Bible Covenants

Pastor Lawson Perdue

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Lesson 1: Introduction

What is a covenant?

- *Spirit-Filled Life Bible*—Pledge, treaty, compact.

- Greek—*diatheke*—disposition, contract, covenant, testament.

Two Types of Covenants

1. Agreement between two equal partners (bilateral contract).

2. Agreement between king and vassals (unilateral agreement).

Bible—Book of Covenant (Psalm 89:34 and Proverbs 30:5)

God's covenant with man.

Revelation from God to man, for man. Reveals the covenant of God.

Not many revelations, but one revelation. Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

Fulfillment of the total covenant of God with man.

Jeremiah 33:14-26, verses 15-16—"*In those days, and at that time will I cause the branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The Lord of Righteousness.*"

Who is the branch of Righteousness? Who is the Lord our Righteousness? Who is the Fulfillment of the total Covenant of God with man?

I. God's Covenant with the House of Israel and Judah—Jeremiah 33:14

A. God has a covenant with Israel—Many things have been fulfilled; others are yet to be fulfilled.

B. **Isaiah 61:1–7**.

C. **Romans 9:4–5**, **10:1**, **11:1**, **11:25–27**.

D. **Zechariah 12:10** and **13:1**.

II. Covenant with David—Jeremiah 33:17

A. Shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel.

B. **2 Samuel 7:16**—Your house and your kingdom will be established forever.

C. **Acts 2:29**–**36**—Jesus = fulfillment of God's covenant with David.

III. Covenant of the Day and Covenant of the Night—Jeremiah 33:20 and 25

A. **Genesis 8:22**.

B. **Matthew 24:35**.

C. **2 Peter 3:5**, **7** and **Hebrews 1:3**—Upholds all things by the Word of His power—who fulfills the covenant of day and night?

D. Many other promises: **Jeremiah 31:31**–**34** and **32:40**—everlasting covenant.

IV. Conclusion

The Bible is God's covenant with man—the validity, authority, and integrity of God's Word. Jesus represents the total fulfillment of all of God's covenants with man.

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Lesson 2: Types of the Covenant

Review

- Who is the total fulfillment of God's covenant with man?

- The Bible is God's covenant with man, composed of two parts—Old and New Covenant.

- Old Covenant is revealed in the New Covenant. The New Covenant is concealed in the Old Covenant. The Old Covenant contains types and shadows of the New Covenant.

- **Hebrews 8:5**—Example and shadow of heavenly things.

Three Persons in the Old Covenant—How Their Experience with God Reveals the Covenant

I. Noah—<u>God Establishes the Covenant</u>—Genesis 9:9–17

A. **Genesis 9:9**, **11**, **12**, **15**, and **17**—God establishes the covenant with us—Why is this important?

1. The covenant is not based on our performance, but God's performance.

2. The covenant is not our idea.

3. **Genesis 9:11—Isaiah 54:8**–**10**—God's covenant reveals His nature.

4. **Genesis 9:16**—God's covenant is everlasting—the unchangeable Word of the unchangeable God.

B. Noah—preacher of righteousness—**2 Peter 2:5**.

C. Man of faith—**Hebrews 11:7**—how did Noah receive righteousness?

D. God's covenant with Noah reveals His character (not to destroy, love) and His nature (unchangeable, eternal).

II. Abraham—Covenant Is Based on Relationship—Genesis 17:1–21

A. **Genesis 17:2**–**6**—God's promises established through covenant—"I will make my covenant with you. Multiply you."

1. Revelation of who God is.

2. Revelation of what He wants to do.

3. Change of identity is necessary for a change of destiny.

B. **Genesis 17:7**–**8**—God's covenant is based on relationship—"Be God to you. Be their God."

C. **Genesis 17:10**–**14**—Circumcision—type (sign) of the covenant—all encompassing (anything born/bought).

D. **Genesis 17:15**–**21**—Walking in relationship with God will affect those closest to you.

E. Abrahamic covenant established by Christ, not voided by the law (**Galatians 3:15**–**17**, **29** and **Romans 4:13**, **16**, **17**).

III. David—Endurance of the Covenant—2 Samuel 23:1–5

> **Verse 5**—*Although my house is not so with God; yet he hath made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things, and sure: for this is all my salvation, and all my desire, although he make it not to grow.*

A. Although my house be not so with God. Not up to me to make it happen—merciful, compassionate, good God—not David or his house (**2 Chronicles 21:1–7**). What was David's greatest act of faith?

B. Everlasting covenant (**Psalm 103:17–18**).

C. Ordered in all things (**Psalm 89:1–4**, **34**). God's mercy reveals His faithfulness.

D. Sure—**Psalm 105:8**—Remembered His covenant forever—Word commanded for 1,000 generations.

E. All my salvation—(**Isaiah 55:3–4**; **Acts 13:22–23**, **33–39**; and **Revelation 22:16**); Promises to the seed of David.

F. All my desire (**Psalm 132:11–14**); His desire is my desire.

G. God is the only one who can accomplish it (**1 Chronicles 16:8–17**) constantly rehearsing the covenant—talk, singing, trust, looking to God to fulfill.

IV. Conclusion

1. God establishes covenant.

2. Covenant is based on relationship.

3. Endurance of the covenant.

God is the author and completer of the covenant. To walk in covenant, we must walk with God—know Him! Walk in Him! Follow His plans!

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Lesson 3: Pictures of the Covenant

- There are different pictures we see of the covenant throughout the Bible, and they are revealed through relationship. Included in this lesson are a few of the relationships through which we can see the covenant.

- Old Testament (Covenant) is types and shadows of New Testament (Covenant) reality.

- **1 Corinthians 10:1–4**, **verse 4**—*And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.*

I. Ruth—Redemption, the Right of the Covenant

A. **Ruth 1:1**, **3**, **5**, **14–18**—Faith speaks and acts. When disaster strikes, you can trust God or turn back.

B. **Ruth 2**—Faith gets God's attention and man's favor. (**Ruth 2:1**—Boaz = type of Christ—family member who had right of redemption). The Redeemer has His eye on you.

Ruth 2:8–10—Grace in the eye of the Redeemer. He took knowledge of her.

1. Provided for her.

2. Protected her, before she knew him.

C. **Ruth 3:1**—Seek the rest (security) of faith (the covenant). Enter into the other person's work and provision (**Ruth 3:7–13**; **Hebrews 4:1**, **3**, **8–10**; and **John 19:30**). There are certain things that only God can do and that Jesus can give. **Ruth 3:18**.

D. **Ruth 4:10**—Some want the rights, but not the responsibilities of relationship (Jesus is not ashamed to call us brethren). **1**) Boaz purchased Ruth. God purchased us. **2**) Certain ones take what we have to offer but don't care for us. Jesus wants us more than what we have to give.

E. **Ruth 4:13–17**—Ruth was King David's great-grandmother.

1. Restoration through the covenant of God—"Restorer" = Hebrew *shub*—means to turn back, turn, restore, bring back, retrieve, reverse—purpose for His presence.

2. Nourisher: *Kuwl*—Supply, Sustain, Support.

II. Hosea—Covenant Established by God's Eternal Love for Us

A. **Hosea 1:2–9**—Hosea = type of God—Gomer = type of Israel (covenant people)—Children = what the people deserved.

1. *Jezreel:* I will avenge.

2. *Lo–Ruhamah:* I will no more mercy.

3. *Lo–Ammi:* You are not my people and I will not be your God.

B. **Hosea 1:10**–**2:1**—God's covenant is greater than feelings—mercy is greater than judgment—**James 2:13**.

What They Received:

1. Sons of the Living God.

2. My People.

3. Who receives Mercy.

C. **Hosea 2:5**–**9** and **13**—Gomer's rejection of God's love.

D. **Hosea 2:14**–**16**—God's faithfulness greater than man's unfaithfulness; God's unconditional love.

1. *Ishi*—Husband.

2. *Baali*—Master.

3. Desire is greater than duty.

E. **Hosea 3:1**–**5** (esp. **verses 2** and **5**)—Redemptive power of God's Love.

III. David and Jonathan (Mephibosheth)—Restoration, Purpose of the Covenant

A. Jonathan and David loved as one soul **1 Samuel 18:1**–**4.**

1. Jonathan stripped himself—Type of Christ.

2. David—Type of Man.

B. Came into Covenant—**1 Samuel 20:8** and **13**–**17.**

1. David protected by Jonathan.

2. Came into covenant before God.

C. David revealed the love of God. Restored Mephibosheth **2 Samuel 9:1**–**13**—"For Jonathan's sake—show kindness of God to him."

1. Restored in his possession—**verse 7**.

2. Restored in his power—**verses 9**–**10**.

3. Restored in his position—**verse 11**.

D. Jesus came to restore to us everything that Adam lost, and more. He restored us in right-relationship with the Father. He restored us in ability (grace). He restored us in possession (complete work).

E. Salvation

1. Greek—*soteria* = forgiveness, healing, deliverance, protection, and provision.

2. Hebrew—*Yeshua* = something saved, deliverance, aid, victory, prosperity, health, and welfare.

IV. Conclusion

- God wants to totally restore us through His great love for us.

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Lesson 4: Blessings of the Covenant

- Tremendous blessing is available to us through the covenant of God. It is promised in the Old Covenant and established in the New Covenant.

- **Numbers 23:19-23**—*"God is not a man that He should lie. Hath He said it, shall He not do it. Hath He spoken it, shall He not make it good?" I have received commandment to bless. He has blessed and I cannot reverse it. He has not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither has He seen perverseness in Israel: God is with him, the shout of a King is among them. There is not enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel.*

I. Blessings Promised in the Old Covenant

A. Blessing of Abraham **Genesis 12:1**–**3**; **13:2**; **15:4**–**6**; **17:1**–**4**; **22:17**–**18**; and **24:35**.

B. **Deuteronomy 28:1**–**14**.

C. **Deuteronomy 28:15**–**68**—Curses of the law—redeemed from sickness, poverty, slavery, and death.

D. **Deuteronomy 7:9**, **12**–**15**—Increase, blessed above all people, take away sickness.

E. **Deuteronomy 8:18**—power to get wealth—*koach*-vigor, strength, ability, force, capacity, wealth, substance, means—purpose of the blessing.

F. **Deuteronomy 29:9**, **12**–**15**—prosper, establish, God to you, extended—not exclusive, but inclusive.

G. **Joshua 23:14**—Not one thing has failed of all the good things God spoke concerning you.

H. **2 Kings 13:23**—Lord gracious, because of covenant would not destroy—**Exodus 11:7**.

I. **Psalm 103:1**–**5**—forgives, heals, redeems, crowns (raised up), satisfies, renews.

II. Blessing Established Through the New Covenant

A. Prophets prophesied of the "grace" to come—**1 Peter 1:10–12**. What they looked forward to we have in Christ.

1. **Isaiah 42:6–10**—called in righteousness, keep you, give you for a covenant of the people.

2. **Isaiah 49:6–8** (*esp*. **verse 8**)—give you for a covenant to the people to establish the earth.

3. **Jeremiah 31:31–34**—New Covenant, law written in our hearts.

4. **Jeremiah 32:37–42** (*esp*. **verse 40**)—everlasting covenant to do them good—change their hearts.

5. **Hebrews 11:39–40**—*These all having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.*

B. Jesus completed—**Romans 8:1–4**.

1. **Luke 1:72**—Jesus fulfillment—John proclaimed Him (**verse 77**).

2. **Acts 3:25–26**—Apostles preached Him—to Jews first (**Romans 1:16**).

3. **Hebrews 8:6**—Better covenant on better promises—**verses 7–13** = I will vs. If you—**Hebrews 7:22** = guarantee.

4. **Hebrews 12:24**—Jesus as mediator.

5. **2 Corinthians 1:20**; **Romans 8:31–32**—Jesus is the total fulfillment of all the promises (covenant) of God.

III. Conclusion

- God has forever said "yes" in Christ.

Lesson 5: The Better Covenant

Hebrews 8:6.

Hebrews 1–3.

Chapter 1

God spoke by the prophets.

God has spoken to us by His Son. Jesus.

Jesus is: God manifest in the flesh. The Creator. Our Savior.

Better than angels. The Only Begotten Son. **1 Peter 1:10**–**12**.

Chapter 2

Don’t move away. Don’t neglect your salvation.

Remember what He did. Saved us. Gave us authority. Freed us. Jesus came to restore us to a place of dominion. **Psalm 8:3**–**9**.

Little lower than the angels. **Psalm 8:5** angels—*Elohim*. Here—*Angelos*. Little, lower than God Himself. Little lower than the angels.

Completely identified with our need. His identification with us in the cross. **V 10**. The purpose He took on flesh. To destroy him who had the power of death and deliver us.

He totally understands us and is able to help us.

Chapter 3

Consider Jesus. He is greater than Moses. Moses was faithful over the house. Jesus built the house. We are his house. We are God's children through faith in Jesus. Keep listening to Jesus. Don't move away from God. (Sin is the result of unbelief.) Problem with sin—don't know Him.

1 John 3:6—*Whoever abides in Him sins not: whoever sins has not seen Him or known Him.*

1 John 3:6–10.

Galatians 5:4.

Colossians 1:22–23.

We have partaken of Jesus by faith. Keep believing Jesus.

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Lesson 6: The Better Covenant II

Hebrews 4–6

Chapter 4—Entering into rest is believing on Jesus.

4:1–**2**—His rest. Word preached did not profit, not being mixed with faith . . .

4:6—Did not enter because of unbelief (disobedience) . . . **Numbers 13:30**–**33**; **14:6**–**11**; and **Romans 10:16**.

4:7—David spoke of another day . . . **Psalm 118:17**–**29**; **95:7**–**8.**

4:8—If Joshua had given them rest, He would not afterward have spoken of another day.

4:10—Ceased from His own works. **John 19:30**. Entering into rest is entering into Christ's finished work.

4:12–**16**—Believing the Word is believing Jesus. He is the living Word. Come into a relationship with the Word. Jesus already secured the promise for us and finished the work.

Jesus has finished the work. There is nothing more that you need to do! It takes faith to receive what He has already done!

Not about doing something. It is about believing someone. Believing Jesus.

He is alive. He knows us completely. He is able to help us extremely.

Chapter 5

5:1–**6**—Jesus is our great High Priest. He understands our need. **5:8**—God made Him priest when He died and rose again.

Faith enters into Grace. Into the work that Jesus finished in His death and resurrection.

5:10—Great High priest lives forever and brings us into maturity. Knowing Him **Philippians 3:10.**

5:11—Keep hearing Him. What makes us dull of hearing? **3:12**–**13**—Sin, unbelief, legalism.

Mature believers understand His work and know the difference between grace and law.

Not just looking to keep the rules, looking for relationship. In this relationship we know the difference between desire and duty.

Hosea 2:16 and **6:6.**

Chapter 6—Going On to Maturity

6:1–8—Maturity is not about our performance or about understanding the basic doctrines of the church. Maturity is about letting Christ live His life through you.

6:9–12—Relationship produces life.

Galatians 5:6—The result of knowing who Christ is and what He has done is faith . . . Faith takes us into the promises and that which Christ has already provided for us.

6:13–20—Unchangeable Word of the Unchangeable God. Believe Jesus; enter by faith into His provision and promise.

When we enter into maturity, we receive Christ's promises. The things He already made available in His death and resurrection.

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Lesson 7: The Better Covenant III

Hebrews 7–10. All Things New.

New Priest. Chapter 7

Verses 1–**10**, **verse 4**—Consider the greatness of Melchizedek. Abraham gave tithes to him. Blessed Abraham. Less is blessed by greater. Blessed, Levi. Levi was in Abraham's loins. Melchizedek is greater than Levi. In OC Levi received tithes. Jesus receives tithes. Better priest.

Verses 11–**22**, **verse 12**—Since we have a better priest, we must have a better covenant. **Verse 16**—Better priest. Lives forever.

Verse 19—Law didn't complete anything. Better hope did. **Verse 22**—Jesus is the surety of a better testament.

Verse 25—Jesus lives forever in the presence of God interceding for us. **Verse 26**–**28**—Jesus is a better priest. (Lives forever). Never sinned.

New Covenant. Chapter 8

Verses 1–**6**—OC Priests offered gifts and sacrifices. Jesus is the mediator of a better covenant. Established on better promises (He offered Himself). **1 Timothy 2:4**–**6**.

Verses 7–**9**—OC caused God to find fault with men. Did not regard them . . . Did not continue . . .

Verses 10–**13**—New Covenant. Regards us. Know Him. Merciful. Does not remember sin, iniquity.

This NC is not about all the things we need to do. It is about knowing God.

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New Sanctuary and Sacrifice. Chapter 9

Verses 1–**10**, **verse 9**—OC Sacrifices could not make us whole. **Verse 10**—DBR changed everything.

Verses 11–**18**—Eternal redemption. Eternal inheritance. Secure in Christ.

Verses 12–**15**—Purchased by the blood. Purged our conscience.

Verses 19–**28**—Blood Christ. **Verse 20**—Purchased promises. **Verse 21**—enabled ministry. **Verse 22**—Dismissed sin.

New Life in Christ. Chapter 10

Verses 1–**14**, **verse 1**—OC Sacrifices can never make them whole (**9:9** could not make whole).

Take away the knowledge of sin and we begin to do His will!

Verses 9–**14**—Set apart and completed by His sacrifice. Complete in Christ. **Colossians 2:10**.

Verses 15–**18**—Completely Forgiven. (**18**) **Verse 19**–**25**—Power of a changed life!

Come into His presence. Live without fear. Hold fast to our profession.

Consider one another. Don't forsake the assembling of ourselves together. **Verses 26**–**31**—Don't reject Jesus!

Verses 32–**39**—Remember what God has done. Cast not away your confidence. Patiently pursue God's promise. Live by faith. That is who we are!

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Lesson 8: The Better Covenant IV

Hebrews 11–13

Let me show you what faith looks like.

These people's lives were a living demonstration of their faith in God. Our

lives declare there is a God. Actions. Words. Choices.

I. What Does Faith Look Like? Chapter 11

A. Faith (understands the reality of God's living Word and) acts (accordingly).

Verse 3—Abel offered. Enoch walked. Faith is a relationship with God. Faith pleases God.

Verse 6—Noah built. He received righteousness. Abraham looked. Sarah received.

Verse 13—Saw, persuaded, embraced, and confessed God's promises.

B. Faith speaks.

Verses 20–22—Isaac blessed. Jacob blessed. Joseph declared.

C. Faith makes the right choice.

Verses 23–38—Moses, Rahab, and many others.

D. All these looked for what we have in Jesus Christ.

Verses 39–40

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II. What Does Faith Represent? Chapter 12

Faith is a relationship with the living God through Jesus Christ.

A. Look to Jesus. Jesus is the one who has authored and completed our faith.

B. Consider Him. We've come to Him. Don't refuse Him. He is still speaking to us.

How does He chasten us? **Psalm 94:12** and **Romans 8:1**.

C. Live at peace with God. Don't get bitter. Don't live in rebellion. **Galatians 5:4**.

D. We come to Jesus. He's speaking to us. His kingdom is a kingdom of grace!

III. Practically Applying Our Faith. Chapter 13

A. Walk in love. Strangers. Marriage. Behavior. Authority. Jesus.

B. Don't get carried away with funny doctrines. Get established in grace. Come to Jesus. Keep praising Him.

C. Listen to Godly authority. Let Jesus live His life big in you.

D. Remember more than anything. His grace is with you.

Conclusion

God is speaking to us through Jesus. Don't move away from Him. Consider Him. Don't harden your heart to Him. He is our Rest. He is our priest. Live our life as a demonstration of faith in Him. He teaches us to know God. His blood has covered our sin and brought us into a relationship with the living God. In this life of faith, we act, speak, and choose accordingly. We look to Jesus and come to Jesus. He helps us as we demonstrate His Grace to this world!