

SABBATH THROUGH THE AGES – Part 3

“The Everlasting Covenant”

A Review of the first two studies in this series:

- Light Symbolizes Truth
 - Psalm 119:105 “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”
- Light Should Increase Continually
 - Proverbs 4:18 “But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.”
- The Law of YHWH is the Torah: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
 - “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets... For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, til all be fulfilled.” Matthew 5:17-18
- Yahshua, kept the whole Law, including the feasts. This obedience to Torah, pleased YHWH.
 - John 8:29 “And He that sent Me is with Me: the Father hath not left Me alone; for I do always those things that please Him.”
- Doing Away with The Torah is the work of the ungodly Little Horn power
 - *And he (the Little Horn) shall speak words against the most High Elohim, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times of sacred feasts and holy days and the Law” (Daniel 7:25 – Amplified Bible).*
- The Law is for the End
 - Malachi 4:4-6 “Remember ye the law of Moses My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD...”

The popular teaching of O.T. Covenants

- In the Old Testament, God made several covenants
 - The Covenant with Adam
 - The Covenant with Noah
 - The Covenant with Abraham
 - The Covenant with Moses
- a NEW COVENANT has come with the death of Christ – the O.T. Covenants are done away
 - “The old covenant that God had established with His people required obedience to the Old Testament Mosaic Law... Jesus Christ came to fulfill the Law of Moses and create a new covenant between God and His people. The old covenant was written in stone, but the new covenant is written on our hearts...” <http://www.gotquestions.org/new-covenant.html>

Let’s examine this popular teaching Covenant-by-Covenant. – First the “Adamic Covenant” –

- Was there an “Adamic” Covenant?
- Never does the word “covenant” appear in relationship to Adam

- The Hebrew word “*bereeth*” – translated as “Covenant” first appears in Genesis 6:18 and is with Noah.
- A covenant cannot be entered into without the shedding of blood. But, there was no blood shed with Adam.
 - Exodus 24:8
 - Hebrews 13:20
- Therefore – there is no biblical foundation for teaching the existence of an “Adamic Covenant”

The popular teaching of O.T. Covenants

- Let’s Examine the remaining three covenants:
 - ~~The Covenant with Adam~~
 - The Covenant with Noah
 - The Covenant with Abraham
 - The Covenant with Moses

What is an everlasting covenant?

- Defining Covenant
 - H1285 ברית *b^{er}iyth*
 - “in the sense of *cutting, a compact (because made by passing between pieces of flesh): - confederacy, covenant, league.*”
 - From the root H1262- meaning “to select, feed, render clear, choose...”
- Defining Everlasting
 - H5769 עולם עולם *’olām ’olām*
 - properly concealed, that is, the vanishing point; generally time out of mind (past or future), that is eternity, always... eternal... without end

Comparing Agreements: Covenant vs. Contract

COVENANT	CONTRACT
Ratified in blood Exodus 24:8, Hebrews 13:20	Ratified to prevent blood
A promise to do “good” for the other. Jeremiah 32:40	A promise focused on what is good for oneself.
Swears to one’s own hurt Psalm 15:4	Intended to prevent one’s own hurt.

YHWH Does Not Change

- Psalm 89:34 “My Covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of My Lips.”
- Malachi 3:6-7 “For I Am YHWH, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from Mine Ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you, saith YHWH of hosts.”

What is the Noahic Covenant – is it still in effect today?

- The Bible does show that YHWH made a Covenant with Noah and his seed.
 - Genesis 6:18 “But with thee (Noah) will I establish My Covenant...”

In the Evangelical thought, there is a teaching that YHWH gave Noah seven laws as part of this covenant. They are known as the Seven Noahide Laws.

- **The Myth of Seven Noahide Laws (recorded in Talmud)**
 - The seven laws listed by the Talmud are
 - Prohibition of Idolatry - You shall not have any idols before God.
 - Prohibition of Murder.
 - Prohibition of Theft.
 - Prohibition of Sexual Immorality: You shall not commit any of a series of sexual prohibitions, which include [adultery](#), [incest](#), [sodomy](#), and [bestiality](#).
 - Prohibition of Blasphemy
 - Dietary Law, as interpreted in the Talmud
 - Requirement to have just Laws: Set up a governing body of law (eg Courts)
- This understanding of only seven laws being given to Noah is unscriptural. It is based on the oral traditions of the Jews, given in the Talmud.
- These “seven” laws are actually part of the Torah. There are plainly more than seven of God’s Laws given in this time. For example, the Seventh-day Sabbath isn’t listed among the Seven – yet it was plainly in existence.
- And the idea that they are present with Noah is demonstration of the fact that Torah existed prior to Abraham or Sinai.

YHWH’s Word is Eternal

- "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever." Isaiah 40:8
- "...having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever...." 1 Peter 1:23
- "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one *tittle* [*a tiny mark in the original spelling of a word*] will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled." Matthew 5:18
- "Until heaven and earth pass away one *tittle* of the Law to cannot fail." Luke 16:17

The Covenant With Noah

- Genesis 9:8-17 "And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying, ...I establish My Covenant with you, and with your seed after you; And with every living creature that is with you... And I will establish My Covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. And God said, This is the token of the Covenant... for perpetual generations: I do set My bow in the cloud... And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember My Covenant... and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth..."

Characteristics of the Noahic Covenant

- YHWH initiated this Covenant and set its terms
- The Covenant with Noah extended to all successive generations

- “And God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creation that is with you, for all successive generations’.” (Genesis 9:12).
- It is a “Universal” Covenant
- It was made with “all flesh” (Genesis 9:11)

The Blood of the Covenant – Noah offered animal sacrifices

Terms of the Noahic Covenant:

YHWH’S TERMS	OUR TERMS
Animals would fear man -(Gen. 9:2)	Meat eating was permitted – but no blood could be eaten (Gen. 9:3-4)
God would not send another flood to destroy the whole earth (Gen. 9:11).	Man is created in God’s image, which is not to be marred or destroyed (Gen. 9:6)
	We are not to shed man’s blood (Gen. 9:6).

Token of the Noahic Covenant: Rainbow

- **Genesis 9:13-17** “I do set My Bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between Me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This is the token of the covenant, which I have established between Me and all flesh that is upon the earth.”

Is the Noahic Covenant Still in Effect?

- Has Man Kept the Terms of the Noahic Covenant? No – a Covenant between God and man is NOT nullified by man’s disobedience
- Has YHWH kept His part of the terms? Yes
- The very fact that YHWH still keeps His terms is ample proof that this Covenant is still in effect

What is the Abrahamic Covenant – is it still in effect?

- YHWH’s Covenant With Abraham
 - **Genesis 17:1-2** “And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, YHWH appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I Am the Almighty God; walk before Me, and be thou perfect. And I will make My Covenant between Me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.”
 - **Genesis 17:7-9** “And I will establish My Covenant between Me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an Everlasting Covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God. And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep My Covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.”
- The Blood of the Covenant

- Genesis 15:8-10 “And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it? And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another...”
- Genesis 15:17-18 “And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the LORD made a Covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land...”

Terms of the Abrahamic Covenant

YHWH’S TERMS	OUR TERMS
He will be our personal God - Leviticus 26:45	Humble our uncircumcised hearts - Leviticus 26:41
He will give us the promised land as our eternal inheritance - Genesis 15:18, Gen. 17:8	Keep YHWH’s covenant - Genesis 17:9
Deliver Israel - Exodus 2:24	Love and obey YHWH – keep His Law - Leviticus 26:42-43

Token of the Covenant: Circumcision

- Genesis 17:9-10 “And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep My Covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. This is My Covenant, which ye shall keep, between Me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.”
- Because Christians commonly understand that all animal sacrifices and the shedding of blood was fulfilled in the Saviour’s Blood being shed at Calvary, circumcision is believed to be ended at the Cross. And if Circumcision, the token of the Abrahamic Covenant, has come to an end, it is ample proof that the covenant itself must have ended. But, the assumption that circumcision ended at the Cross is not biblical – consider what circumcision means:

Meaning of Circumcision

- H4135 מוּלַּל mûl
- A primitive root; to *cut short, that is, curtail (specifically the prepuce, that is, to circumcise); by implication to blunt; figuratively to destroy: - circumcise (-ing, selves), cut down (in pieces), destroy, X must needs.*
- It had both literal AND figurative application – the literal requirement DID end at the Cross. But the figurative AND DEEPER meaning of circumcision still continues:

Circumcision in the Old Testament

- Given as a sign of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - Genesis 17:9-14, 23-27
 - Romans 4:11
- Patriarchs like Isaac, Jacob and Moses practiced it – passing the ordinance to Israel
 - Genesis 21:4, 34
 - Exodus 4:26

- John 7:22
- It was required to observe the Passover
 - Exodus 12:48

Circumcision is to Make a Man Whole

- John 7:22-23 “Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;) and ye on the Sabbath day circumcise a man. If a man on the Sabbath day receive Circumcision, that the Law of Moses should not be broken; are ye angry at Me, because I have made a man every whit whole on the Sabbath day?”

True Circumcision is Torah Obedience – This was the original meaning of it – in the O.T.

- Deuteronomy 10:12-16 “And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all His Ways, and to love Him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, to keep the Commandments of the LORD, and His Statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good? ...Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked.”

Circumcision of the Heart

- Deuteronomy 30:6 “And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.”
- Jeremiah 4:3-4 “For thus saith the LORD to the men of Judah and Jerusalem, Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns. Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.”

True Circumcision = True Jew

- Romans 2:28-29 “For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.”

We Need a Circumcision Without Hands

- Colossians 2:11 “In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ.”

Is the Abrahamic Covenant Still in Effect?

- Has Man Kept the Terms of the Abrahamic Covenant? No – a Covenant between God and man is NOT nullified by man’s disobedience
- Has YHWH kept His part of the terms? Yes
- Both in the New and Old Testament the token and terms of this covenant are still in effect.

What is the Mosaic covenant – is it still in effect?

- The Covenant with Moses isn’t a new covenant – as we think of new – it was a renewed covenant – or better yet, a Remembered Covenant
 - Exodus 2:23-25 “And it came to pass... that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God... And God remembered His Covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob...”

The Covenant With Moses Was Really Confirming the Abrahamic Covenant

- 1 Chronicles 16:15-17 “Be ye mindful always of His Covenant; the word which He commanded to a thousand generations; Even of the Covenant which He made with Abraham, and of His oath unto Isaac; And hath confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an Everlasting Covenant.”

The Written Covenant is the Commandments of God

- Exodus 34:28 “And he was there with YHWH forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And He wrote upon the tables the words of the Covenant, the Ten Commandments.”

Breaking God’s Law = Breaking His Covenant With Us

- Leviticus 26:15-16 “And if ye shall despise My statutes, or if your soul abhor My judgments, so that ye will not do all My commandments, but that ye break My Covenant: I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.”

Terms of the Abrahamic?Mosaic Covenant

YHWH’S TERMS	OUR TERMS
He would claim us	We would worship only Him.
He would protect/provide for us.	We would obey His commandments and statutes (Torah).
He would be “our” (personal) God.	We would love Him selflessly.
He would bless us.	
He would love us selflessly.	
He would give us the Promised Land.	

When Moses broke the Ten Commandments, were they no longer in effect?

NO!

Was something wrong with the Commandments, because the people broke them?

NO! – Paul in Romans 6, plainly taught that the Law of God was still to be kept.

- The very fact that YHWH instructs His people especially to remember His Law in the last days is proof that the Covenant isn’t passed away – a NEW COVENANT isn’t being given – rather the Covenant of our Spiritual Forefathers is Being RENEWED... as we will soon see.

The Law for the End

- Malachi 4:4-6 “Remember ye the law of Moses My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD...”

All The Past Covenants ARE STILL IN EFFECT

What About The Coming Covenant

- Jeremiah 31:31-32 “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a New Covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My Covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith YHWH.”
- Ezekiel 37:21-27 “And say unto them, Thus saith YHWH GOD; Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, whither they be gone, and will gather them on every side, and bring them into their own land: And I will make them one nation in the land upon the mountains of Israel; and one king shall be king to them all: and they shall be no more two nations... Moreover I will make a Covenant of Peace with them; it shall be an Everlasting Covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set My Sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore. My Tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

Calling it the New Covenant – is a Poor Translation

- **When Paul wrote about the “New Covenant,” he was quoting Jeremiah.**
- Hebrews 8:6-12 “But now hath He obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also He is the Mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, He saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers... because they continued not in My covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to Me a people... For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.”
- Jeremiah 31:31-34 “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a NEW COVENANT with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My Covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put My Law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour... saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know Me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

New Covenant is Like New Moon

- H2319 חָדָשׁ chādâsh
- From H2318; *new*: - fresh, new thing.
- From the root H2318 – meaning “rebuilt, renewed, repaired”

When Does the Renewed Covenant Go Into Effect?

- At the Cross? NO!
- “After those days”
- He will “write His law on our hearts and minds.”
- He will “forgive our sins” and “remember our iniquities no more”

WHEN DOES THIS HAPPEN?

Satan loses his power over God's people when they are sealed.

- "I saw Satan would work more powerfully now than ever he has before. He knows that his time is short and that the sealing of the saints will place them beyond his power; he will work now in every way that he can and will try his every insinuation to get the saints off from their guard and get them asleep on the present truth or doubting it, so as to prevent their being sealed with the seal of the living God." MS Vol 7 1850, pp2-3
- Isaiah 8:16 "Bind up the testimony, seal the Law among My disciples."

Understanding the Blotting Out of Sin

- "We need to be on our guard against the idea that the blotting out of sin is merely as the passing of a sponge over a slate... This is not the blotting out of sin. An ignorant man who saw a thermometer for the first time thought to lessen the heat by breaking it. But how much effect did this have upon the weather? Just as much as the wiping out of the record of sin has upon the sinner." (EJ Waggoner, 1888 RH, Sept. 30, 1902)

We Will Have No Memory of Our Sins After our Atonement!

- "So in the time of trouble, if the people of God had unconfessed sins to appear before them while tortured with fear and anguish, they would be overwhelmed... But while they have a deep sense of their unworthiness, they will have no concealed wrongs to reveal. Their sins will have been blotted out by the atoning Blood of Christ, and they cannot bring them to remembrance. . . ." {Conflict and Courage 69.2}

The Nature of Man

- "...In the day that ye eat thereof... ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil." (Genesis 3:4-5)
- "The only knowledge they (Adam and Eve) gained by their disobedience was a knowledge of sin and its results." (SDA Bible Commentary, Vol. 1, p 1083)
- The knowledge of sin through experience is the definition of a sinful nature.

The Effects of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil

- The result of the eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil is manifest in every man's experience. There is in his nature a bent to evil, a force which, unaided, he cannot resist..-- Education, pp. 28, 29.

The Sealing: Our Goal

- "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Yahshua" (Philippians 2:5).
- "For He (Yahweh) hath made Him (Yahshua) to be sin for us, WHO KNEW NO SIN!..." (2 Corinthians 5:21).

Judgment is About Removing Our Sinful Nature!

- "...Because that the worshippers once purged should have no more conscience of sins." (Hebrews 10:1-2)
- "Conscience" = "Knowledge" (Strong's Concordance)

God's Atonement Promise

- “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith Adonai, I will put My Laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them...” (Hebrews 10:16-17).
- “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10).

The Three Atonement Blessings

1. Satan’s power over us will be permanently broken.
2. We will receive a heavenly nature with no bent to evil.
3. Our sins will be completely blotted out. To us and to God it will be as if we’ve never sinned!

The New (Renewed) Covenant

- Jeremiah 31:31-34 “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a NEW COVENANT with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My Covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put My Law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour... saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know Me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

The Terms of the Renewed Covenant Between God & Us

YHWH’S TERMS	OUR TERMS
He would claim us	We would worship only Him.
He would protect/provide for us.	We would obey His commandments and statutes (Torah).
He would be “our” (personal) God.	We would love Him selflessly.
He would bless us.	
He would love us selflessly.	
He would give us the Promised Land.	

God’s People Will Be coming Back to His Law at the End – This is part of the process of having the Covenant Renewed within us – personally.

- Malachi 4:4-6 “Remember ye the Law of Moses My servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD...”