

The Covenant

Bible Study Notes Week 3 – 30th August

The covenant is God's Holy and the righteous covenantal commandment that governs God's relationships.

It is an eternal covenant commitment and it is the most powerful human experience. God in commands His love to a Nation

Meaning of covenant

Vine's Expository Dictionary

Covenant

A — 1: **διαθήκη** ▶

([Strong's #1242](#) — Noun Feminine — diatheke — dee-ath-ay'-kay)

primarily signifies "a disposition of property by will or otherwise." In its use in the Sept., it is the rendering of a Hebrew word meaning a "covenant" or agreement (from a verb signifying "to cut or divide," in allusion to a sacrificial custom in connection with "covenant-making," e.g., [Genesis 15:10](#) , "divided" [Jeremiah 34:18,19](#)). In contradistinction to the English word "covenant" (lit., "a coming together"), which signifies a mutual undertaking between two parties or more, each binding himself to fulfill obligations, it does not in itself contain the idea of joint obligation, it mostly signifies an obligation undertaken by a single person.

The Idea of Covenant. The term "covenant" is of Latin origin (con venire), meaning a coming together. It presupposes two or more parties who come together to make a contract, agreeing on promises, stipulations, privileges, and responsibilities. The biblical words most often translated "covenant" are berit [[tyir.B](#)] in the Old Testament (appearing about 280 times) and diatheke [[diaghvkh](#)] in the New Testament (at least 33 times). The origin of the Old Testament word has been debated; some have said it comes from a custom of eating together ([Gen 26:30](#) ; [31:54](#)); others have emphasized the idea of cutting an animal (an animal was cut in half [[15:18](#)]) www.biblestudytools.com

Attributes of a Covenant

The parties

- Two or more parties required

The promise/ agreement

- What is being promised?

The requirements/ conditions

- What are the conditions both parties need to meet to fulfil and sustain the covenant?

The commitment

- What is the commitment required and for how long
- Are both parties in agreement to the terms?

The ramifications/ rectifications

- What are the ramifications and steps to rectify breaches of the covenant?

The benefits

- What are the benefits or blessings associated with the covenant?

Why the Covenant?

- God wanted a relationship with His creation
- Adam and Eve - broke conditions
- Noah was righteous while humanity broke faith with God
- Abraham chosen righteous God enters into a covenant
- Israel offspring of Abraham heir of the covenant
- Covenant obligations teach your children
- Covenant the is the highest form of relationship
- The highest form of love
- Highest declaration of love - giving oneself to another
- Marriage Covenant an unconditional lifelong commitment to giving yourself to another

God has reached out to Israel and humanity in a covenantal offer.
I will be you God and you will be My people

God is looking for a Father-child relationship - Yes!

But more than that God is looking for a spousal relationship
God as Husband and us as a wife. Declaring God's heart intent and the covenant of His
love, to be a Husband to us who believe in Yeshua our Messiah. We translate into children
to a Bride and ultimate consummation of the marriage at the Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

God is looking for obedience Yes!

But more than that He is looking for a relationship of intimacy and love!
God, it looking to where love is the basis of the relationship
Free mutual love, in a loving covenantal relationship

Israel is the Old covenant and Israel and the Body of Christ in the New Covenant

God will make a New Covenant and He has
The invitation is there

Attributes of the Covenant

Obedience
Sacrifice

Covenant

Genesis 17 ESV

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty;^[a] **walk before me, and be blameless,**
Why did Abram have to be blameless?

2 **that I may make my covenant between me and you,** and may multiply you greatly."

Why did God want to make a covenant with Abram?

3 Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him,

4 **"Behold, my covenant is with you,** and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations.

Why did God want a multitude of nations?

5 No longer shall your name be called Abram,^[b] but your name shall be Abraham,^[c] for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. (when you enter into covenant with God everything changes including your name. A name symbolises who you are and who's you are - it has meaning. This highlight's the foundational change to everything in covenant with God. who you are and who's you change everything in this life and in eternity.

Why do we think that Abram's name was changed to Abraham?

6 **I will** make you exceedingly fruitful, and **I will** make you into nations, and kings shall come from you.

7 And **I will** establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an **everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring** after you.

8 And **I will** give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and **I will** be their God."

9 And God said to Abraham, **"As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.**

10 This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: **Every male among you shall be circumcised.**

11 **You shall** be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a **sign** of the **covenant between me and you.**

12 He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring,

13 both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. **So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant.** **14** Any **uncircumcised** male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be **cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."**