

# BIBLICAL THEOLOGY STUDY OF THE COVENANTS

Creekside Bible Church 2026

Elements of the Covenant								
Covenants	Sample Texts	Aspect of the Covenant highlighted	Desire for Relationship	Establishment of Relationship	Promises Made	Oath (promise to keep the promise)	Sign	Meaning of Sign
<b>Creation / Adamic</b>	Gen. 1-3	The Sonship of the Covenant (the image of God)	God's decree, 1:26	Creation of man; placed in garden, image-bearer of God ('son')	Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, have dominion, 1:28 (commands and promises)  Provision (food / life) through obedience (faith);  Death through disobedience (faithlessness)  "Let Us", "So God created", 1:26-27  "I will make", 2:18;  "He made", 2:22  "Therefore a man shall...be joined to his wife", 2:24	<u>Verbal oath:</u> * 2:17 "you shall surely"  <u>The oath pictured ceremonially:</u> * Gen. 2:21 First marriage - God forms and unites woman to man, which guarantees the promises of fruitfulness, multiplication, dominion. The LORD provides what all that is needed to fulfill His own promises.  * Gen. 3:21 animal skins (implications: the covenant is cut in blood, involves substitutionary death for the life of the guilty, God provided the coverings!)  Note: Covenant w/ Adam requires obedience, but God alone guarantees the promises.	Implied, not explicit here:  Tree of Life, 2:9; 3:22  Animal skins, 3:21  Marriage, 2:21	Who is the central tree in the garden of all God's trees who gives everlasting life to all who are grafted into Him?  Grace and a substitutionary covering involving a death is required  Christ and the Church will be united by God's doing to enable the promises of fruitfulness, multiplication and dominion.
<b>Noahic</b>	Gen. 6-9	The Grace of the Covenant (preservation of God's elect)	Noah "found grace", 6:8	"My Covenant is with you", 6:18; 9:8, 11, 15  "The everlasting Covenant", 9:16	Be fruitful, multiply, 8:17; 9:1, 7  Preservation of life through obedience (faith), "you shall go into the ark", 6:18-20;  Death implied with disobedience  Protection + dominion, 9:1-2  "I will", "you shall", 6:16-7:2	<u>Verbal oath:</u> Gen. 8:21-22; 9:11  <u>The oath pictured ceremonially:</u> * 8:20-21 Animal burnt offerings implies blood, cutting, death tied to this Covenant  * 8:22 The seasons a sign of God's promise of faithfulness to preserve the earth in order to carry out His Covenant (unilateral).  * 9:6 early picture of human government given to create environment to protect life in order to facilitate special grace of salvation to God's elect.  Note: Covenant w/ Noah requires obedience, but God alone guarantees the promises.	Rainbow, 9:13, 17	God's bow of war set upside down, aimed at heaven (God has purposed to take the punishment we deserve upon Himself); a picture of heavenly grace extended to earthly sinners in order that we might have a "day of salvation" to receive the promises. God will never again flood the earth as He did.
<b>Abrahamic</b>	Gen. 12, 13, 15, 17, 22, 26, 28	The Faith of the Covenant (faith in the promises)	The call of Abram, 12:1-3	"My Covenant is with you", 17:2, 4, 7, 10, 11, 19, 21  "an everlasting Covenant", 17:7, 13	Land (safety, inheritance, dominion); Seed (fruitfulness, multiplication), Blessing (protection, dominion), 12:1-3, 7; 13:14-17; 15:1-5, 18-21; 22:17  Notice: God, the shield and exceedingly great reward! 15:1  "I will", "you shall", "in you all the families of the earth shall", 12:1-3  "I give it to you", 13:15-17  "one who will come from your own body shall be your heir", 15:4  "count the stars if you are able to number them...so shall your descendants be", 15:5  Notice: The text links these promises to FAITH, which counted Abram righteous with God (before circumcision), 15:6  ..."but the uncircumcised will be cut off" for breaking God's Covenant, 17:14 (uncircumcised in heart = no faith, which brings the curse)	<u>Verbal:</u> * 17:1-7 "I will", "you shall", "I have made you..."  * 22:16-18 "By Myself I have sworn"  Note: Covenant w/ Abraham requires obedience, but God alone guarantees the promises.  <u>Ceremonial:</u> * 15:9-18 (unilateral, God acting alone)  * 15:10 the covenant is ceremonially "cut" in the blood of those animals. Significance of the ceremony: if God should not fulfill His promises, let Him be cut asunder like those animals. BUT, God cannot lie!  * 22:1-19 Abraham prepared to offer Isaac. Notice: "God will provide for Himself the lamb"; this sacrifice was to be in blood, cut with a knife, God substitutes a male sheep (a ram) for Isaac's life, Abraham offered his sacrifice with faith in God.	Circumcision, 17:11	A sign given in the flesh of the males to show the need for sin to be "cut off" in the place responsible for the propagation of sin generationally. Also shows the need to cut away the hardness of the human heart (Deut. 10:16), which causes unbelief, in order to love God and obey Him. God alone can circumcise the heart to enable us to love God, Deut. 30:6.

# BIBLICAL THEOLOGY STUDY OF THE COVENANTS

Creekside Bible Church 2026

		Elements of the Covenant						
Covenants	Sample Texts	Aspect of the Covenant highlighted	Desire for Relationship	Establishment of Relationship	Promises Made	Oath (promise to keep the promise)	Sign	Meaning of Sign
<b>Mosaic / Israeli / "Old Covenant"</b>	Exo. 19-24	The Law of the Covenant (sonship modeled comprehensively)	2:23-25; 6:2-7 God "remembered" His Covenant with the fathers	God refers to Israel as His "son", 4:22-23  "I have established My Covenant with them", 6:4  "I will", "you shall", 6:6-8  "I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself", "My Covenant", 19:3-5	"you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people... a kingdom of <u>priests</u> and a <u>holy nation</u> "- tied to obedience, 19:5-6  The 10 Commandments, 20:3-17 - "you shall / shall not" - commands but also promises of obedience for the true people of God! Obedience set in the context of knowing God as Redeemer!  Blessings tied to perfect obedience, cursing tied to any disobedience, Lev. 26; Deut. 28	<u>Verbal:</u> "we will!", 24:7  Note: Covenant w/ Israel requires obedience; man's oath is insufficient, but God's oath is sufficient.  <u>Ceremonial:</u> Exo. 12 - the Passover lamb slain and the blood applied to the doors of those who believed God's Word in order to spare the lives of the firstborn.  24:5-8 Covenant made (lit. "cut") in the blood of animals to ratify this Covenant. Substitutionary death again!  Note: the law of God given to protect people (further amplifies common grace from Noahic in Gen. 9:6) in order to facilitate the salvation of the elect (special grace)	The Sabbath, 31:16-17	Man must cease from his works, which are all sin, and rest by faith in God's work alone to redeem sinful people, Hebrews 4:8-10.
<b>Davidic</b>	Deut. 17:18-20; 2 Sam. 7	The Kingdom of the Covenant (it's "house" and rule)	Deut. 17:15 God will choose His king	God took David from the sheepfold to be ruler over Israel. 2 Sam. 7:8  Note: "covenant" not explicitly mentioned here, but it is in Ps. 89:3-4; 132:11-12; Jer. 33:20-21	The fruit of David's body - "your seed after you", he will build a "house" (dynasty) for God's name, God will establish his throne forever, God will be his Father and he shall be God's son (true son), he will be chastened for sin, but God's mercy shall not depart from him, 2 Sam. 7:12-16.	<u>Verbal:</u> 2 Sam. 7:11 Also the LORD "declares" that He will make you a house" (see Acts 2:30).  <u>Ceremonial:</u> 2 Sam. 7:14 The "chastening" points to a bloody Cross!	Throne (inferred, not explicit)	Ruling with perfect justice and righteousness.
<b>New Covenant</b>	Jer. 31-32; Ezek. 11, 36-37; Heb. 8, 10	The Fulfillment of the Covenant in Christ (its consummation)	"I will make a New Covenant" Jer. 31:31  Despite continually provoking God's anger, He will gather His people and bring them back, Jer. 32:30. Grace!	Heb. 8:7-13 referring back to Jer. 31, showing the New Covenant has been "cut" and fulfilled in the death of Christ; Matt. 26:28; Mk. 14:24; Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25; Heb. 9:15; 12:24	Notice the refrain repeated: "They shall be My people, and I will be their God" Jer. 24:7; 30:22; 31:1; 31:33; 32:38; Ezek. 11:19-20; 36:28; 37:27; 39:22, 28; Zec. 13:9; Heb. 8:10; 11:16; Rev. 21:7  The fruit of the Spirit (sonship realized) through union with Christ, Rom. 7:4; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 5:22-33	<u>Verbal:</u> "I will" statements in Jer. 31:33-34, Ezek. 36:23-38; 37:14  "surely" in Ezek. 37:5  <u>Ceremonial:</u> The heavenly ordinances a sign of God's faithfulness, Jer. 31:35-36; compare Gen. 8:22 in Noahic	The Lord's Supper Lk. 22:20	The death of Christ required to fulfill the Covenant and to make the Covenant "of force", such that all beneficiaries can receive the full inheritance! Heb. 9:16-22.