

THE LORD'S - COVENANTS OF PROMISE

By Kevin E. Hughes

What have we learned so far about **Covenants** ?

An **Overall Recap** discussion of the **Covenant** with **Adam** and the **Covenant** of **Marriage**.

We have defined a **Covenant** and discussed different **Theological** and **scholars'** views on **them**.

Our Approach to the Study of **Covenants**

We are studying the **Covenants** for ourselves. [Not adopting an existing Theology on Covenants]

We are starting in Genesis and working forward through the Old Testament to understand

how **they** are **Chronologically** and **Progressively Revealed** and how each **Covenant** builds on or does not build on each previous **Covenant**.

We will look at different locations in scripture that are considered **Covenants** by scholars and see if each location is an actual a **Covenant** based on certain criteria, such as the **Definition** of a **Covenant** hereon.

Where do **Covenant** Names come from ?

Named after **People**, like Adamic, Noahic, Abrahamic, Mosaic, Aaronic, Davidic **Covenants**

Named after **Places**, like Edenic, Palestinian, Moabic, Horebic, Sinaic **Covenants**

Named based on **Time** or when in effect, like **Old Covenant** or **New Covenant**

Named after aspects of **Salvation**, like **Covenant** of Redemption

Named after aspects of a **Covenant's Conditions**, like **Covenant** of Works, **Covenant** of Grace

Most all **Names** of **Covenants** have been set by **Men** and Not by **God**

Therefore, **Names** of **Covenants** are Not Inspired and Not found in the Bible,

except for the **Names**, "the **Old Covenant**" (2 Cor 3:14) and the "**New Covenant**" (Heb 8:13).

The **Two Testaments** or **Two Covenants** of the Bible

Two Covenants: the **Old Mosaic Covenant** and the **New, New Covenant**.

2 Corinthians 3:14

14 But **their** minds were **hardened**; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant (**Mosaic**) the same **veil** remains unlifted, because **it** is removed in **Christ**.

2 Corinthians 3:6

6 who also made **us** adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of **the letter** (**Mosaic**) but of **the Spirit**; for **the letter** (**Mosaic Covenant**) kills, but **the Spirit** (**New Covenant**) gives life.

Hebrews 9:15

15 For this reason **He** is the mediator of a new covenant, **so that** (Reason), since a **death** has taken place for the **redemption** of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant (**Heb 9:1**) (**Mosaic Covenant**), **those** who have been **called** may receive the **promise** (of **God**) of the eternal inheritance.

Historical Background - Between the Curse of Man and the Covenant of Noah

Adam and Eve and their descendants are Cursed, Gen 3:14-19

Satan is Cursed but becomes the Ruler of the World, with his seed, but will be Crushed, Gen 3:15

Cain and Abel are Born, Gen 4:1-2.

Cain kills Abel, Cain's Ground is Cursed and Cain is to be a vagrant and wander.

Genesis 4:25-26

Adam (130 yrs old) had relations with his wife again; and she gave birth to a son, Seth, in place of Abel.

Seth, begat a son; Enosh. Then men began to call upon the name of the LORD.

So, there were 10 Generations from Adam to Noah.

From creation, until Noah was 480 years old, there was 1536 years.

Then the sons of God took wives for themselves, Gen 6:2, Jude 6, 14, 2 Pet 2:4-6, 1 Pet 3:19

Read Genesis 6:5-7

5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, (the problem, wickedness) and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (the problem, man's heart)

6 The LORD was sorry (grieved) that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

7 The LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; (the problem, solution) for I am sorry (grieved) that I have made them."

Read Genesis 6:11-12

11 Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, (the problem, corrupt earth) and the earth was filled with violence. (the problem, violent earth)

12 God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; (the problem, corrupt earth) for (Reason) all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. (the problem, all flesh corrupt)

Read Genesis 6:14, 6:17-18

14 "Make for yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make the ark with rooms, and shall cover it inside and out with pitch.

17 "Behold, I, even I am bringing (future) the flood of water upon the earth, (the problem, solution) to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life, from under heaven; (the problem, solution) everything that is on the earth shall perish. (the problem, solution)

18 "But I will (future) establish My covenant with you; (Lord will establish Covenant with Noah) and you shall enter the ark— you and your sons and your wife, and your sons' wives with you. (the saved remnant)

Read Genesis 7:1-5

1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for (Reason) you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time. (Reason for saved remnant)

2 "You shall take with you of every clean animal by sevens, a male and his female; (seven pair of clean) and of the animals that are not clean two, a male and his female; (one pair of Not clean)

3 also of the birds of the sky, by sevens, male and female, (seven pair) (Reason) to keep offspring alive on the face of all the earth. (the saved creature remnant)

4 "For after seven more days, I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights; and I will blot out from the face of the land every living thing that I have made." (the problem, solution)

5 Noah did according to all that the LORD had commanded him.

Read Genesis 7:6–12

6 Now Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of water came upon the earth.

7 Then Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him (the saved remnant) entered the ark because of the water of the flood. (Matt 24:37-38)

8 Of clean animals and animals that are not clean and birds and everything that creeps on the ground,
9 there went into the ark to Noah by twos, male and female,
as God had commanded Noah. (the saved creature remnant)

10 It came about after the seven days, that the water of the flood came upon the earth.

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened.

12 The rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights.

Read Genesis 7:23

23 Thus He (God) blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky, and they were blotted out from the earth; and only Noah was left, together with those that were with him in the ark. (the saved remnant)

COVENANT OF GOD — WITH NOAH AND HIS DESCENDANTS

Working Outline > Genesis 8:20–22 (a Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible),

Read Genesis 8:20–22

I. 20 Then Noah built an altar to the Lord,

A. and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird Gen 7:2, Lev 11:1-47

1. and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

2. 21 The Lord smelled the soothing (pleasing) aroma; and the Lord said to Himself,

a. "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, (Curse removed, Gen 3:17)

3. for (Reason) the intent (inclination) of man's heart is evil from his youth; (Gen 6:5, 6:11-12)

l. and I will never again destroy every living thing, as I have done. (Isa 54:9)

B. 22 "While the earth remains, (assumes earth won't remain) (new earth, 2 Pet 3:13)

1. Seedtime and harvest (shall not cease), (farming, reaping)

2. And cold and heat (shall not cease), (climate, earth tilt, temperature, sun)

3. And summer and winter (shall not cease), (seasons, weather cycles, earth tilt, sun)

4. And day and night Shall not cease." (earth axis rotation, sun light)

Q1: What did Noah do on the altar he built, in verse 20 ?

A1: He offered burnt offerings on the altar, of every clean animal and of every clean bird (Gen 22:2)

Q2: What was the Lord's response to Noah's burnt offerings of every clean animal and clean bird ?

A2: the Lord "will never again curse the ground on account of man", (Adam's Curse removed, Gen 3:17)

Q3: In verse 21c, What is the Lord's understanding of what man's heart intent (inclination) is ?

A3: for (Reason) the intent (inclination) of man's heart is evil from his youth; (as in, Gen 6:5, 6:11-12)

Man's heart is evil, and intent on doing evil. (Ps 51:5, Jer 17:9)

Q4: In the Outline above, in verse 22, what 4 sets of things "shall not cease" ?

A4: Seedtime and harvest (shall not cease), (farming, reaping)

cold and heat (shall not cease), (climate, earth tilt, temperature, sun)

summer and winter (shall not cease), (seasons, weather cycles, earth tilt, sun)

day and night Shall not cease." (earth axis rotation, sun light)

Read Genesis 9:1-7

- I. 1 And **God blessed Noah** and **his sons** (like Gen 1:28) and said to **them**,
A. “Be **fruitful** and **multiply**, and **fill** the **earth**. (like Gen 1:28) (populate the earth, 9:1, 7)
- II. 2 “The **fear** of **you** and the **terror** (dread) of **you** (every living will now fear you, 9:2)
A. will be on **every beast** of the **earth** and on **every bird** of the sky;
B. with **everything that creeps** on the **ground**,
C. and **all the fish** of the **sea**,
D. into **your hand they** (every living thing) are given.
- III. 3 “**Every moving thing** that is **alive** shall be **food** for **you**; (every living thing, shall be food, 9:3)
A. **I** give all to **you**, as **I** gave the green plant (as **food**). (like plants have been food, 9:3, Gen 1:29)
B. 4 “Only **you** shall **not eat flesh** with **its life**, that is, **its blood**. (not eat life’s blood, 9:4, Lev 17:10)
- IV. 5 “Surely **I will** require (reckoning) **your lifeblood**; (dim: blood + nephesh: **your** being, Gen 2:7)
A. from **every beast I will** require (reckoning of) **it** (lifeblood). (require lifeblood, 9:5)
B. And from **every man**, from every **man’s brother**
1. **I will** require (reckoning of) **the life** (the **lifeblood**) **of man**.
C. 6 “Whoever **sheds man’s (life) blood**, By **man his (life) blood** shall be **shed**, (Ex 21:12)
1. **For** (Reason) in **the image of God He** made **man**. (not shed man’s blood, God’s image, 9:6)
- V. 7 “As for **you**, be **fruitful** and **multiply**; (populate the earth, by reproducing, 9:7, like Adam told)
A. **Populate** the **earth** **abundantly** and **multiply** in **it**.” (populate the earth, 9:7, 1, Gen 1:28)

Q1: In **verse 2**, What changed with **Man’s** relationship with the **beasts, birds, and fish** ?

A1: The **creatures** didn’t fear **Man** before, because **they** were not food for **him**, only **green plants**, 9:3

Q2: In **verse 4**, Where is **all flesh’s (creatures and Man’s) life** located ?

A2: **all flesh’s (creatures and Man’s) life**, is in **their blood (dim: blood)**, 9:4

Q3: In **verse 5a**, What is a **beast’s lifeblood** and **Man’s lifeblood** ?

A3: **lifeblood (blood-life, dim, Heb: blood + nephesh, Heb: your being or you as a living being)**

Read Gen 2:7, same Word (**nephesh, Heb:**) like **Adam**, a **living (chay) being (nephesh)** Gen 2:7)

Q4: In **verse 5**, what will **the Lord** “require (reckoning of)” ?

A4: The “**I will** require (reckoning of) **the life (the lifeblood) of man**.” require **it** to be **reconciled** for.

Q5: In **verse 6**, What must happen to anyone “**sheds man’s (life) blood**” ?

A5: “By **man his (life) blood** shall be **shed**”, (**Read Ex 21:12**) We call this “Capital Punishment” today.

Q6: In **verse 6**, What is the Reason given for Not **shedding man’s blood** ?

A6: Because **Man** is made “in **the image of God**”

Capital Punishment (**Divine**) (**Divine Government**)

the **Divine** legally authorized **Government killing** of a **man**, by another **man**,
as punishment for breaking **God** made, **Divine** Law, to Not **kill**.

Capital Punishment (**Secular**) (**Secular Government**)

the **Secular** legally authorized **Government killing** of a **man**, by another **man**,
as punishment for breaking **Man** made, Civil **Secular** Law, to Not **kill**.

Read Romans 13:1-4

All **Secular Government**, “no (Government) **authority** except from **God**”, Rom 13:1

All **Secular Government** “those (Government Authorities) which exist are **established** by **God**”, Rom 13:1

“Therefore **whoever** **resists** authority has **opposed** the ordinance of **God**”, Rom 13:2

“**they** who have **opposed** will **receive** **condemnation** upon **themselves**”, Rom 13:2

Q7: In **Romans 13:4**, What is the **purpose** for “**governing authorities**” to bear **the sword** ?

A7: “for **it** (the sword) is a **minister** of **God**, an **avenger** who brings **wrath** on the **one** who practices **evil**”

Capital Punishment > Secular Government, is established by God

Read Genesis 9:8-17

- I. 8 Then **God** spoke to **Noah** and to **his sons** with **him**, saying,
- II. 9 “Now behold, **I Myself** do establish **My covenant** (Promised in, **Gen 6:18**) (establish Covenant, 9:8)
- III. with **you** (**Noah** and **sons**), and with **your descendants** after **you**; (with you & descendants, 9:9)
- IV. 10 and with **every living creature** that is with **you**, (with all creatures, 9:10)
- A. the birds, the cattle, and **every beast** of the **earth** with **you**;
1. of all that comes out of the **ark**, even **every beast** of the **earth**.
- V. 11 “**I establish** **My covenant** with **you** (**Noah**, **sons**, **creatures**); (with all flesh, man & beast, 9:11)
- A. and **all flesh** (**man**, **creatures**); **shall** never again be **cut off** by **the water of the flood**,
- B. neither **shall** there again be a **flood** to destroy the **earth**.” (never Flood Earth again, 9:11)
- VI. 12 **God** said, “This is the **sign** of the **covenant** which **I am** making (Sign of Covenant, 9:12)
- A. between **Me** and **you** and **every living creature** that is with **you**,
1. for all successive generations;
- VII. 13 **I** set **My** bow in the cloud,
- A. and it **shall** be for a **sign** of a **covenant** between **Me** and the **earth**. (Sign btwn God & Earth, 9:13)
- VIII. 14 “It **shall** come about, when **I** bring a **cloud** over the **earth**,
- A. that **the bow** will be seen in **the cloud**,
- IX. 15 and **I will** remember **My covenant**, (Sign for God to remember, 9:15)
- A. which is between **Me** and **you** and **every living creature** of **all flesh**;
- B. and never again shall **the water** become a **flood** to destroy **all flesh**.
- X. 16 “When **the bow** is in **the cloud**,
- A. then **I will** look upon **it**, to remember the **everlasting covenant**
1. between **God** and **every living creature** of **all flesh** that is on the **earth**.”
- XI. 17 And **God** said to **Noah**, “This is **the sign** of the **covenant**
- A. which **I** have established between **Me** and **all flesh** that is on the **earth**.” (Sign with all flesh, 9:17)

Some Commentators say, this is the first **Covenant** in the Bible, because it is the first time the Word “**Covenant**” is used to describe **God’s Promises** to **Man**.

Q1: In **verses 8 and 9**, **Who** establishes this **Covenant**? and to **Whom** is **it** established with?

A1: **God** established this **Covenant** + established “with **you** (**Noah**), and with **your descendants** after **you**”

Q2: In **verse 10**, to **Whom** is **God’s Covenant** established with?

A2: **every beast** with **you**; that comes out of the **ark**, even **every beast** of the **earth**.

Q3: In **verse 11**, What **2 Things** does **God’s Covenant** with **all flesh** (**man**, **creatures**) establish?

A3: “**all flesh** (**man**, **creatures**); **shall** never again be **cut off** (killed, **Dan 9:26**) by **the water of the flood**, “neither **shall** there again be a **flood** to destroy the earth.”

Q4: In **verses 12-15**, to **Whom** is “the **sign** of the **covenant**” “between”, it is between **5 Things**?

A4: “between” (1) **Noah** (2) **his sons** (3) his future **descendants** (4) with **every living creature** (5) the **earth**

Q5: In **verse 16**, **Who** is supposed to see **the bow** and “remember” **God’s everlasting Covenant**?

A5: “**I will** look upon **it** (the Bow), to remember the (My) **everlasting covenant**”. **Man** is not mentioned? But **We** could say, **the bow sign**, is for **Us** to remember, that **God** will remember **His Promise**.

Noahic Covenant – Gen 8:20 - 9:17

- The **Command**: **Noah** and **sons** are to be fruitful and populate **the earth**, 9:1, 9:7, Gen 1:28, 8:7
- The **Pronouncement**: Now **every living thing** will now fear **you**,
because **they** are food for **you**, like the **green plant**, 9:2-3
- The **Command**: But **you** are not to eat **every living thing's** flesh with **its** life, **its blood**, Lev 17:10
If **you** do, **I will** require **your** lifeblood or any **beast's lifeblood**, 9:4-5
- The **Pronouncement**: **Whoever** sheds **man's blood**, by **man his blood** shed,
Do not shed **man's blood**, because **man** is made in the image of **God**, 9:6
- The **Command**: **Noah** and **sons** are to be fruitful and populate **the earth**, 9:7, 9:1, Gen 1:28, 8:7
- The **Pronouncement**: This **everlasting Covenant** is established with **you** and **your descendants**,
and with **all flesh**, both **man & beast**, 9:8-11
- The **Pronouncement**: **I will** never **Flood Earth** again, to cut off (kill) **all flesh**, 9:11
- The **Pronouncement**: of the **Sign of Covenant**, between **God & Earth**, for **God** to remember,
with **all flesh**, both **man & beast**, 9:12-17

Typical Covenant - Aspects

Most aspects of a **Typical Covenant**, are revealed in this **Covenant of Noah**

- God** establishes **His Covenants**, Gen 6:18, 9:9, 11, 17
- God** establishes **His Covenants**, as “**Promises**”, often with “**I will**” 9:15,
or “**I shall**” 9:11, 13, 14, statements.
- God** establishes **His Covenants**, “Between” a **person**, a **people** Group,
or **every living creature**, 9:10, 17
- God** establishes **His Covenants**, with “specifying certain binding conditions, for **God** to fulfill”,
that is “**God's Part**”
This leads to this Covenant, being considered a **Unilateral** or **Un-Conditional Covenant**.
This leads to other Covenants, being considered **Bi-lateral** or **Conditional Covenants**.
- God** establishes **His Covenants**, often with **offered burnt (killed) offerings**, Gen 8:20, 22:2, Rom 8:3
- God** establishes **His Covenants**, often with “**a sign**” to “remember”, that **Covenant**, 9:12
- God** establishes **His Covenants**, often identified as an “**everlasting covenant**”, Gen 9:16, 17:7, Jer 32:40

The First COVENANT Definition – Conclusion

COVENANT Definition - Conclusion:

COVENANT of GOD with MAN. A Promise of God, always initiated by God, between God and a Person or a People Group, according to His Plan, Purpose and Will.

IF the Covenant specified certain binding conditions for God to fulfill both parties' obligations then it was considered a Unilateral or Un-Conditional Covenant.

IF the Covenant specified certain binding conditions for God to fulfill, God's Part, and separate conditions for Man to fulfill, Man's Part, then it was considered a Bi-lateral or Conditional Covenant.

The COVENANT Definition – Update One

COVENANT Definition: Update One

COVENANT of GOD. A Promise of God, always initiated and established by God, Gen 6:18, 9:9, 11, 17 between God and a Person, a People Group, or all Living things, Gen 9:10, Gen 9:17, according to His Plan, Purpose and Will.

COVENANT of GOD. as "Promises", often with "I will" or "I shall" statements, that "will come to pass".

IF the Covenant specified certain binding conditions for God to fulfill both parties' obligations then it was considered a Unilateral or Un-Conditional Covenant.

IF the Covenant specified certain binding conditions for God to fulfill, God's Part, and separate conditions for Man to fulfill, Man's Part, then it was considered a Bi-lateral or Conditional Covenant.

COVENANT of GOD, often has offered burnt (killed) offerings, Gen 8:20, Gen 22:2, Rom 8:3

COVENANT of GOD, often has "a sign" to "remember" or to identify with, that Covenant, Gen 9:12

COVENANT of GOD, is often identified as an "everlasting covenant", Gen 9:16, Gen 17:7, Jer 32:40

Covenants are Progressively Revealed

