

The Unfolding Revelation of Christ and His Church

Week 1: The Unity of Scripture

September 6th 2026

“What is Covenant Theology? The straightforward if provocative, answer to that question is that it is what is nowadays called a hermeneutic – that is a way of reading the whole Bible that is itself part of the overall interpretation of the Bible that it undergirds. A successful hermeneutic is a consistent interpretative procedure yielding a consistent understanding of Scripture that in turns confirms the propriety of the procedure itself” – J.I Packer’s Introductory Essay to *The Economy of the Covenants*

The Class:

- In this 14-week course we will study the entire sweep of the Bible’s message from Genesis through Revelation.
- This is an introduction to biblical theology, the study of Scripture as an unfolding unity that has as its focal point throughout the whole of it the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ and his Bride, the Church.

The Unity of Scripture

- The Bible is the written Word of God in which Jesus Christ is the central component
- Both Christ and the Apostles make that clear numerous times in the New Testament
- It follows that the Bible is not a disjointed collection of stories, commands, and prophecies. It is a unified revelation that progressively leads us to Jesus Christ

Christ in the Old Testament

- Christ is seen in promises, types, theophany, and in showing us the need for a savior

The Clarity of Scripture?

- The clarity of Scripture means that God has communicated his Word so that it what is necessary for salvation, and obedience can genuinely be understood by ordinary people.
- This does not mean every passage is equally easy or that Christians will never disagree; rather, it rests on confidence that God is a competent communicator

Four Principles of Covenant Theology

- God accomplishes his work in creation and redemption is by way of a series of covenants which progressively reveal Christ
- There has only every been one way of salvation, by faith in the promise
- Salvation is a unified Triune act
- There has always been one people of God

Covenant Theology vs Dispensationalism

- For the dispensationalist God has two purposes for two peoples that must be kept separate in biblical interpretation and this has serious consequences