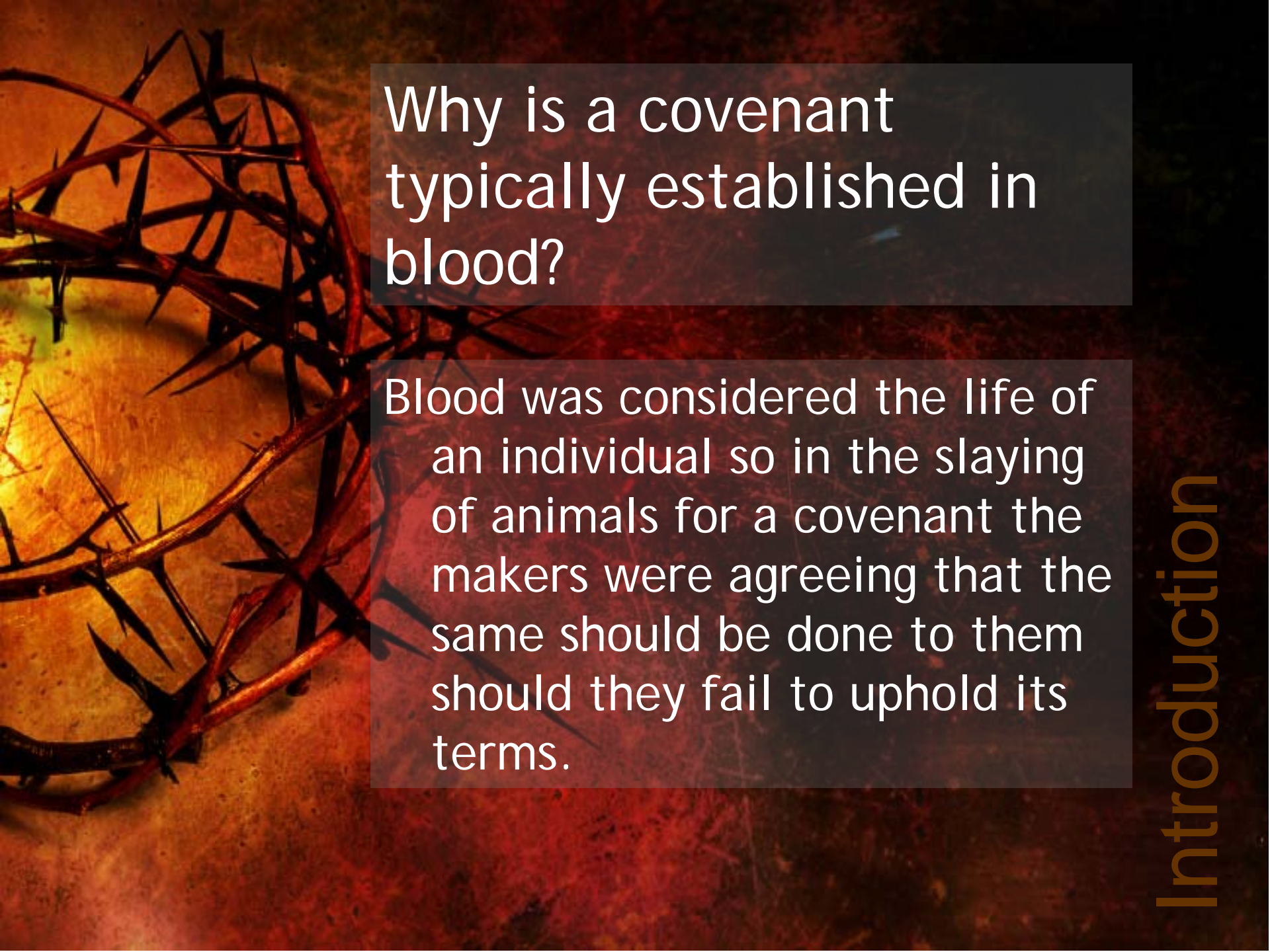
## Group Questions

- 1) What is a covenant?
- 2) What is the difference between a covenant and a testament?
- 3) Why is the Bible divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament?



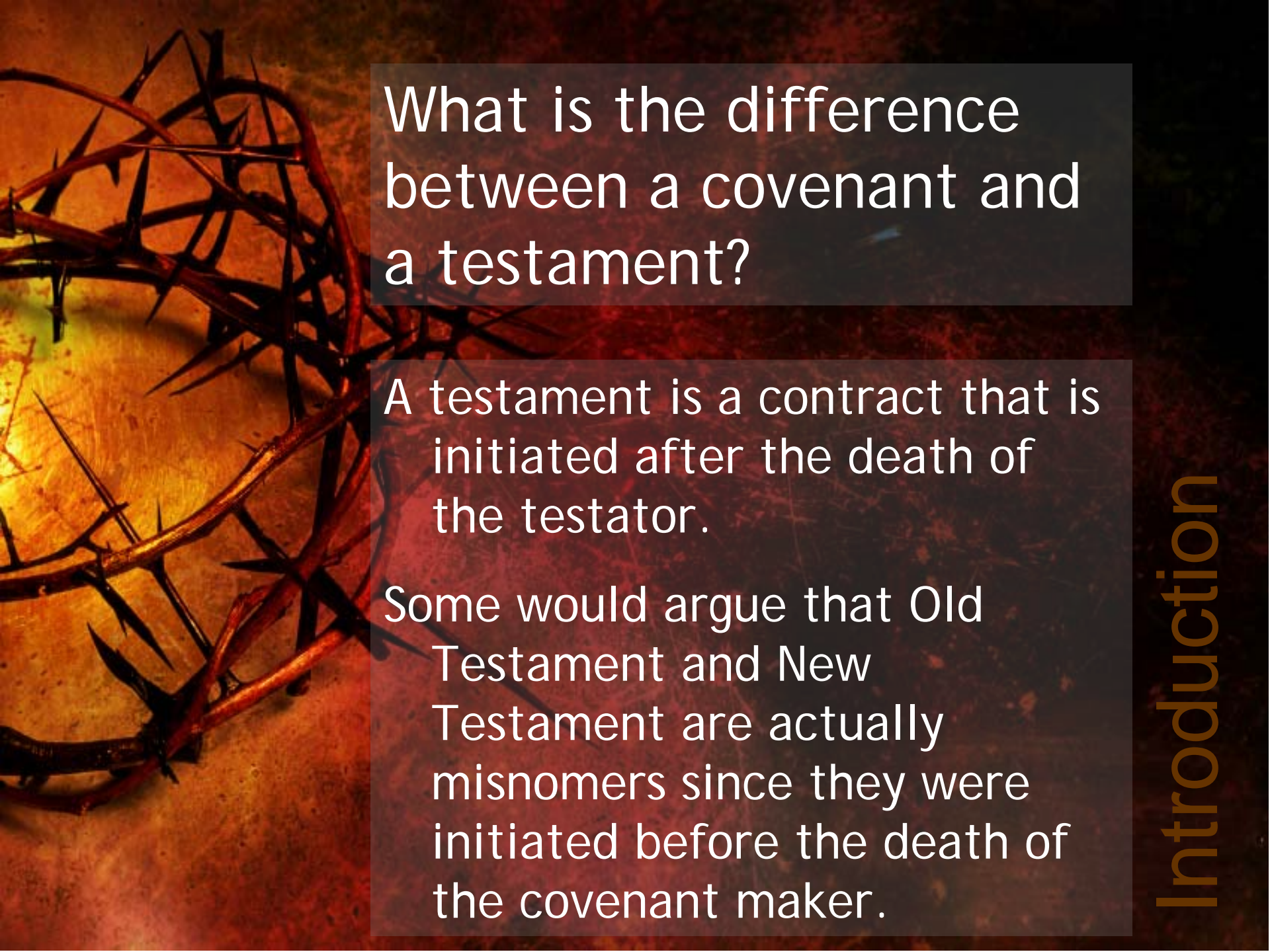
# What is a covenant?

A contract that defines a solemn agreement between two parties. It also stipulates blessings (weal) to those who keep the terms of the agreement and curses (woe) to those who do not.



Why is a covenant typically established in blood?

Blood was considered the life of an individual so in the slaying of animals for a covenant the makers were agreeing that the same should be done to them should they fail to uphold its terms.



What is the difference between a covenant and a testament?

A testament is a contract that is initiated after the death of the testator.

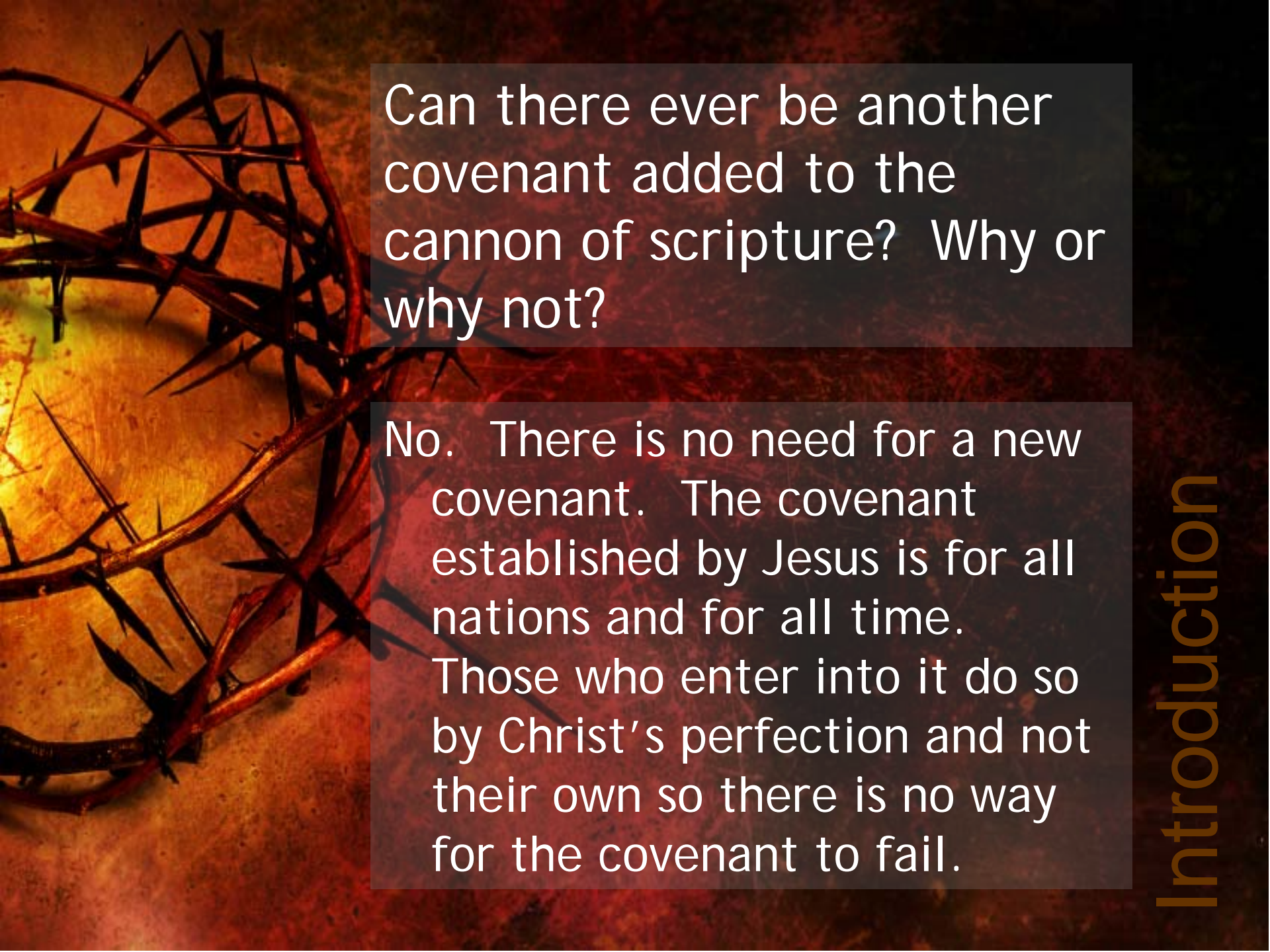
Some would argue that Old Testament and New Testament are actually misnomers since they were initiated before the death of the covenant maker.



# Why is the Bible divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament?

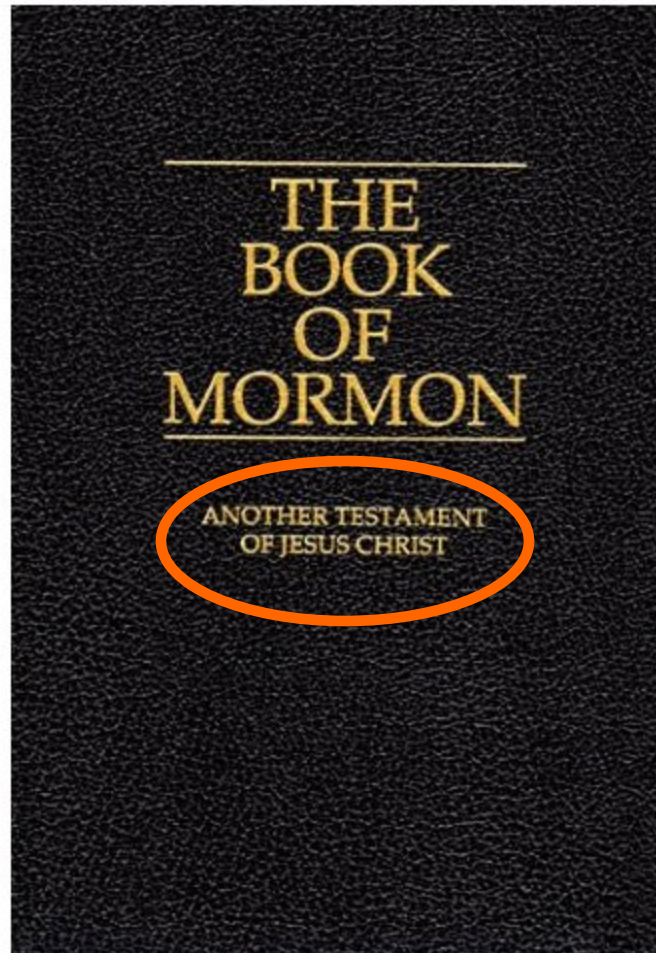
The “Old” covenant refers to the Mosaic covenant which defines the lion share of the Hebrew scriptures.

The “New” covenant refers to the one inaugurated by Christ and defines the scope and practice of the Christian church.



Can there ever be another covenant added to the cannon of scripture? Why or why not?

No. There is no need for a new covenant. The covenant established by Jesus is for all nations and for all time. Those who enter into it do so by Christ's perfection and not their own so there is no way for the covenant to fail.



Either they used the wrong word and meant "Testimony," or they don't understand the everlasting nature of Christ's covenant.

A crown of thorns is positioned on the left side of the image, set against a dark, textured background with warm, reddish-brown tones. The thorns are dark and sharp, creating a stark contrast with the background. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

Outside of our covenant  
with Christ, what covenants  
can we enter into today?

Marriage. According to the epistles,  
marriage is a type that points to the  
covenant we have with God.

In Hebrew wedding ceremonies, the  
blood of the man was symbolized in  
the offering of the cup to his bride,  
and the blood of the woman was  
symbolized in the breaking of the  
hymen during consummation.



## Discussion questions:

1. How does our current cultural view of relationships compare/contrast with the covenantal view of marriage?
2. What is your opinion on the use of the word "covenant" in churches today to describe membership or stewardship pledges?



September 26

## The Creation Covenant

Scriptures to review:

- Genesis 1:26-31
- Genesis 2:7-25

<http://www.cbckansas.org/covenantEverlasting.php>

Introduction