

Grace Christian Fellowship (of Dayton, Inc.)

Components of All Biblical Covenants

Celebrated on Sunday, May 21, 2023

(Exodus 19:1-9) In the third month (new moon)* after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. ² When they set out from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness; and there Israel camped in front of the mountain. ³ And Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "This is what you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: ⁴ 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. ⁵ Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My [b]own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; ⁶ and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel." ⁷ So Moses came and called the elders of the people, and set before them all these words which the Lord had commanded him. ⁸ Then all the people answered together and said, "All that the Lord has spoken we will do!" And Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord. ⁹ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I will come to you in a thick cloud, so that the people may hear when I speak with you and may also trust in you forever." Then Moses told the words of the people to the Lord. (NASB) (Note: Vs. 8.)

(1 Peter 2:4-10ff) ⁴ And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ... ⁹ But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR GOD'S OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY. ... (NASB)
{Small Caps are Quotations from Old Testament employed by the Apostle Peter. Mostly Exodus 19:5-6.}

(Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)

⁹ Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor (toil). ¹⁰ For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion (fellow). But woe to the one who (is alone when he) falls when there is not another to lift him up! ¹¹ Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? ¹² And if one can overpower (prevail against) him who is alone, two can resist (withstand) him. A (threefold) cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart (broken). (NASB 1995) (ESV in Parenthesis.)

I. Last Time: Eight Major Biblical Covenants

A. Last Time: Eight Major Biblical Covenants (Listed, not explained in any detail.)

(Note: The Bible is a Series of Covenants not merely the Old & New Covenants.) (Galatian 3:15.)

1. Eternal Covenant: (Hebrews 13:20) Revealed in all Scripture & By all Attributes (Explain.)
2. Adamic Covenant: (aka Creation or Dominion Covenant.) (See Genesis 1:26-28; Etc.)
3. Noahic Covenant: (aka Societal Covenant) (See Genesis 6:5-6; 9:1-24)
4. Abrahamic Covenant: Israel's Covenant; repeated to Isaac; Jacob (aka Israel) and their progeny.
5. Mosaic Covenant: (aka Old Covenant) (See Exodus 19 & 20; Etc. Especially Exodus through Deut.)
6. Davidic Covenant: (Numerous Additional Foreshadowings of Christ.) (Identifier of Christ.)
7. New Covenant: **Includes Church.** (Fulfills all Previous Biblical Covenantal Promises & Obligations.)
8. Marriage Covenant: Remember Ecclesiastes 4: 12 Above. Always a Three-Way Covenant.

Note: Ultimately in All Biblical Covenants God Himself Fulfills the Terms of & for Both Parties. (Explain)
(Note: Examine the verse on reverse side at the top of the page.)

(Genesis 22:8) ⁸ And Avraham said, My son, God will provide Himself a seh (lamb) for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. (OBJ / Orthodox Jewish Bible) ^{22:8} Avraham replied, “God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son”; and they both went on together. (CJB / Complete Jewish Bible)

B. Tonight: Twelve Components (Ingredients) of All Biblical Covenants (Testaments)

1. **Identification of Parties: (Members)** Identifies the Covenant Lord & Recipients of the Covenant.
2. **Historical Prologue:** The Historical Reason the Covenant is Necessitated.
(i.e. Declaration of Independence is the Historical Prologue to The Constitution.)
3. **Declaration of the New Order:** God's absolute Lordship & **Grace**. He grants covenant. He is the Redeemer King. He declares His intention to “make all things new.”
4. **Hierarchy:** God always appoints (delegates) leaders (Priest) as covenantal representatives. When God's leaders are faithful, His people are protected. When God's people are faithful to God, she obeys her leaders. The response to God of the People of God to God is equal to their Response to God given leadership. (Prophets, Judges, 5-Fold Ministry.) (Matthew 23:37-39) (Hebrews 6:13-20)
5. **Ethical Laws:** (Duties, Obligations, Responsibilities, Laws) (aka Covenant Stipulations.)
See *The Heart of the Old Testament* Chapter 5 by Youngblood.)
The Central Section of the Covenant defines how God's people are to live so as to be His holy nation. (Leviticus 19:2; 1 Peter 1:16) God's relationship with His people is ethical. We must be righteous & obediently live to enjoy the blessings of the covenant. (#10 Below, Sanctions: Blessings vs. Curses)
6. **Oaths** (aka Vows): God Himself takes the oath of the covenant. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26) (Hebrews 6:13-20) **Publically Proclaimed** before God & man. Note Confess / Confession. (Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 15; Genesis 22: 1-8-24) (Matthew 10:32-33) Confess in Word & Deed. **Public Reading of the Covenant Parties, Parameters, Vows; Etc.**
7. **Celebratory Ceremonies of Inauguration** (Enactment) w/ Witnesses: All Biblical Covenants are Sealed / Inaugurated with Joyous Ceremonious. Always (Must) Include a Covenant Meal.
8. **Celebratory Ceremonies of Renewal & Remembrance**. Also includes a Covenant Celebration (Meal) Witnesses & Public Reading of the Covenant. (Gen. 1:29-30) (Ps. 104:14-15) (Deut. 31:1-29)
9. **Signs & / or Symbols:** Biblical Covenants have Boundaries stipulated by Ethical Laws, but also depicted in the Covenantal Signs & Symbols. A Biblical View of Remembrance.
(i.e. Baptisms: Hebs 6:1-2)
10. **Seals:** Irrevocable Seals can be words; Signet Rings; Death or Symbols of (Upcoming) Death.
11. **Sanctions:** The covenant promises blessings for those who obey and curses for those who rebel. (Deut. 28 & 29) (Exodus 19:1-6ff) (Conditional & Unconditional Aspects) (Ps. 130:3-4) (Josh. 24:20.)
12. **Succession:** Biblical Covenants always focus on the heirs of the covenant. God intends for the covenant to continue in perpetuity from generation to generation. Adoption, Making Disciples & Children (Fruitbearing) must follow. God is working to pass the blessings of faithfulness on to future generations who follow or continue in true covenantal obedience. **Remnant:** Discuss (Gal. 3:15, 17)