

# The 8 Covenants of the Bible

## I. The Edenic Covenant (Conditional) Gen. 1:28-30 and 2:15-17

Made between God and Adam as the representative of humanity.

- A. Command to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth.
- B. Command to subdue and have dominion over every living thing
- C. Gift of every herb and tree and fruit for food
- D. One condition: Do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for in the day you eat of it you will surely die.
- E. In Gen. 3:6 the Edenic Covenant is broken by Adam and Eve and they are removed from the Garden of Eden.

## II. The Adamic Covenant (Unconditional) Gen. 3:14-19

Made between God and Adam as the representative of humanity.

- A. The serpent is cursed and must crawl on its belly and eat dust.
- B. There will be enmity (hatred) between Satan and the woman.
- C. This hatred will culminate in an enmity between Satan's seed (the antichrist) and the woman's seed (the Messiah/Deliverer).
- D. The serpent (Satan) will bruise the heel of the woman's seed (the Messiah). This will happen at the crucifixion.
- E. The woman's seed (Messiah) will crush the head of the serpent (Satan). This began at the resurrection (Heb. 2:14-15) but will come to its complete fulfillment when Satan is thrown into the Lake of Fire (Rev. 20:10).
- F. Because God identifies the Deliverer/Messiah as coming from the woman's seed and not the man's, this is the first inkling of the possibility of a virgin birth.
- G. The woman will now experience pain in the childbearing process.
- H. The woman would now rebel against her husband's leadership, but the husband would rule over her.
- I. The man now has to deal with a cursed earth that yields thorns and thistles and he will have to work hard.
- J. Man now will return to the ground (die); for out of dust you were taken and to dust you will return.

## III. The Noahic Covenant (Unconditional) Gen. 9:1-17

Made between God and Noah as the representative of humanity.

- A. Also known as The Everlasting Covenant (Gen. 9:16; Is. 24:5,6).
- B. Man was to repopulate and fill the earth.
- C. The fear of man is put into animals and man is now given permission to eat animals as well as plants.
- D. Man is forbidden to eat blood.
- E. Man is forbidden to murder his fellow man as all are created in the image of God. If they do, capital punishment is required.
- F. God promises never to destroy the earth again by a worldwide flood.
- G. The token of this covenant is the rainbow.

## The Eight Covenants

### IV. The Abrahamic Covenant (Unconditional) Gen.12:1-3,7;13:14-17;15:1-21;17:1-21; 22:15-18; 26:1-5; 28:10-15; 35:11,12

Made between God and Abraham as the representative of the Jewish nation

- A. **The Seed:** "I will make you into a great nation and your offspring will be as numerous as the dust of the earth and the stars in the sky."
- B. **The Blessing:** "I will bless you! I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you! I will bless all the peoples on the earth through you! Later, God specifies that this blessing will come through one of Abraham's offspring in Gen. 22:18 which is singular as stated in Gal. 3:16.
- C. **The Land:** God promises Abraham's descendants the land, specifically the land between the Nile and the Euphrates rivers (Gen. 15:18) and God reiterates several times that the land will be theirs forever (Gen. 13:15;17:7-8).

### V. The Mosaic Covenant (Conditional) From Exodus 20-Deut. 28

Made between God and Israel.

- A. God's desire as stated in Exodus 19:3-8 was to make them a holy nation and a kingdom of priests
  - 1. God gives them the Law—613 commands to follow.
  - 2. God promises blessings if they will obey and cursing and judgment for disobedience (Exodus 15:26; 19:3-8; Deut. 28).
  - 3. God makes the provision of blood sacrifice to atone for sin.
- B. There were 3 purposes to the Law of Moses:
  - 1. To reveal God's holiness and His righteous standards (Lev. 11:44;19:1-2; I Pet. 1:15-16)
  - 2. To keep Israel a distinct people (Lev. 11:44-45;Deut. 7:6; 14:1-2) and to keep the Gentiles separate. (The only way a Gentile could partake of the Jewish spiritual blessing at this point was to become a proselyte to Mosaic Judaism).
  - 3. To reveal sin (Rom 3:19-20) and to show that man cannot attain the righteousness of the Law on his own (Rom 7:14-25) and so drive one to faith (Rom. 8:1-4; Gal. 3:24-25).  
\*\*The Law of Moses was rendered inoperative with the death of the Messiah (Rom. 7:5-6; 10:4; Gal. 3:19; Heb. 7:11,12,18; II Cor. 3:2-11). We are now under the law of Christ (Gal. 6:2) and the law of the spirit of life (Rom. 8:2).

### VI. The Land Covenant (Unconditional) Deut. 29:1; 30:1-10; confirmed in Ezek. 16:1-63

Made between God and the nation of Israel

- A. This covenant predicts Israel's coming disobedience to the Mosaic Covenant and her subsequent scattering over all the world.
- B. It predicts Israel's repentance.
- C. It predicts Israel's regathering from all the peoples
- D. Israel will possess the land their father's possessed
- E. All who persecuted and hated Israel will be cursed.
- F. God will pour out His blessing on Israel.

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### **VII. The Davidic Covenant (Unconditional) II Sam. 7:11b-16 and I Chron. 17:10b-14**

Made between God and King David

The throne and kingdom will be established through David's line forever! This further narrows the "seed" part of the Abrahamic Covenant:

- A. Gen. 3:15               Seed of the woman.
- B. Gen. 22:17-18       Seed of Abraham.
- C. Gen. 26:3-5          Seed of Isaac.
- D. Gen. 28:13-14       Seed of Jacob.
- E. Gen. 29:10           Seed of Judah.
- F. I Chron. 17:10-14   Seed of David thru Solomon.

### **VIII. The New Covenant (Unconditional) Jer. 31:31-34**

Made between God and Israel with spiritual blessings extending to the Gentiles (Eph. 2:11-16; 3:5-6; Rom 11:17)

- A. Predicts the regeneration of Israel (law written on their hearts).
- B. Provides for the forgiveness of sin.
- C. An indwelling promise of the Holy Spirit.

**\*\*The New Covenant was ratified by the death of Christ (Matt. 26:28) and inaugurated with the coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2. Israel as a nation will come into the New Covenant at the end of the tribulation (Zech. 12:10).**