

# The Nature of a Covenant

- *Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. 16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God, that it should make the promise of no effect. Gal 3:15-18*

# The Nature of a Covenant

- *in the manner of men*: A Covenant between men
- Contract with Bank for Home, Car, etc.
- One side offers the money: interest/conditions
- The other side agrees to the conditions given before the money is loaned.
- Contract is signed.
- *Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it.*
- Once Signed and confirmed ... Fixed
- Each side is obligated to keep original conditions
- Any changes results in a breach of Contract.

# The Nature of God's Covenant

- *Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. 17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God, that it should make the promise of no effect. Gal 3:15-18*
- The promises God gave to Abraham is the covenant.
- The Law was an additional covenant working like a parenthesis: (The Law).

# The Covenant Ratified with an Oath

- *For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. 17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, Heb 6:13-18*

# The Event Described in Gal. & Heb.

- *Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, 16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — 17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. 18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." Gen 22:15-18*

# The Nature of This Covenant

- Ratified in the Presence of Abraham.
- Concerning Him and the multiplied descendants!
- A Promise / Covenant Ratified with an Oath.
- This is the foundation of the Covenant we now have with God.

# The Nature of This Covenant

- *Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not hear the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. 23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, 24 which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar — 25 for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children — 26 but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all. Gal 4:21-27*

# The Covenant in Prophecy

- *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 11 None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." 13 In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Heb 8:10-13*

# God's Side of This Covenant

- *For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 29 But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." Mt 26:28-29*
- Jesus died and shed His blood to pay for and give power to the New Covenant.
- *by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. Heb 7:22*
- *But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. Heb 8:6*

# Our Covenant with God

- God has salvation, eternal life, every spiritual blessing.
- We have ???
- *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. Eph 2:1-3*

# Salvation by Grace Thru Faith

- *But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (**by grace you have been saved**), Eph. 2:4-5*
- *For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. Eph. 2:8-10*
- Both Sides of the gospel covenant are revealed. God promises Grace and demands faith.

# The Nature of the Gospel Covenant

- *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith." Rom 1:16-17*
- *But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;*

# The Nature of the Gospel Covenant

- *23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Rom 3:21-26*

