

The Eight Great Covenants of God

Lesson #44

1. A COVENANT is a formal AGREEMENT between persons or parties.
2. A BIBLICAL covenant is a SOVEREIGN pronouncement of God which establishes a RELATIONSHIP of responsibility between himself and a person or group.
3. There are two types of covenants in Scripture, CONDITIONAL and UNCONDITIONAL.
4. When God makes an unconditional covenant He says "I WILL DO."
When God makes a conditional covenant He says "IF YOU WILL, I WILL."
5. Of the eight covenants SIX are unconditional and TWO are conditional.
6. The first covenant is known as the EDENIC covenant. Gen. 1:26-31, 2:16 & 17.
According to Genesis 2:16 & 17, this is a CONDITIONAL covenant.
7. The second covenant is the ADAMIC covenant which is an UNCONDITIONAL covenant. Genesis 3:14-19
 - a. The SERPENT is cursed. (vs. 14)
 - b. There would be ENMITY between Satan and Christ. (vs. 15)
 - c. Women would have SORROW in childbirth. (vs. 16)
 - d. The ground was CURSED with thorns, etc. (vs. 18 & 19)
 - e. The body would RETURN TO DUST after death. (vs. 19b)

*Special Notation: We are still, for the most part, under the Adamic covenant in that we are all born with the sinful or Adamic nature. We still toil with a cursed earth. Women still have pain in childbirth and we all return to dust when we die.

8. The third covenant is the NOAHIC covenant and it is UNCONDITIONAL. Gen. 8:20-9:27
 - a. He will never again CURSE the ground or DESTROY all living creatures. (8:21)
 - b. Natural scientific laws would be STABILIZED as long as the earth continues. (8:22)
 - c. Man can now EAT MEAT. (9:3)
 - d. God required CAPITAL punishment. (9:5 & 6)
 - e. God declared that He would never again destroy the world with a FLOOD.
He confirmed that promise with the RAINBOW. (9:11-15)
 - f. The Noahic covenant was an EVERLASTING covenant. (9:16)
9. The fourth covenant is the ABRAHAMIC covenant which is also UNCONDITIONAL
Genesis 12:1-4, 13:14-17, 15:1-7, 17:1-8
 - a. I will make of you a GREAT NATION. (12:2)
 - b. All the world will be BLESSED through you. (12:3)

- c. They would possess THE LAND forever. (17:8)
 - d. He was to be the father of MANY NATIONS. (17:4)
10. The fifth covenant is the MOSAIC covenant. Exodus 20:1-31:18
11. The Mosaic covenant was CONDITIONAL. Exodus 19:5 & 8
- a. They were to be a KINGDOM of priests. (19:6)
 - b. They were to be a HOLY nation. (19:6)
 - c. They were to be a treasured POSSESSION. (19:5)
12. The Mosaic covenant gave the LAW which was to GOVERN their relationship to God MORALLY, SOCIALLY, and spiritually. Exodus 19-Exodus 31
- a. This covenant revealed the HOLINESS of God and the SINFULNESS of man. Deut. 4, Rom. 3:19, 7:13
 - b. The law was the SCHOOL MASTER which leads to Christ. Gal. 3:24
13. The Mosaic covenant was added to the Abrahamic covenant BECAUSE OF SIN. Gal. 3:15-20
14. The sixth covenant was the PALESTINIAN covenant. Deut. 30:1-20
15. The purpose of this covenant was to set forth the CONDITIONS regulating possession of the PROMISED LAND and it is UNCONDITIONAL and will be fulfilled completely.
- *Special Notation: Israel was in Egypt but a portion of the people returned to a part of the land. Because of sin Assyria captured the people and took them to Babylon but a remnant returned to the land. In 70 AD Israel was once more driven from the land but they are returning to Israel today and have been returning since 1948. Ez. 39:25-29
16. The seventh covenant is the DAVIDIC covenant. 2 Samuel 7:4-16
- a. An HEIR of David would ALWAYS be on the throne. 2 Sam. 7:11, 13 and 16
 - b. The covenant is UNCONDITIONAL because Jesus will reign on David's throne for ETERNITY. Isaiah 9:6 & 7, 11:1-10 and Luke 1:31-33
17. The eighth covenant is the NEW COVENANT. Jer. 31:31-33
- a. The new covenant is BASED on the SACRIFICE of Christ. Romans 8:2-4
 - b. Israel will be BROUGHT INTO the New Covenant. Heb. 8:8
 - c. God has declared UNCONDITIONALLY what He will do for those who TRUST in Him. John 5:24, 6:37, and 10:28

Conclusion

What does all of this mean today? The fact that God has made these covenants indicates their importance.

All of these covenants meet in Christ:

- In the Edenic Covenant, the need of a Redeemer is established.
- In the Adamic Covenant, He is the Seed of woman.
- In the Noahic Covenant, all divine revelation is through the Semitic line of Shem. Christ, after the flesh, descends from Shem.
- In the Abrahamic Covenant, He is the Seed of Abraham.
- In the Mosaic Covenant, He bore the curse of the Mosaic Covenant (the law) for us.
- In the Palestinian Covenant, He lived as a Jew in the land.
- In the Davidic Covenant, He is the greater Son of David. He is the coming King.
- In the New Covenant, He is the foundation and the sacrifice for Jew and Gentile. The New covenant is sealed by His sacrifice.

Finally, a Biblical covenant is a sovereign pronouncement of God by which He establishes a relationship of responsibility between Himself and a person, all mankind, a nation, a specific family.