

Covenant Theology

The Covenant of Redemption

What is the purpose of history?

- Eastern mysticism - history is going nowhere
- Secular - evolution of man
- Communistic - economic equality
- Capitalistic - economic advancement

What is the purpose of history?

- According to the Scriptures, the purpose of history is to glorify God in the salvation of the elect and the judgment of the unbelievers - *all according to God's eternal plan.*

The Covenant of Redemption

- In covenant theology, the eternal plan of God to redeem the elect has been termed "the covenant of redemption." It is the plan of God, among the Persons of the Trinity, each agreeing to their role in the work of redemption as each carries it out.

The Covenant of Redemption - Preliminary Cautions

- Avoid tritheism
- Avoid subordinationism (esp. of Son)
- Avoid mutability of God (e.g. the Son "comes to agree" with the Father and Spirit).

The Covenant of Redemption - Foundations

- The Trinity is the foundation of the Covenant of Redemption
- Father, Son, and Spirit work out redemption in history according to an eternal plan; and that eternal plan reflects the personal distinctions and relations of the Trinity.

The Covenant of Redemption - Its Terms

- The Father appoints the Son to redeem, and promises all power to accomplish this (see Isaiah 42:1-7; John 5:31-36; 17:4-12).
- The Father gives a people to the Son to redeem (John 10:14-18, 27-30).
- To accomplish this, the Son comes as a man and dies (Gal 4:4-5; Hebrews 10:5-10)

The Covenant of Redemption - Its Terms

- The Son would receive exaltation (Philippians 2:9-11; Psalm 16:8-11 with Acts 2:25-28); and authority (Matthew 28:18; John 5:19-23).
- Father and Son will send the Holy Spirit to apply the finished work of the Son (John 14:26; 16:7-14; Acts 2:33).

The Covenant of Redemption - Its Uses / Applications

- Salvation is a precisely laid out, eternal plan of the Triune God.
- To fully understand salvation, you must consider what each person of the Trinity does to save you. (e.g. TULIP)
- There is no imperfect or incomplete work of salvation. What one member of the Trinity starts, the others complete. There is no intra-trinitarian disunity.