

Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics

The Doctrines of Redemption:

The Heights Church January 29, 2017

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

The Covenant with David

- **The Davidic covenant promises that David's kingdom shall be forever. Ultimately the genealogy of Jesus will be traced back to David**

When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall **come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will **establish the throne of his kingdom forever**. (2 Samuel 7:12-13)**

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. **Your throne shall be established forever. (2 Samuel 7:16)**

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

The Covenant with David explained to Solomon

As soon as Solomon had finished building the house of the LORD and the king's house and all that Solomon desired to build, the LORD appeared to Solomon a second time, as he had appeared to him at Gibeon. And the LORD said to him, "I have heard your prayer and your plea, which you have made before me. I have consecrated this house that you have built, by putting my name there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time. And as for you, if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and my rules, then I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father, saying, 'You shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.'" (1 Kings 9:1-5)

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

The Covenant with David explained to Solomon

But if you turn aside from following me, you or your children, and do not keep my commandments and my statutes that I have set before you, but go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut off Israel from the land that I have given them, and the house that I have consecrated for my name I will cast out of my sight, and Israel will become a proverb and a byword among all peoples. And this house will become a heap of ruins. Everyone passing by it will be astonished and will hiss, and they will say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land and to this house?’ Then they will say, ‘Because they abandoned the LORD their God who brought their fathers out of the land of Egypt and laid hold on other gods and worshiped them and served them. Therefore the LORD has brought all this disaster on them.’” (1 Kings 9:6-9)

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

- **Starting with the covenant with Abraham, the Mosaic and Davidic covenants add pointers to the New Covenant.**
 1. **Righteous is counted by faith.**
 2. **Abraham is the spiritual father of all who believe**
 3. **Salvation (righteousness) is by perfect adherence to the moral Mosaic Law which is credited to those who “believe” in Christ**
 4. **Jesus is the perfect King, Prophet and Priest from the line of David.**

The Covenants – The New Covenant

In those days they shall no longer say: “‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge.’ But everyone shall die for his own iniquity. Each man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge. “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that **they broke**, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: **I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.**” (Jeremiah 31:29-34)

The Covenants – The New Covenant

And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the **new covenant in my blood. (Luke 22:20)**

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the **new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” (1 Corinthians 11:25)**

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a **new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. (2 Corinthians 3:4-6)**

The Covenants – The New Covenant

But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second. For he finds fault with them when he says: “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a **new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Hebrews 8:6-10)**

The Covenants – The New Covenant

In speaking of a **new covenant**, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. (Hebrews 8:13)

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. Therefore he is the mediator of a **new covenant**, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the **first covenant**. (Hebrews 9:11-15)

The Covenants – The New Covenant

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a **new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Hebrews 12:22-24)**

The Covenants – The New Covenant

- **In the Gospel accounts of the Last Supper only Luke says “new covenant” and the Gospel of John does not mention covenant.**

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. (Matthew 26:27-28)

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. (Mark 14:23-24)

And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the **new covenant in my blood. (Luke 22:20)**

The Covenants – The New Covenant

- **The New Covenant was instituted at the Last Supper.**
- **Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant, and that the Blood of Christ shed at his crucifixion is the required blood of the covenant.**
- **The connection between the blood of Christ and the New Covenant is seen in most modern English translations of the New Testament¹ with the saying: "this cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood".**
- **The occurrence of the phrase "new covenant" varies in English translations of the New Testament. In the King James it occurs only in Hebrews 8:8, 8:13, and 12:24.**
- **The New Covenant is the realization of the Covenant of Redemption.**

The Covenants – The Covenant of Redemption (Review)

God the Father:

- **initiated the plan of salvation**
- **agreed to give the Son a people to redeem for his own possession**
- **sent the Son to be believer's representative**
- **prepared a body for God the Son to dwell in**
- **accepted Jesus as a representative for all true believers**
- **gave Jesus all authority in heaven and on earth**

God the Son:

- **accomplished the redemption of all true believers**
- **would come into the world as a man and live as a man under the Mosaic Law.**
- **would be perfectly obedient to all the commands of the Father**
- **would redeem everyone the Father had given him**

God the Holy Spirit:

- **applied redemption to the personal lives of true believers.**
- **agreed to fill and empower Jesus to carry out his work on earth**
- **agreed to apply the benefits of Christ's redemptive work to all believers after Jesus returned to heaven**

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

- **Starting with the covenant with Abraham, the Mosaic and Davidic covenants add pointers to the New Covenant.**

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood.** Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)**

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The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

- **There are various forms of the covenants of grace.**
- **Adam and Eve have only a slight hint of a relationship with God.**

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” (Genesis 3:15)

And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. (Genesis 3:21)

- **The covenant with Noah was simply that God would not destroy the earth by flood and is with humans and animals. It depended on God’s grace but is not exclusively with the redeemed.**

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

- **The covenant with Abraham has the essential elements of the covenant of grace.**
- **The covenant with Moses (The Old Covenant) of laws was only for a time to restrain sin and point to Christ.**

Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. (Galatians 3:19)

So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. (Galatians 3:24-26)

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

The Mosaic sacrificial system did not take away sin but it did point to Christ.

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. (Hebrews 10:1-4)

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

The Mosaic laws/sacrificial system were not wrong because they were given by God but they had no power to give people new life and could not be perfectly obeyed. Through the work of the Holy Spirit in us we can obey God in a way the Mosaic Law could not be obeyed.

Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a **new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. (2 Corinthians 3:5-6)**

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

The New Covenant has greater blessings in that:

Jesus has atoned for all our sins. For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:24-28)

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

The New Covenant has greater blessings in that:

Jesus most fully revealed God to us. Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (Hebrews 1:1-3)

The Covenants – The Covenant(s) of Grace

Summary:

The New Covenant has greater blessings in that:

Jesus has poured out the Holy Spirit on us. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

Jesus has written the law on our hearts. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (Hebrews 8:10)

The New Covenant is an eternal covenant! 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, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. (Hebrews 13:20-21)