

The Covenant of Redemption

Bible Study #2

Heb. 13:20 -- Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,

Titus 1:1-2 – Paul, a servant^[a] of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness,² in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, **promised before the ages began**^[b]

(ESV note) -- Titus 1:2 Greek *before times eternal*

The Covenant of Redemption is the eternal agreement between the Father and the Son that the Son would come and be the redeemer of His elect people by the sacrifice of Himself.

This covenant can be said to be as eternal as God Himself.

It was made before man or anything was created – which obviously shows that the fall was also in the mind of God before man was created.

The Covenant of Grace or the New Covenant is the final manifestation and revelation of the Covenant of Redemption.

The New Covenant has come – which incorporates all the spiritual promises made in the previous covenants and finds its full expression in the New Covenant -- which has been fully revealed in these last days.

1 Cor. 10:11 -- ¹¹ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, (*instruction*) upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Hebrews 9:24-28 – from verse 26 we learn

1. He put away sin by the one-time sacrifice of Himself.
2. He only had to die ONCE not many times – his one sacrifice was sufficient to cover the sins of a billion worlds if they existed and was the basis for the salvation of the elect remnant in the OT.
3. He did not suffer immediately when the world was plunged into sin but suffered at the appointed time – and that time was appointed before the foundation of the world.

God's revelation goes progressively forward – and with the coming of Messiah – and the fulfilling of His mission – the mission set out in the Covenant of Redemption – All we wait for now – is the coming of Christ to end this present world and the establishment of the eternal state. **There is not another plan of God waiting to be revealed.**

We live in the last days – the days of fulfillment. The last days began with the ascension of Christ and the Full Coming of the Holy Spirit.

To quote an article from Tabletalk magazine

“The point of the covenant of redemption is that the Son comes willingly. He is not coerced by the Father to relinquish His glory and be subjected to humiliation. Rather, He willingly “made Himself of no reputation.” (Philippians 2)The Father did not strip the Son of His eternal glory but the Son agreed to lay it aside temporarily for the sake of our salvation.

Turn to page 674.

Paragraph 1 – The Covenant of Works

Paragraph 2 – The Covenant of Grace

This is the time sequence – as we live

Paragraph 3 – precedes both of those two covenants.

Now you won't find the words “Covenant of Redemption” in the Bible, but the idea is throughout the Bible – just as you don't find the word “Trinity” in the Bible – but the doctrine is revealed everywhere.

Understanding the The Covenant of Redemption between the Father and Son

1. The reward Christ receives for undertaking this redemptive work (his people)
2. The necessity of Christ taking a human nature
3. The sinless Christ offering himself as a sacrifice for the sin of his people
4. His exaltation in the nature he assumed to the right hand of God
5. His position as the only mediator between God and man
6. His supremacy over all things
7. The blessings he dispenses to His church now and for all eternity

The first time we read of this covenant is in Genesis 3:15.

Federalism is the basis of Covenant Theology.

God deals with us through representative heads.

Either Christ or Adam

Two representative heads – and everyone fits into one or the other category.

2 Federal heads

In Adam all die – In Christ all will be made alive.

Scriptures

1 Cor 15:20-25; 15:45-49

Isaiah 42:6 -- “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; **I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,**

Malachi 3:1 -- “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and **the messenger of the covenant** in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts

Hebrews 7:21-28