

THEOLOGY MATTERS

SESSION 11

Covenant Theology-Part 2



“The biblical covenants form the unifying thread of God’s saving action through Scripture, beginning explicitly with Noah and reaching fulfillment in the new covenant ratified through the blood of Jesus Christ.”

— Paul R. Williamson

Brief review:

- There are several primary areas within doctrinal studies. Our Wednesday night class has addressed the following:

- **The Doctrine of Scripture:** the nature of Scripture—authority, inspiration, inerrancy.

- **The Doctrine of God:** the Divine attributes and the Trinity.

- **The Doctrine of Man:** human origins and the image of God.

○ **The Doctrine of Sin:** the nature and consequences of sin.

○ **The Doctrine of Christ:** the person and works of Christ.

○ **The Doctrine of Salvation:** the beginning, continuation, and completion of salvation.

- **The Doctrine of the Church:** the nature, role, polity, unity, and ordinances of the church.

- **Covenant Theology:** “...views the Bible’s story from the perspective of three covenants: the covenant of redemption, the covenant of works, and the covenant of grace (Morgan and Peterson, 42–43).”

- **Definition:** “an unchangeable, divinely imposed legal agreement between God and man that stipulates the conditions of their relationship” (Grudem, 515).

- **Key Question:** Does the Bible tell a unified story about one covenant people? Or does the Bible speak of two covenant people: ethnic Israel and the church?

BIG IDEA:



The person and work of Christ creates
one covenant people.

Covenant theology is a helpful method of reading and interpreting Scripture for two reasons:

1. Covenant theology is based on scriptural evidence.
2. Covenant theology provides a logical explanation for the relationship between Israel and the church.



What are the covenants?

- The Covenant of Redemption
- The Covenant of Works
- The Covenant of Grace

The Covenant of Redemption

“The Covenant of Redemption is a pact made between the persons of the Trinity to save humans through the work of the Son of God” (Morgan and Peterson, 43).

- **Father** *John 3:16-17; 17:1-2, 6*
- **Son** *John 17:12*
 Philippians 2:5-8
- **Spirit** *Matthew 3:16*
 John 14:16-17

The Covenant of Works

“The covenant of works is an agreement between God and Adam, promising Adam and humanity, whom Adam represented, life for obedience and death for disobedience (Morgan and Peterson, 43).”

- *Genesis 2:16–17*
- *Romans 5:12–14: 12*

The Covenant of Grace

“God makes the covenant of grace with humanity fallen in Adam and promises eternal life to all who are saved by faith in the Mediator. It encompasses the biblical covenants with Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and the new covenant, which is fulfilled in Christ (Morgan and Peterson, 43).”

- Covenant with Noah (Gen. 9:8–17)
- Covenant with Abraham (Gen. 12:1–3)
- Covenant with Moses (Ex. 19:5–6)
- Covenant with David (2 Sam. 7:12–16)

The New Covenant

Jer. 31:31–34; 31

Heb. 9:11–15; *11*

Table Discussion:

- What is the promise of the covenant with Noah? How does Christ fulfill this covenant?
- What are the promises of the covenant with Abraham? How does Christ fulfill this covenant?
- What are the promises of the covenant with Moses? How does Christ fulfill this covenant?
- What are the promises of the covenant with David? How does Christ fulfill this covenant?





One Covenant People

Romans 3:21-31

Ephesians 2:11-22

