

Section 7.1-2: 2ndLBC 1689

7.1 God's Covenant

Though rational creatures are responsible to obey God as their Creator, the distance between God and these creatures is so great that they could never have attained the reward of life except by God's voluntary condescension. He has been pleased to express this through a covenant framework.¹

¹Luke 17:10; Job 35:7, 8.

7.2 God's Covenant

Since humanity brought itself under the curse of the law by its fall, it pleased the Lord to make a covenant of grace.²

In this covenant he freely offers to sinners life and salvation through Jesus Christ. On their part he requires faith in him, that they may be saved,³

and promises to give his Holy Spirit to all who are ordained to eternal life, to make them willing and able to believe.⁴

²Genesis 2:17; Galatians 3:10; Romans 3:20, 21.

³Romans 8:3; Mark 16:15, 16; John 3:16.

⁴Ezekiel 36:26, 27; John 6:44, 45; Psalms 110:3.

Scripture Proofs

¹**Luke 17:10** So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’

Job 35:7-8 If you are righteous, what do you give to him? Or what does he receive from your hand? Your wickedness concerns a man like yourself, and your righteousness a son of man.

²**Genesis 2:17** But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

Galatians 3:10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”

Romans 3:20-21 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

³**Romans 8:3** For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh...

Mark 16:15-16 And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

⁴**Ezekiel 36:26-27** And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

John 6:44-45 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me—

Psalms 110:3 Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.