

# Lesson 10 – Old Testament Covenants

Romans 9:1-5

## ***Understanding Bible Covenants***

1. A covenant is a binding agreement between two or more parties.
2. A covenant is not the same as a contract. (Example: a marriage covenant, not a contract)
3. Covenants have two primary features:
  - 3.1 Promises
  - 3.2 Responsibilities
4. Two opposite extremes are often seen in relation to covenants:
  - 4.1 Protestants sometimes hold to a replacement theology in relation to Israel.
  - 4.2 Dispensationalists often reject Old Testament covenants as not applying to New Testament saints in any way.

## ***Old Testament Covenants***

1. The Noahic Covenant (Genesis 6:17-18; 8:20 – 9:19)
  - 1.1 God established this covenant before the Old Testament law.
  - 1.2 This covenant still applies to all of mankind today.
    - 1) The promise to not flood the entire earth, symbolized by the rainbow
    - 2) This is partly the basis for natural laws from God for our own nation.
2. The Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 15:6-18; 22:16-18)
  - 2.1 This covenant was introduced when Abram was in Ur of the Chaldees. (12:1-3)
  - 2.2 God did not fully ratify the covenant until after Abram was counted righteous. (15:5-6)
  - 2.3 God established this covenant before the giving of the law. (Galatians 3:6-18)
  - 2.4 The token (sign) of this covenant was circumcision for the physical descendants of Abraham. (17:9-14; compare Galatians 2:3)
  - 2.5 This covenant spiritually applies to New Testament believers.
    - 1) All the nations of the earth were blessed in Abraham.
    - 2) Spiritually, by faith, we are children of Abraham. (Galatians 3:7)
3. The Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19:1-6)
  - 3.1 This covenant was a conditional covenant given to the nation of Israel.
    - 1) The sabbath was the sign of this covenant. (Exodus 31:12-17)
    - 2) It contained three different elements: moral, ceremonial, and civil.

- 3.2 Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament law perfectly. (Matthew 5:17-18)
  - 1) He was blameless in keeping the moral law.
  - 2) He fulfilled the ceremonial law as the sinless Lamb of God.  
(Hebrews 9:11-15; 10:1-18)
- 3.3 Portions of the moral law are applied to New Testament saints.
- 4. The Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-17)
  - 4.1 This covenant is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. (Luke 1:30-33)
  - 4.2 New Testament saints are brought into this covenant through Jesus Christ.
    - 1) We are joint heirs with Christ.
    - 2) We will reign with Christ.
- 5. The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
  - 5.1 The new covenant was confirmed to Israel by the Messiah. (Daniel 9:26-27)
  - 5.2 The church does not replace Israel; this covenant for Israel still stands.  
(Romans 11:25-29)
  - 5.3 The new covenant replaced the Sinaitic covenant.  
(Galatians 4:21-28; Hebrews 8:6-13)
  - 5.4 Gentile believers are brought into this covenant through Jesus Christ.  
(Ephesians 2:11-22; Hebrews 12:22-24)
  - 5.5 The immutable (unchanging) God confirms this covenant through Jesus.  
(Hebrews 6:13-20)
  - 5.6 This covenant is an everlasting covenant – no other covenants are needed.  
(Hebrews 13:20)

### ***Application of Truth***

- 1. Is your faith truly, entirely in the finished work of Jesus Christ?
- 2. Do you have a desire to understand God's revealed truth in His word?