

GOD HAS A PLAN FOR EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE

(Our God is a Covenant God)



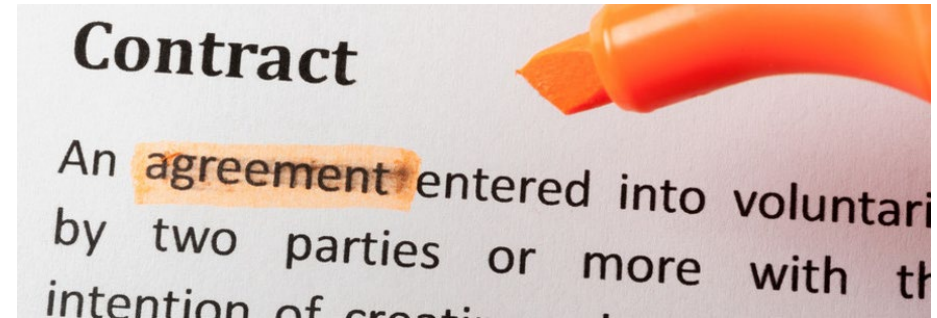


COVENANT OF GRACE: OT

Week 4

REVIEW:

- ***What is a covenant?***
 - An Agreement or contract
 - A Relationship
 - More than a promise
 - An Oath-Bound Promise
 - *“A bond in blood sovereignly administered”*



REVIEW: ELEMENTS

- *What are the **elements** of a covenant?*
 1. Parties
 2. Condition
 3. Promise or Blessing
 4. Penalty or Curse



REVIEW: COVENANT OF WORKS

1. God and Adam – *Adam represents all men*
2. Obedience – *Perfect, personal obedience*
3. Eternal Life – *Communion with God forever*
4. Death – *Spiritual, physical, judicial*



REVIEW: COVENANT OF WORKS

- By His breach, Adam fell into an estate of:
 - Sin
 - Misery



REVIEW: COVENANT OF GRACE

Two aspects to Covenant of Grace:

1. *Eternal*

- Focus is on the Triune God and His will
- Man's inability to do anything

2. *In time*

- Focus is on man and his need for redemption



REVIEW: COVENANT OF GRACE

- We called the eternal aspect:

The Covenant of Redemption

- We called the In Time aspect

The Covenant of Grace



REVIEW: COVENANT OF REDEMPTION

- **Parties:** God the Father & God the Son
- **Promises** of the Father to the Son:
 - assist the Son in work of atonement
 - give the Son a people
 - exalt the Son above all others



REVIEW: COVENANT OF REDEMPTION

- **Conditions** to be fulfilled by the Son:
 - assume human nature, without sin
 - perfectly obey the law of God
 - make atonement for sin



REVIEW: COVENANT OF GRACE

- Parties: God the Father and Jesus Christ, as representative of the elect
- Promises:
 - Be a God to His people
 - Give His people a new heart
 - Forgive their sins and make them holy
- Condition: Faith in Christ



REVIEW: WORKS TO GRACE

What is the relationship?

- Because of Adam, every person is born under the Covenant of Works
- No one can fulfill the condition of the Covenant of Works, since "***all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God***"



REVIEW: WORKS TO GRACE

What is the relationship?

- God graciously transfers the elect (those who believe on Christ) from the covenant headship of Adam to the covenant headship of Christ (Romans 5)
- Christ fulfilled the Covenant of Works by His perfect obedience



WHAT IS THE COVENANT LIKE?

- One of peace and friendship
 - Isaiah 54:10; Gen. 12:3;
Psalm 119:63; Psalm 139:21-22
- Like a Marriage
 - Ezekiel 16:8; Hosea 2:19; Zech. 13:9
- Everlasting
 - Isaiah 54:1-10; 55:3; Psalm 89:33-34);
Malachi 2:1-9; Romans 11:29



UNCONDITIONAL OR CONDITIONAL?

YES!



ASYMMETRICAL SYNERGISM

- Covenants must have conditions or responsibilities
- Remember our friends, the elements!
- But, does God bargain?
- Requirements are synergistic
- Fulfilling the requirements is monergistic



ASYMMETRICAL SYNERGISM



EXAMPLES

FAITH

- We are required to have faith (John 3:16)
- But God provides the faith (Eph. 2:8-10)

SANCTIFICATION

- We are required to obey
- God enables us to obey





COVENANT WITH NOAH



NOAHIC COVENANT

- *Genesis 6:9-22*
- **Promise:** God extends grace to Noah and his family
- **Condition:** obedience to God by building an ark



NOAHIC COVENANT

- *Genesis 8:20-22*
- *Genesis 9:1-17*
- **Promise:** God will not again destroy all living things
- **Condition:** be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth





COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM



ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

- ***Genesis 12:1-9***
 - Promise: I will make you a great nation
 - Condition: Go where God tells you



ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

- ***Genesis 15:4-6***
 - Promise: many descendants, Canaan
 - Condition: obedience to God, including bondage in Egypt



ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

- ***Genesis 17:1-14***
 - Promise: multiply you exceedingly and give your descendents Canaan
 - Condition: walk before me and be blameless
 - Sign: circumcision
 - Penalty: if not circumcised, cut off from God's people and the covenant



ABRAHAMIC COVENANT: PROMISES

- Seed (Gen. 12:2)
- Land (Gen. 12:7)
- Presence of God (Gen. 15:1)
- The Nations (Gen. 12:3)
 - Repeated in Genesis 17:4, 8, 7, 5





COVENANT WITH MOSES



MOSAIC COVENANT

- There appears to be a lot of “if...then” language
- “Do this and live” language
- Exodus 19:5; 15:26
- Deut. 28



MOSAIC COVENANT

- **Galatians 3:17-22**
 - *Why would this covenant be a regression to a Covenant of Works?*
 - *Why would both the OT and NT represent this as an honor and privilege for Israel?*
 - *What does it mean that the law was a schoolmaster?*



MOSAIC COVENANT

Fulfillment of the promise to Abraham

- During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God.²⁴ And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.²⁵ God saw the people of Israel-- and God knew. (**Exodus 2:23-25**)



MOSAIC COVENANT

- *What is distinct about this covenant?*
 - Moral law is repeated with majesty and thunder
 - Ceremonial law and rituals are expanded
 - Visible church is changed from a family to a commonwealth
 - The legal conditions for outward good standing are made more burdensome



MOSAIC COVENANT

- *What about this covenant is like the New Covenant?*
 - Made in the context of deliverance
 - A privilege and not a curse (Ex. 19:5; 20:2; 34:6-7)
 - Israel is called Abraham's seed (Deut 7:8-12; Exodus 3:6-7)
 - The mediator (Moses) was a type of Christ



MOSAIC COVENANT

- The law was in force under Abraham
 - Romans 5:13-14; Genesis 17:14
- Moses taught about Christ
 - Luke 24:27; John 5:16
- Paul describes faith by quoting the Mosaic covenant (Romans 10:6)



SIGNS AND SEALS

- Circumcision
- Passover

- This will help us to understand:
 - Baptism
 - Lord's Supper



APPLICATION: KNOWLEDGE

- See the amazing goodness of God, to enter into covenant with us; He did not enter into covenant with the fallen angels
- See how great God's love is, to love us when we were enemies



APPLICATION: EXAMINATION

- God's covenant people are a humble people (1 Peter 5:5; Phil. 2:3)
- God's covenant people are a willing people; although they cannot serve Him perfectly, they serve Him willingly (Ps. 110:3)
- God's covenant people are a consecrated people, they have holiness written on them (1 Peter 1:16)



APPLICATION: EXHORTATION

- If you are out of the covenant, labor to be found in the covenant. Consider:
 - the misery of those living and dying outside the covenant (1 Sam 28:15)
 - how excellent a covenant this is, more gracious and friendly than the first-- since the works of another are counted as ours, it is surer and has better privileges.



NEXT WEEK:

- The Covenant of Grace in the New Testament
- **Homework:**
 - Matthew 26
 - Hebrews 8

