Covenants and Dispensations – Special Study G.A. Cooley

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Introduction

Paul said to Timothy:

(2 Tim 2:15 KJV) **Study** to show thyself approved unto God, a **workman** that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing** the word of truth.

Study, G4704. spoudazo, spoo-dad'-zo; from G4710; to use speed, i.e. to make effort, be prompt or earnest:--do (give) diligence, be diligent (forward), endeavour, labour, study.

Workman, G2040. ergates, er-gat'-ace; from G2041; a toiler; fig. a teacher:--labourer, worker (-men).

Rightly dividing, G3718. orthotomeo, or-thot-om-eh'-o; from a comp. of G3717 and the base of G5114; **to make a straight cut, i.e. (fig.) to dissect (expound) correctly (the divine** message):--rightly divide.

The words "study" and "workman" imply effort and diligence when it comes to studying the Word of God. There is no other way to know the Word of God than to "labor" over it. We believe "Rightly dividing the word of truth" can only be done by understanding God's Promises to mankind in His **Covenants** and the different administrations of His Plan, the **Dispensations**.

There are eight covenants and seven dispensations.

Scofield lists the eight Covenants and seven Dispensations as follows:

The Eight Covenants, Summary:

- (1) The Edenic Covenant (Gen 1:28) conditions the life of man in innocence.
- (2) The Adamic Covenant (Gen 3:15) conditions the life of fallen men and gives promise of a Redeemer.
- (3) The Noahic Covenant (Gen 9:1) establishes the principle of human government.
- (4) The Abrahamic Covenant (Gen 15.18) found the nation of Israel and confirms, with specific additions, the Adamic promise of redemption.
- (5) The Mosaic Covenant (Exo 19:25) condemns all men, "for all have sinned" (Rom 3:23; 5:12).
- (6) The Palestinian Covenant (Deu 30:3) secures the final restoration and conversion of Israel.
- (7) The Davidic Covenant (2 Sam 7:16) establishes the perpetuity of the Davidic family (fulfilled in Christ, Mat 1:1; Luke 1:31-33; Rom 1:3), and of the Davidic kingdom over Israel and over the whole earth, to be fulfilled in and by Christ (2 Sam 7:8-17; Zech 12:8; Luke 1:31-33; Acts 15:14-17; 1 Cor 15:24).
- (8) The New Covenant (Heb 8:8) rests upon the sacrifice of Christ and secures the eternal blessedness, under the Abrahamic Covenant (Gal 3:13-29), of all who believe. It is absolutely unconditional and, since no responsibility is by it committed to man, it is final and irreversible.

The Seven Dispensations:

- (1) Innocence (Gen 1:28)
- (2) Conscience or Moral Responsibility (Gen 3:7)

(3) Human Government (Gen 8:15)

(4) Promise (Gen 12:1)

- (5) Law (Exo 19:1)
- (6) Church/Grace (Acts 2:1)
- (7) Kingdom (Rev 20:4) important note at Gen 11:10, relating to God's dealings with mankind.

Definition of the Covenant and Dispensation

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Definition of Covenants:

A covenant is a sovereign pronouncement of God by which He establishes a relationship of responsibility

- (1) between Himself and an individual (Adam in the Edenic Covenant, Gen 2:16),
- (2) **between Himself and mankind in general** (in the promise of the Noahic Covenant never again to destroy all flesh with a flood, Gen 9:9),
- (2) between Himself and a nation (Israel in the Mosaic Covenant, Exo 19:3), or
- (3) **between Himself and a specific human family** (the house of David in the promise of a kingly line in perpetuity through the Davidic Covenant, 2 Sam 7:16).

Definition of Dispensations:

A dispensation is a period of time during which man is tested in respect to his obedience to some specific revelation of the will of God.

Three important concepts are implied in the definition of Dispensations:

- (1) **a deposit of divine revelation** concerning God's will, embodying what God requires of man as to his conduct;
- (2) man's stewardship of this divine revelation, in which he is responsible to obey it; and,
- (3) **a time-period, often called an "age**," during which this divine revelation is dominant in the testing of man's obedience to God.

Dispensations are progressive in God's revelation to man.

The dispensations are a progressive and connected revelation of God's dealings with man, given sometimes to the whole race and at other times to a particular people, Israel.

Man's part is obedience to the revelation.

On man's part the continuing requirement is obedience to the revelation of God. This obedience is a stewardship of faith. Although the divine revelation unfolds progressively, the deposit of truth in the earlier time-periods is not discarded; rather it is cumulative.

The purpose of each dispensation

The purpose of each dispensation, then, is to place man under a specific rule of conduct, but such stewardship is not a condition of salvation. In every past dispensation unregenerate man has failed, and he has failed in this present dispensation and will in the future. But salvation has been and will continue to be available to him by God's grace through faith.

Explanation of the Covenants and Dispensations

Covenants and Dispensations Together

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Covenants							
Edenic Gen 1:28	Adamic (Gen 3:15)	Noahic (Gen 9:1)	Abrahamic (Gen 15,18)	Mosaic (Exo 19:25)	Palestinian (Deu 30:3)	Davidic (2 Sam 7:16)	New Covenant (Heb 8:8)
Conditions the life of man in innocence.	Conditions the life of fallen men and gives promise of a Redeemer.	Establishes the principle of human government.	Founded the nation of Israel and confirms, with specific additions, the Adamic promise of redemption.	Condemns all men, "for all have sinned" (Rom 3:23, 5:12).	Secures the final restoration and conversion of Israel.	Establishes the perpetuity of the Davidic family (fulfilled in Christ, Mat 1:1; Luke 1:31-33; Rom 1:3) and of the Davidic kingdom over Israel and over the whole earth, to be fulfilled in and by Christ (2 Sam 7:8- 17; Zech 12:8; Luke 1:31-33; Acts 15:14- 17; 1 Cor 15:24).	Rests upon the sacrifice of Christ and secures the eternal blessedness, under the Abrahamic Covenant (Gal 3:13-29) of all who believe. It is unconditional and, since no responsibility is by it committed to man, it is final and irreversible.
Dispensations							
Innocence	Conscience or Moral	Human Government	Promise	Law	Law	Law	Church/Grace
(Gen 1:28)	Responsibility (Gen 3:7)	(Gen 8:15)	(Gen 12:1)	(Exo 19:1)			(Acts 2:1)
							Kingdom (Rev 20:4) Will continue under the New Covenant. Gen 11:10 relating to God's dealings with mankind.

1. Edenic Covenant and Innocence Dispensation:

The first Dispensation is called "The Dispensation of Innocence." It could also be called "The Dispensation of Human Righteousness." This Dispensation lasted a noticeably short time. Man was without sin. He will never again be in this condition. When we are saved, we are not returned to Adam's state before his fall nor will we ever. We become a totally new creation and our new body will be a glorified body like unto the Lord's. This dispensation ended with the expulsion from the garden. The joyful and restful beauty of the garden became a life of toil and death.

This Dispensation was administered under the Edenic Covenant

(a) Its promises Human righteousness and comfort. A life of beauty, comfort and communion with God, the Creator. It was to be a perpetual human life without sin and death.

(b) Its obligations

- 1. To Replenish the earth with an earthly race of people.
- 2. To Subdue the earth to the needs of the human race.
- 3. To have dominion over the animal creation.
- 4. To restrict themselves to a vegetable diet.
- 5. To till the Garden in which God had placed him. This was doubtless a pleasure and not a task. There was no curse upon the earth at that time.
- 6. To abstain from eating of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- 7. The punishment for disobedience was death.

2. The Adamic Covenant and Dispensation of Conscience:

The Second Dispensation is called the Dispensation of Conscience, or that of Fallen Man. This dispensation extends from the expulsion from the Garden of Eden to the Flood, approximately 1685 years. Man acquired a sinful nature and, having eaten of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, he also acquired a "conscience," thus we call this period of time, the Dispensation of Conscience. This dispensation ended with the judgment of the flood. This dispensation was administered under the Adamic Covenant. This covenant gave the promise of a Redeemer and required man to approach God only through the "blood sacrifice" which pointed to Calvary. Their conscience would guide them to do "right" and shun the "wrong."

3. The Noahic Covenant and Dispensation of Human Government:

The Noahic Covenant establishes the principle of human government, the government of man under God. God's Covenant with Noah gave the human race a new beginning with the institution of Human Government. Capital punishment was first established by God and to be administered by man. The Third Dispensation is called that of Human Government. This dispensation closed with the tower of Babel. It was God's purpose from the beginning for man to populate the whole earth. Instead, man forsook the God of Noah and began to say, "let us, let us, let us" which echoed Lucifer's "I will, I will, I will." They did not want to be scattered but to become a "One World Order" without God. "Unity" was the theme. So, God judged man again, this time with confusing their tongue which caused them to become scattered.

4. The Abrahamic Covenant and Dispensation of Promise:

The Fourth Covenant is the Abrahamic Covenant. The Abrahamic Covenant was an important turning point in the divine dealing with man for it establishes the "seed line" by God selecting a small rivulet, or stream, from the main river of humanity to provide for the "seed of the woman" to be brought forth. That rivulet was the family of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, later called Israel. Israel was called:

- (1) to be a witness to the unity of God (or the only one true God) in the midst of universal idolatry
- (2) to illustrate the blessedness of serving the true God
- (3) to receive and preserve the divine revelations
- (4) to be the human channel for the Messiah

The Abrahamic Covenant was a gracious covenant, one of promised blessings to Abraham and his seed. He was promised an earthly as well as a heavenly inheritance. Through his Seed, Jesus, the Messiah, all nations of the earth would be blessed. It established Israel as a nation along with her promised land.

This covenant demonstrated Abrahamic faith and its result. "Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness." The sign of this covenant was that of circumcision which pointed to Calvary where the old creation was cut off and the new creation brought into view. The Fourth Dispensation of Promise was the period of time over which God gave and confirmed the Abrahamic covenant with the Patriarchs. Though the Abrahamic Covenant was an everlasting covenant, the Dispensation of Promise closed with the giving of the Law. This dispensation provided the seed line for the coming Messiah and Savior.

5. <u>The Mosaic Covenant and Dispensation of the Law:</u>

The Mosaic Covenant involves extensive wording, intricate details of the sacrifices, the priesthood and the tabernacle and the complete governing of the national life of Israel by the sabbaths and religious festivals. All of this makes it the most extensive and complicated of all the covenants. This "old covenant" is made up of types and shadows that point to the "new covenant" that was to come and point Israel to "a new and living way." Both in the early church and in the latter church there were and are those that continued to keep themselves under the bondage of this covenant and have not entered the rest of the New Covenant. This debate is illustrated for us in Acts 15 and explained extensively by the Apostle Paul in the epistles to the Romans, Galatians, and Hebrew. The period of time that the Mosaic Covenant is given and played out is call the Dispensation of the Law. The story begins with call of Moses and their deliverance from Egypt. The beginning of this dispensation was a mighty and awesome deliverance for Israel. After their deliverance they sang the Song of Moses, the Song of the Redeemed "Then sang Moses and the children of Israel" the great Song of the Thanksgiving – the Song of the Redeemed, "The Lord is my strength and song . . . my salvation; he is my God . . ." After a glorious deliverance and a mighty victory, and with their praise and singing a song unto the Lord, within three days, the children of Israel were murmuring." The newborn child of God will find the world a bitter place. That is because he is now spiritual. A believer's walk should be supernatural, believing that God will provide and deliver from the bitterness of life. This is the "new creation" walk that brings the child of God into the joy and fellowship with his Lord and Savior as he sees and receives the provision that is of God.

So, what did Moses do? He "cried unto the Lord." He knew who he must turn to. "The LORD showed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet." The "tree" is the type of Jesus Christ, who has taken the bitterness out of life and provides us with the sweetness of new creation life. The law had not been given yet. This is grace all the way. The Lord is proving them whether they would heed His Voice and trust His grace. He promised them protection from the world's diseases, if only they would harken to His voice. Jehovah-Rapha, "the Lord that healeth." He gave them, by grace, a well of water for each tribe and a palm tree for each of the elders. The children of Israel moved on in the wilderness and continued to murmur. The Lord always heard their murmuring and gave them provision which was a spiritual lesson. He gave them bread from heaven which was a type of the Lord Jesus Christ. He taught them to observe the Sabbath, which was a type of Israel's millennium Kingdom. He gave them water from the rock, and that rock was Christ. He delivered them in battle with Amalek, a type of the flesh. Elderships were set up to help Moses in the affairs of the assembly of Israel, thus establishing order in the assembly.

All of this was prior to the giving of the Law and was given by Jehovah under pure grace.

- (5) The Fifth Covenant, the Mosaic Covenant.
- (a) Its recipients: This covenant was given only to the nation of Israel.

6. <u>The Palestinian Covenant and Dispensation of the Law</u>:

This covenant was given during the Dispensation of the Law and was in addition to the Mosaic Covenant. (Deu 29:1 KJV) These are the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb.

A Land Covenant

This covenant could most properly be called a "**Land Covenant.**" The word "land" is used approximately 180 times in the Book of Deuteronomy. This illustrates that the primary focus of the Palestinian Covenant was on the Promised Land. It was given to the second generation at the end of the forty years of

wandering in the wilderness and just before they entered the land promised in the Abrahamic Covenant. It laid down for all generations the conditions for entering and maintaining the Promised Land.

The Second Giving of the Law

While this second generation received this new covenant, it also received from Moses a rehearsal of the Mosaic Covenant. This is what is contained in the Book of Deuteronomy which means "The Second Law."

The Unbelief of the First Generation

The first generation failed to enter covenant rest because they believed the evil report. From Kadesh-Barnea they went in to search the land for forty days and in unbelief rejected the covenant land promised to Abraham because of the evil report.

(Num 13:2 KJV) Send **thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan**, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them. (Num 13:17 KJV) And **Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan**, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain:

(Num 13:21 KJV) So **they went up, and searched the land** from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, as men come to Hamath.

(Num 13:25 KJV) And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

(Num 13:26 KJV) And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and **brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.**

(Num 13:27 KJV) And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

The Good Report

(Num 13:30 KJV) And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

(Num 14:6 KJV) And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

(Num 14:7 KJV) And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, **The land**, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

(Num 14:8 KJV) If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.

(Num 14:9 KJV) Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

The Evil Report

(Num 13:31 KJV) But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

(Num 13:32 KJV) And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

(Num 13:33 KJV) And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

The Rebellion

(Num 14:1 KJV) And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night.

(Num 14:2 KJV) And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

(Num 14:3 KJV) And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?

(Num 14:4 KJV) And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.

(Num 14:5 KJV) Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

Forty Years of Wandering

God then required this generation to wander in the wilderness for forty years, a year for a day. They experienced hardships instead of rest and died in the wilderness as a result of their lack of faith in the promises of the Covenant. They simply did not believe God at His Word.

(Num 14:26 KJV) And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

(Num 14:27 KJV) How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.

(Num 14:28 KJV) Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:

(Num 14:29 KJV) Your carcases shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

(Num 14:32 KJV) But as for you, your carcases, they shall fall in this wilderness.

(Num 14:33 KJV) And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcases be wasted in the wilderness.

(Num 14:34 KJV) After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

Recipients of the Palestinian Covenant

God made this covenant in Moab with the second generation of the Israelites who came up out of Egypt. (Deu 29:1 KJV) These are the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of **Moab**, beside the covenant which he made with them in **Horeb**.

This Covenant is also made with their posterity.

(Deu 29:14 KJV) Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath;

(Deu 29:15 KJV) But with him that standeth here with us this day before the LORD our God, and also with him that is not here with us this day:

(Deu 29:22 KJV) So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the LORD hath laid upon it;

(Deu 29:23 KJV) And that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath:

(Deu 29:24 KJV) Even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger?

(Deu 29:25 KJV) Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them forth out of the land of Egypt:

(Deu 29:26 KJV) For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and whom he had not given unto them:

(Deu 29:27 KJV) And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:

(Deu 29:28 KJV) And the LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.

(Deu 29:29 KJV) The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Its Promises

The promise of the land to Israel was "unconditional" under the Abrahamic Covenant. No matter what Israel did there would be a remnant that would inherit the land.

(Lev 26:42 KJV) Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.

(Lev 26:44 KJV) And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I am the LORD their God.

(Lev 26:45 KJV) But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, that I might be their God: I am the LORD. (Lev 26:46 KJV) These are the statutes and judgments and laws, which the LORD made between him and the children of Israel in mount Sinai by the hand of Moses.

The Promised Land

The Book of Deuteronomy gave that new generation a graphic description of the promised land. God had distinctly said that it was "His land" and that He was allowing them to enter that land as stewards over it.

God describes the land as: (Deut. 8:7-10; 11:9-17; 26:15; 28:11-13; Lev. 26:3-13)

- a. A land of hills and valleys.
- b. A land watered by early and latter rains.
- c. A land of fruitfulness.
- d. A land watched over by the Lord God.
- e. A land of rivers and fountains.
- f. A land of mineral wealth.
- g. A land of prosperity.

The Palestinian Covenant was "**conditional.**" This does not mean that Israel would not eventually inherit the land because the Abrahamic Covenant "unconditionally" gave them the land. But since the Palestinian Covenant was conditional, there were **blessings** and **cursing**.

The Blessings

If they were obedient, many blessings would come upon Israel and overtake them. They would be high above all nations.

The blessing of the Palestinian Covenant:

- a. Blessed in the city.
- b. Blessed in the land.
- c. Blessed in fruitfulness.
- d. Blessed in daily provision.
- e. Blessed in daily activities.
- f. Blessed in victory over their enemies.
- g. Blessed in storehouses.
- h. Blessed in labor.
- i. Blessed in seasonal rains.
- j. Blessed in national position.
- k. Blessed in commerce.

The fulfilment of these **promises of blessing** began with the ministry of Joshua as he led them in their conquest and possession of the land promised originally in the Abrahamic Covenant and confirmed in the Mosaic and Palestinian Covenants. Joshua records their victory over their enemies and the dividing of the land into the tribal inheritances. (Joshua 11:23; 21:43-45) The Books of Judges, Ruth, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings and I and II Chronicles record times when these promises of blessing were fulfilled in the history of Israel. The greatest extent of their conquest came through the leadership of David and the greatest extent of their material prosperity came during the reign of King Solomon.

The Cursing

If they were disobedient, many cursing would come upon them and overtake them. These are distinctly referred to as curses of the covenant, meaning that God would be bound by His word to judge them for their disobedience. (I Kings 8; Leviticus 26:1; Deut. 27:15-26)

The cursing of the Covenant:

- a. Cursed in the city.
- b. Cursed in the field.
- c. Cursed in daily provision.
- d. Cursed in fruitfulness.
- e. Cursed in daily activities.
- f. Cursed in labor.
- g. Cursed in diseases.
- h. Cursed in the land.
- i. Cursed in the lack of rains.
- j. Cursed in defeat by their enemies.
- k. Cursed in captivities.
- I. Cursed in domestic life.
- m. Cursed in possessions.
- n. Cursed in national position.

The fulfilment of these **promises of cursing** began in the time of the Judges when the people turned away from God to idols and suffered for it (Judges 2). The Books of Ruth, I and II Samuel, I and II Kings and I and II Chronicles record times in which these promises of cursing were fulfilled in the history of Israel. The ultimate fulfilment of these curses in the Old Testament came with the captivities of the house of Israel and Judah (II Kings: II Chronicles).

Its Obligations

Israel's obligation was to be obedient to the conditions of the covenant. If Israel became disobedient, and they did, they would be dispersed from the land. It will be their duty to return to the Lord and to obey His voice.

(Deu 30:1 KJV) And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee,

(Deu 30:2 KJV) And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;

(Deu 30:3 KJV) That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee.

This returning to the Lord will involve their repentance toward God and salvational faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

(John 6:28 KJV) Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

(John 6:29 KJV) Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

(Acts 2:38 KJV) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:39 KJV) For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

(Acts 20:21 KJV) Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Rom 16:25 KJV) Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

(Rom 16:26 KJV) But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

This was the message that John the Baptist, Jesus, and Peter preached to Israel.

(Mat 3:1 KJV) In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, (Mat 3:2 KJV) And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

(Mat 4:17 KJV) From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

(Acts 2:38 KJV) Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

The Prophets of Israel spoke of that day when Israel will repent and return to the Lord.

(Jer 32:30 KJV) For the children of Israel and the children of Judah have only done evil before me from their youth: for the children of Israel have only provoked me to anger with the work of their hands, saith the LORD.

(Jer 32:37 KJV) Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely:

(Jer 32:38 KJV) And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:

(Jer 32:39 KJV) And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

(Jer 32:40 KJV) And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

(Jer 32:41 KJV) Yea, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will plant them in this land assuredly with my whole heart and with my whole soul.

(Jer 32:42 KJV) For thus saith the LORD; Like as I have brought all this great evil upon this people, so will I bring upon them all the good that I have promised them.

(Jer 32:43 KJV) And fields shall be bought in this land, whereof ye say, It is desolate without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans.

(Jer 32:44 KJV) Men shall buy fields for money, and subscribe evidences, and seal them, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin, and in the places about Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the south: for I will cause their captivity to return, saith the LORD.

(Ezek 36:16 KJV) Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

(Ezek 36:17 KJV) Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman.

(Ezek 36:18 KJV) Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it:

(Ezek 36:19 KJV) And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them.

(Ezek 36:20 KJV) And when they entered unto the heathen, whither they went, they profaned my holy name, when they said to them, These are the people of the LORD, and are gone forth out of his land.

(Ezek 36:21 KJV) But I had pity for mine holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the heathen, whither they went.

(Ezek 36:22 KJV) Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went.

(Ezek 36:23 KJV) And I will sanctify my great name, which was profaned among the heathen, which ye have profaned in the midst of them; and the heathen shall know that I am the LORD, saith the Lord GOD, when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes.

(Ezek 36:24 KJV) For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.

(Ezek 36:25 KJV) Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

(Ezek 36:26 KJV) A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

(Ezek 36:27 KJV) And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

(Ezek 36:28 KJV) And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

(Joel 2:12 KJV) Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

(Joel 2:13 KJV) And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

(Joel 2:14 KJV) Who knoweth if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

(Joel 2:15 KJV) Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

(Joel 2:16 KJV) Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

(Joel 2:17 KJV) Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

(Joel 2:18 KJV) Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.

(Zec 12:10 KJV) And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

(Acts 19:4 KJV) Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

When they turn to Christ, their Messiah, He will return to earth to establish His Millennial Kingdom.

(Deu 30:2 KJV) And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;

(Acts 3:19 KJV) Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

(Acts 3:20 KJV) And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

(Acts 3:21 KJV) Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

Paul spoke of this when he said:

(Rom 11:25 KJV) For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

(Rom 11:26 KJV) And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

The Palestinian Covenant is legal in character and therefore has its conditions.

Blessings for obedience and cursing for disobedience for it repeats a portion of the Mosaic Law to the new generation Deu 28 and Lev 26). Dispersion among the Gentiles was their judgment because they disobeyed the covenant. The elect of Israel will be graciously restored to their land

and to God's blessing when they return to the Lord and receive Jesus as their Savior. God will not forget His promise by grace that He made to Abraham regarding the land.

(Gen 15:18 KJV) In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: (Gen 17:8 KJV) 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. (Lev 26:42 KJV) Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land. (Deu 30:20 KJV) That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Its Duration

The gracious aspect of the Palestinian Covenant will endure forever.

(Jer 32:37 KJV) Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger, and in my fury, and in great wrath; and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely:

(Jer 32:38 KJV) And they shall be my people, and I will be their God:

(Jer 32:39 KJV) And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

(Ezek 37:25 KJV) And they shall dwell in the land that I have given unto Jacob my servant, wherein your fathers have dwelt; and they shall dwell therein, even they, and their children, and their children's children for ever: and my servant David shall be their prince for ever.

And, in that day God will make an everlasting covenant, the New Covenant, with Israel which will assure them of a perpetual continuation of these blessings.

(Jer 32:40 KJV) And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me.

Its Sign or Witness

The sign of this covenant must be the fact that God did what he said He would do. He blessed them when they obeyed Him in the land, but He kicked them out as a result of their disobedience. But there is a great sign in our day of the Palestinian Covenant and of the greater covenant, the Abrahamic Covenant, and that is, the reestablishment of the nation of Israel in 1948 in their land along with their control of their capitol city of Jerusalem in 1967. But the greatest sign of this covenant is yet to come and that is when they enter their Millennial Kingdom under the Lord Jesus Christ and they will possess the land from the river of Egypt to the river of Euphrates, from Kadeshbarnea on the south to Hamath on the north as promised to their fathers.

Its Importance:

The importance of the Palestinian Covenant is the demonstration of God fulfilling His promise to the nation of Israel. The promise in the Abrahamic Covenant with regard to the land was given to the new generation that would possess the land in spite of the unbelief of the preceding generation which fell in the wilderness. It is also true of the terminal generation which is in unbelief but there will be a generation that will accept their Messiah and will possess the full inheritance of the land.

7. Davidic Covenant and Law Dispensation:

Introduction

As the Palestinian Covenant was a "Land Covenant," the Davidic Covenant is a "Kingdom Covenant" with a king. It is called the Davidic Covenant for it was with David, the shepherd boy, that the covenant was first established even though Saul was the first king. This covenant was also given during the Dispensation of the Law. It requires Israel to be in her land for them to meet its prophetic fulfillment of an everlasting kingdom.

Its Recipients

This covenant was made with David and his posterity through Solomon.

2 Samuel 7:8 (KJV) Now therefore so shalt thou say unto my servant David, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I took thee from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel:

2 Samuel 7:9 (KJV) And I was with thee whithersoever thou wentest, and have cut off all thine enemies out of thy sight, and have made thee a great name, like unto the name of the great *men* that *are* in the earth.

2 Samuel 7:10 (KJV) Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,

2 Samuel 7:11 (KJV) And as since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also the LORD telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

2 Samuel 7:12 (KJV) And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Samuel 7:13 (KJV) He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

2 Samuel 7:14 (KJV) I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

2 Samuel 7:15 (KJV) But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took *it* from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

2 Samuel 7:16 (KJV) And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

1 Chronicles 28:5 (KJV) And of all my sons, (for the LORD hath given me many sons,) he hath chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel. 1 Chronicles 28:6 (KJV) And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him *to be* my son, and I will be his father.

1 Chronicles 28:7 (KJV) Moreover I will establish his kingdom for ever, if he be constant to do my commandments and my judgments, as at this day.

Its Promises

The Promises of this covenant are called "the sure mercies of David."

Isaiah 55:3 (KJV) Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, *even* the sure mercies of David.

Acts 13:34 (KJV) And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, *now* no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, **I will give you the sure mercies of David.**

The Promises of this covenant are given to the following:

- 1. **To David.** God promised a perpetual house (dynasty), kingdom, and throne.
- 2. **To David's seed (Solomon and his lineage).** He promised mercy and the establishment of his kingdom forever.
- 3. **To Israel.** He promised a permanent place of habitation as well as deliverance from their enemies.

Its Obligations

While there were no obligations for the fulfillment of the covenant promises, obedience was required of any king to remain on David's throne and to enjoy God's blessing. God promised never to reject the dynasty of Solomon, but He did threaten to remove them who disobeyed His commands.

(a) Its Character:

- (b) Its Duration:
- (c) Its Sign or Witness:
- (d) Its Importance:

The Seventh Covenant and the Genealogies of Jesus

The Davidic Covenant is a "**Kingdom Covenant**" providing a King and a Kingdom. The genealogies show that the Eternal King and Eternal Kingdom for Israel not only comes from David but will be fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Messiah was Promised of the Royal Line of David

The Messiah was promised through the prophets, centuries before. It was promised that He would be of the lineage of David.

2 Samuel 7:12 (KJV) And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Samuel 7:13 (KJV) He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

Isaiah 9:7 (KJV) Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

The first and immediate test of anyone claiming to be Israel's Messiah was to check the public genealogical tables. Both Matthew and Luke include genealogy of Jesus to prove beyond any doubt that he had the genetic background required of the Messiah, that is, He would come from the royal line of David. The genealogies of both Joseph and Mary show that they were both house and lineage of David.

Matthew's Genealogy

Matthew begins right at the start to establish the divine and royal pedigree as well as the Seed line. Matthew 1:1 (KJV) The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Matthew makes the tie to the two most important covenants in the Scriptures for Israel.

The Davidic Covenant given to King David as the King and the Abrahamic Covenant given to Abraham as to His Seed.

2 Samuel 7:16 (KJV) And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

Galations 3:16 (KJV) Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

Matthew proves the **"Kingly"** right of Jesus to the throne by following the male line of Joseph, that is, through his legal father, a descendant of Solomon.

Matthew 1:1 (KJV) The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Matthew 1:2 (KJV) Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;

Matthew 1:3 (KJV) And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram;

Matthew 1:4 (KJV) And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon;

Matthew 1:5 (KJV) And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

(Mat 1:6 KJV) And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;

(Mat 1:7 KJV) And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa;

(Mat 1:8 KJV) And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias;

(Mat 1:9 KJV) And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias;

(Mat 1:10 KJV) And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat **Josias;**

(Mat 1:11 KJV) And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon:

Josias was the last reigning king in this genealogy.

2 Chronicles 35:24 – Josiah died from a battle wound.

2 Chronicles 36:1 – Jehoahaz, son of Josiah, 21 years old, reigned 3 months.

2 Chronicles 36:4 – King of Egypt replaced Jehoahaz with his brother, Eliakim and changed his name to Jehoiakim.

2 Chronicles 36:5-10 – Jehoakim taken to Babylon. Jehoiachin, Nebuchadnezzar set up Zedekiah, Jehoiachen's brother to reign.

Zedekiah was also taken to Babylon.

All the sons of Josiah did evil in the sight of the Lord.

(Mat 1:12 KJV) And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel;

(Mat 1:13 KJV) And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; (Mat 1:14 KJV) And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud;

(Mat 1:15 KJV) And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob;

(Mat 1:16 KJV) And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

The Davidic Covenant establishes the legality of Jesus' future rule over the earth from David's throne.

Luke 1:32 (KJV) He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

Luke 1:33 (KJV) And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

Isaiah 11:1 (KJV) And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Isaiah 11:2 (KJV) And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; Isaiah 11:3 (KJV) And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

Isaiah 11:4 (KJV) But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

Isaiah 11:5 (KJV) And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

The Lord Jesus received the title to the throne from Joseph, His legal father, and was also a descendant of David through Mary, His real mother. Being the last to receive the title, Jesus will possess it forever, seeing that "He liveth forever" and has no natural posterity to whom it would pass.

Divine Authenticity

The genealogy of Christ according to Matthew descends from Abraham through three series of fourteen members each; the first fourteen belong to the patriarchal order, the second to the royal and the third to that of private citizens. Matthew 1:17, shows that this arrangement was intended; for the writer expressly states:

Matthew 1:17 (KJV) So all the generations from Abraham to David *are* **fourteen generations**; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon *are* **fourteen generations**; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ *are* **fourteen generations**.

We have in the numerology of 14 and 3 the hand of divine authorship. The number 14, which is 2 times 7, and repeated 3 times proclaims that God is very much involved here. The number 2, the number of witness is combined with 7, the number of perfection. This is shown 3 times, which is the number of the Trinity and the resurrection.

This is the "seed-line" from Abraham to Christ.

First Series	Second Series	Third Series
1.Abraham	1.Solomon	1.Jechonias
2.Isaac	2.Roboam	2.Salathiel
3.Jacob	3.Abia	3.Zorobabel
4.Judas	4.Asa	4.Abiud
5.Phares	5.Josaphat	5.Eliacim
6.Esron	6.Joram	6.Azor
7.Aram	7.Ozias	7.Sadoe
8.Aminadab	8.Joatham	8.Sadoe
9.Naasson	9.Achaz	9.Eliud
10.Salmon	10.Ezechias	10.Eleazar
11.Booz	11.Manasses	11.Mathan
12.Obed	12.Amon	12.Jacob
13.Jesse	13.Josias	13.Joseph
14.David	14.Jechonias	14.Jesus

Luke's Genealogy

Luke proves the fleshly right to the throne by following the male line through the father of Mary. The genealogy in Luke 3:23-28 ascends from Joseph to Adam or rather to God; this is the first striking difference between the two genealogies.

Luke 3:23 (KJV) And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was *the son* of Heli,

Luke 3:24 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Matthat, which was *the son* of Levi, which was *the son* of Melchi, which was *the son* of Janna, which was *the son* of Joseph,

Luke 3:25 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Mattathias, which was *the son* of Amos, which was *the son* of Naum, which was *the son* of Esli, which was *the son* of Nagge,

Luke 3:26 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Maath, which was *the son* of Mattathias, which was *the son* of Semei, which was *the son* of Joseph, which was *the son* of Juda,

Luke 3:27 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Joanna, which was *the son* of Rhesa, which was *the son* of Zorobabel, which was *the son* of Salathiel, which was *the son* of Neri,

Luke 3:28 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Melchi, which was *the son* of Addi, which was *the son* of Cosam, which was *the son* of Elmodam, which was *the son* of Er,

Luke 3:29 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Jose, which was *the son* of Eliezer, which was *the son* of Jorim, which was *the son* of Matthat, which was *the son* of Levi,

Luke 3:30 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Simeon, which was *the son* of Juda, which was *the son* of Joseph, which was *the son* of Jonan, which was *the son* of Eliakim,

Luke 3:31 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Melea, which was *the son* of Menan, which was *the son* of Mattatha, which was *the son* of Nathan, which was *the son* of David,

Luke 3:32 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Jesse, which was *the son* of Obed, which was *the son* of Booz, which was *the son* of Salmon, which was *the son* of Naasson,

Luke 3:33 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Aminadab, which was *the son* of Aram, which was *the son* of Esrom, which was *the son* of Phares, which was *the son* of Juda,

Luke 3:34 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Jacob, which was *the son* of Isaac, which was *the son* of Abraham, which was *the son* of Thara, which was *the son* of Nachor,

Luke 3:35 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Saruch, which was *the son* of Ragau, which was *the son* of Phalec, which was *the son* of Heber, which was *the son* of Sala,

Luke 3:36 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Cainan, which was *the son* of Arphaxad, which was *the son* of Sem, which was *the son* of Noe, which was *the son* of Lamech,

Luke 3:37 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Mathusala, which was *the son* of Enoch, which was *the son* of Jared, which was *the son* of Maleleel, which was *the son* of Cainan,

Luke 3:38 (KJV) Which was *the son* of Enos, which was *the son* of Seth, which was *the son* of Adam, which was *the son* of God.

"As was supposed"

Luke 3:23 (KJV) And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was *the son* of Heli,

"As was supposed" is shown in parenthesis which eliminates Joseph from the genealogy and makes Jesus, the son of the virgin Mary, the daughter of Heli, therefore Jesus grandfather according to the flesh. Jewish tradition was not to show the female names, only the male in genealogies.

<i>First Series</i> 1. Jesus 2. Joseph 3. Heli 4. Mathat 5. Levi 6. Melchi 7. Janne 8. Joseph 9. Mathathias 10. Amos 11. Nahum 12. Hesli 13. Nagge 14. Mahath 15. Mathathias 16. Semei 17. Joseph	28. Her 29. Jesus 30. Eliezer 31. Jorim 32. Mathat 33. Levi 34. Simeon 35. Judas 36. Joseph	Third Series 43. David 44. Jesse 45. Obed 46. Booz 47. Salmon 48. Naasson 49. Aminadab 50. Aram 51. Esron 52. Phares 53. Judas 54. Jacob 55. Isaac 56. Abraham	Fourth Series 57. Thare 58. Nachor 59. Sarug 60. Ragau 61. Phaleg 62. Heber 63. Sale 64. Cainan 65. Arphaxad 66. Sem 67. Noe 68. Lamech 69. Mathusale 70. Henoch 71. Jared 72. Malaleel 73. Cainan
13. Nagge 14. Mahath 15. Mathathias	33. Levi 34. Simeon 35. Judas	55. Isaac	69. Mathusale 70. Henoch 71. Jared 72. Malaleel
19. Joanna 20. Reza 21. Zorobabel	39. Melea 40. Menna		75. Seth 76. Adam 77. God

Body of Sin

Luke's genealogy is emphasizing "**the son of**" or according to the flesh. The "body of sin" is the flesh. The sin stain is carried by the blood.

(Lev 17:11 KJV) For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Paul pinpoints our "flesh" as the culprit.

(Rom 7:18 KJV) For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

That is why God was manifested in the flesh so that He could put away the "body of sin," that is, our flesh.

(John 1:11 KJV) He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

(John 1:12 KJV) But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

(John 1:13 KJV) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

(John 1:14 KJV) And **the Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Christ provided the sinless body to be the perfect sacrifice.

(Heb 10:1 KJV) For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

(Heb 10:2 KJV) For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

(Heb 10:3 KJV) But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

(Heb 10:4 KJV) For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. (Heb 10:5 KJV) Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but **a body hast thou prepared me:**

(Heb 10:6 KJV) In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

(Heb 10:7 KJV) Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will O God.

(Heb 10:8 KJV) Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

(Heb 10:9 KJV) Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

(Heb 10:10 KJV) By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Through the doctrine of identification, we too died with Christ so that the body of sin might be destroyed.

(Rom 6:6 KJV) Knowing this, that **our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed**, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

By being the "God-man" Christ was able to be not only the perfect sacrifice, but He also was a "quickening spirit." By His resurrection, the scripture calls Him the "Last Adam" and thus He became the "firstborn" of the New Creation race.

(1 Cor 15:42 KJV) So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:

(1 Cor 15:43 KJV) It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power:

(1 Cor 15:44 KJV) It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

(1 Cor 15:45 KJV) And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; **the last Adam** was made a quickening spirit.

(1 Cor 15:46 KJV) Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

(1 Cor 15:47 KJV) The first man is of the earth, earthy: **the second man is the Lord from heaven**. (1 Cor 15:48 KJV) As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.

(1 Cor 15:49 KJV) And as we have borne the image of the earthy, **we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.**

The "Firstborn" among many brethren

(Rom 8:29 KJV) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that **he might be the firstborn among many brethren.**

The Necessity of the Virgin Birth

(Isa 7:14 KJV) Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, **a virgin shall conceive**, and bear a son, and shall call **his name Immanuel**.

(Mat 1:23 KJV) Behold, **a virgin shall be with child**, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call **his name Emmanuel**, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Jesus had to be born of a virgin so that the sin stain was absent from His body. Only as such could he become the perfect sacrifice for you and me.

(Rom 5:6 KJV) For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

(Rom 5:7 KJV) For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

(Rom 5:8 KJV) But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

(Rom 5:9 KJV) **Much more then, being now justified by his blood,** we shall be saved from wrath through him.

(Rom 5:10 KJV) For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, **we shall be saved by his life.**

(Rom 5:11 KJV) And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

(Rom 5:12 KJV) Wherefore, as **by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:**

(Rom 5:13 KJV) (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

(Rom 5:14 KJV) Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of **Adam**'s transgression, **who is the figure of him that was to come.** (Rom 5:15 KJV) But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

(Rom 5:16 KJV) And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.

(Rom 5:17 KJV) For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

(Rom 5:18 KJV) Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

(Rom 5:19 KJV) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

(Rom 5:20 KJV) Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

(Rom 5:21 KJV) That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Five Women in Jesus Genealogy

Matthew **list five women** in his genealogy. It is not the will of God "that any should perish." We see the grace of God manifested in His genealogy. If any gentiles believed the Word of God under the Old Covenant, they were considered proselytes to the faith and were accepted under the auspices of Israel. So, the Gentiles could come into the household of faith under the Old Covenant as proselytes. We see the Gentiles brought in the genealogy. There is a spiritual lesson here. Jacob and his family stand for a new creation; but Esau stands for the flesh, or the old creation. But in Christ there is neither Jew nor Greek but a new creation.

(Gal 3:28 KJV) **There is neither Jew nor Greek**, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for **ye are all one in Christ Jesus**.

(Gal 6:15 KJV) For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, **but a new creature.**

(2 Cor 5:17 KJV) Therefore **if any man be in Christ**, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, **all things are become new.**

Of course, Mary was not an outcast. She had pure pedigree as seen by the genealogy. The other four women were:

- 1. Tamar, the Canaanite daughter-in-law of Judah.
- 2. Rahab, an inhabitant of Jericho, a prostitute.
- 3. Ruth, the wife of Boaz, a Moabite and former pagan.
- 4. Bathsheba, the former wife of Uriah and the woman David committed adultery with.

8. The New Covenant and Church/Grace Dispensation: (A Better Plan- See notes below.)

The New Covenant (Heb 8:8, note) rests upon the sacrifice of Christ and secures the eternal blessedness, under the Abrahamic Covenant (Gal 3:13-29), of all who believe. It is unconditional and, since no responsibility is by it committed to man, it is final and irreversible.

The Sixth Dispensation: Church (Acts 2:1,)

The Seventh Dispensation:

(7) Kingdom (Rev 20:4,); also, important note at Gen 11:10, relating to God's dealings with mankind.

God's Redemption Plan – A Better Covenant

Table of Contents

"Better Things Based on Better Promises Given by a Better Person"

(Heb 1:1 KJV) God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

(Heb 1:2 KJV) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

(Heb 1:3 KJV) Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

(Heb 1:4 KJV) Being **made so much better than the angels**, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

(Heb 8:6 KJV) 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**.

(Heb 8:7 KJV) For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

The Better Promises of the New Covenant

The promises of the New Covenant are "better," both for Israel and for the Church, because they are given by grace and not earned by keeping the Law. The Book of Hebrew written by Paul gives us the Contrast between the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

Bro. Copley lists these "contrasts:"

(Commentary on Hebrews, page 5, Copley comments highlighted in "blue.")

"The word "BETTER" is the keyword to this Epistle. It occurs 13 times, and they express important facts. The book begins with the better Person, and ends with better things - Hebrews 11:40 and 12:24 The uses of this word in this epistle afford a comprehensive view of its contents. Therefore, we tabulate them as follows:"

1. <u>A better Personality</u>, The Son compared with angels - Chap. 1 (v.4) and 2.

(Heb 1:4 KJV) **Being made so much better than the angels**, as he hath by inheritance obtained a **more excellent name** than they.

Better, G2909. kreitton, krite'-tohn; compar. of a der. of G2904; stronger, i.e. (fig.) better, i.e., nobler: --best, better.

Vine's: "Better" - from kratos, "strong" (which denotes power in activity and effect) More excellent, G1313. diaphoros, dee-af'-or-os; from G1308; varying; also surpassing: -differing, divers, more excellent.

Name, G3686. onoma, on'-om-ah; from a presumed der. of the base of G1097 (comp. G3685); a "name" (lit. or fig.) [authority, character]: --called, (+ sur-) name (-d).

Angels were created, not born. They were created to be ministering spirits.

(Psa 104:4 KJV) Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

Christ was NEVER a created angel. In Psalm 2, He is addressed as God's Son.

(Psa 2:7 KJV) I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Jesus asked the Pharisees who was He.

(Mat 22:41 KJV) While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

(Mat 22:42 KJV) Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, The son of David.

(Mat 22:43 KJV) He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

(Mat 22:44 KJV) The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool?

(Psa 110:1 KJV) A Psalm of David.

The **LORD** (Jehovah) said unto my Lord (Adon), Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Lord, H113. 'adown, aw-done', or (short.) 'adon, aw-done'; from an unused root (mean to rule); sovereign, i.e., controller (human or divine):--lord, master, owner. Comp. also names beginning with "Adoni-".

(Deu 6:4 KJV) Hear, O Israel: The LORD (Jehovah) our God (Elohim) is one LORD (Jehovah):

(Mat 22:45 KJV) If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?

(Mat 22:46 KJV) And no man was able to answer him a word, neither durst any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.

Angels were made subject to Him.

(1 Pet 3:22 KJV) Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; **angels** and authorities and powers being **made subject unto him.**

John wrote that Jesus was God manifested in the flesh:

(John 1:1 KJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**. (John 1:2 KJV) The same was in the beginning with God.

(John 1:14 KJV) And **the Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Yes, Jesus was a much better person than the angels for he was God manifested in the flesh.

2. <u>Better things</u>, Attitude of Saints contrasted with the attitude of sinners - Hebrews 6:9.

<u>First</u>, this Epistle was not written for Gentile backslidden believers. It was written to Hebrew Christians, that they might see Jesus Christ as the complete fulfillment of all the Old Testament types, shadows and symbols.

<u>Second</u>, it has no reference to backsliders today, or any day. If it did, then no backslider could ever be restored; for it reads plainly, "It is impossible to renew them unto repentance, who were once enlightened."

Paul is simply telling the unbelieving Hebrews who had tasted "but not believed" and "seen but not perceived" that all the Old Testament provisions had been fulfilled in Christ and they needed to set them aside and believe in Him which represented "**better things**," that is, it is now "by grace through faith, and not of works."

(Heb 6:1 KJV) Therefore **leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection;** not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, (Heb 6:2 KJV) Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

(Heb 6:3 KJV) And this will we do, if God permit.

"In Gal. 3, we read that "the law (the Ten Commandments and the Mosaic ritual) was our schoolmaster until Christ, that we might be justified by faith; but after that faith has come (in the Person of Christ), we are no longer under a schoolmaster; "for ye are all the children of God thru faith in Jesus Christ." The old school under law is out since Christ came. It closed by the coming in of the new school under grace by faith." - -

"But when the Hebrew nation went on offering up material sacrifices, they were manifestly requiring a foundation again to be laid. Thus they were saying that the Messiah had not come and was not offered up for their sins. After Christ came, all those Old Testament ceremonies were considered "dead works," from which they had not yet fully repented, or turned away. The death and resurrection of Christ was a sufficient basis for such repentance." – A. S. Copley

(Heb 6:4 KJV) For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

(Heb 6:5 KJV) And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

(Heb 6:6 KJV) If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

(Heb 6:7 KJV) For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

(Heb 6:8 KJV) But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

(Heb 6:9 KJV) But, beloved, we are persuaded **better things of you**, and **things that accompany salvation**, though we thus speak.

3. A better priesthood, Melchisedec contrasted with Aaron - Hebrews 7:7.

"Melchisedee was a king priest. His name means, "My king is righteous." We read of him in Gen. 14. Some think that he was indeed the Christ; but a close study shows that he was predecessor of Christ, who is called "The BRANCH," and will also be a king priest during the millennium - Zech. 6:12, 13. Melchisedec was a descendant of Shem. He was king of Salem, the oldest name of what is now Jerusalem. Abraham acknowledged him as God's anointed king and priest." – A. S. Copley

Melchisedec was a type of Christ as a priest "without beginning or end."

(Heb 7:1 KJV) For **this Melchisedec**, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

(Heb 7:2 KJV) To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

(Heb 7:3 KJV) Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

(Heb 7:4 KJV) Now **consider how great this man was**, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.

(Heb 7:5 KJV) And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham:

(Heb 7:6 KJV) But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.

(Heb 7:7 KJV) And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.

The Aaronic priesthood did not continue forever by reason of death.

(Heb 7:23 KJV) And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death:

(Heb 7:24 KJV) But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

So, Christ, that had no beginning and has no ending, but continues for ever as our High Priest, has established a superior priesthood.

(Heb 7:25 KJV) Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

(Heb 7:26 KJV) For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

(Heb 7:27 KJV) Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.

(Heb 7:28 KJV) For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.

4. A better hope, the Gospel contrasted with the Law - Hebrews 7:19.

(Heb 7:19 KJV) For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

Hope, G1680. elpis, el-pece'; from a prim. elpo (to anticipate, usually with pleasure); expectation (abstr. or concr.) or confidence: --faith, hope.

We have been perfected forever since we have received the new birth.

(Heb 10:14 KJV) For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

(Titus 2:13 KJV) Looking for that **blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

(2 Cor 5:1 KJV) For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, **an house not made with hands**, eternal in the heavens.

(2 Cor 5:2 KJV) For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven:

5. A better Testament, or Covenant, that of Grace set over against the covenant of Law - Hebrews 7:22. (Heb 7:22 KJV) By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

Surety, G1450. egguos, eng'-goo-os; from G1722 and guion (a limb); pledged (as if articulated by a member), i.e., a bondsman: --surety.

6. Better Promises, the basis of the better covenant - Hebrews 8:6.

(Heb 8:6 KJV) 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**.

These **sevens** are not accidental, but wonderful. They speak of the divine and eternal perfection of God's plan of salvation.

1. **Christ's redemption is eternal** - V. 12. He atoned once for our sins. The typical high priest had to make atonement once every year.

(Heb 9:12 KJV) Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

(John 10:28 KJV) And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

Never, G3364. ou me, oo may; i.e. G3756 and G3361; a double neg. strengthening the denial; not at all: --any more, at all, by any (no) means, neither, never, no (at all), in no case (wise), nor ever, not (at all, in any wise). Comp. G3378.

"Ou me" in the Greek, I say "Oh My." It means "never, never." It is a double negative not allowed in English but is allowed in the Greek. It means "not ever," "not at all," "by no means", "in now wise," in other words, it is impossible to ever be lost once you are born again.

(John 3:14 KJV) And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

(John 3:15 KJV) That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

(John 3:16 KJV) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever** believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:17 KJV) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

"Whosoever believeth" shall have "eternal life right now."

It **DOES NOT** say "Whosoever believeth" can "hope to have eternal life," or that "he must keep some other condition in order to preserve his eternal life." The verb "have" is, in the Greek grammar, "Present Subjunctive Active." The verb tense is "Present Subjunctive" meaning "continuous or repeated action, regardless of when the action took place. The "subjunctive mood" suggests that the action is subject to some condition, and the only condition is "whosoever believeth." The "Active voice" represents the action as being accomplished by the subject of the verb, in this case, "whosoever." So, it is "whosoever believeth." The word "eternal" means "perpetual, constant and abiding." When referring to "eternal life," it means the life which is God's (*zoe*) and hence it is not affected by the limitations of time. So, "eternal life" is of endless duration.

(John 3:36 KJV) He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

God's children are not appointed to wrath. We have been delivered from the wrath to come.

(1 Th 5:9 KJV) For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

(1 Th 1:10 KJV) And to wait **for his Son** from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which **delivered us from the wrath to come.**

(Rom 5:9 KJV) Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Other Scriptures that give us the assurance that our "eternal life" is with us forever:

We have passed from death unto life.

(John 5:24 KJV) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; **but is passed from death unto life.**

God will not cast us out.

(John 6:37 KJV) All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me **I will in no wise cast out.**

Christ will not lose a single soul that believes.

(John 6:39 KJV) And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of **all which he hath** given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

The Son abideth in us forever.

(John 8:34 KJV) Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

(John 8:35 KJV) And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but **the Son abideth** ever.

(John 8:36 KJV) If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

You are not your own for you have been bought with a price.

(1 Cor 6:19 KJV) What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and **ye are not your own?**

(1 Cor 6:20 KJV) For **ye are bought with a price**: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

We have been made into a "new creature," the "old" has passed away.

(2 Cor 5:17 KJV) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

His "Seed" remaineth in us.

(1 John 3:9 KJV) Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

We are partakers of the "divine nature."

(2 Pet 1:4 KJV) Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that **by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

We have been "conformed – summorphos, amalgamated" with Christ and it can't be undone.

(Rom 8:28 KJV) And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

(Rom 8:29 KJV) For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

(1 Cor 6:17 KJV) But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

Finally, nothing can separate us from God.

(Rom 8:38 KJV) For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

(Rom 8:39 KJV) Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

2. He opened heaven for man, and it will never be closed except to unbelief and rebellion – Hebrews 9:8,12.

(Heb 9:8 KJV) The Holy Ghost this signifying, that **the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:**

(Heb 9:12 KJV) Neither by the blood of goats and calves, **but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.**

(Heb 9:24 KJV) **For Christ is not entered** into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but **into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us**:

(1 Pet 3:22 KJV) Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; **angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.**

(Col 2:15 KJV) And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

In Christ, we are seated in heavenly places.

(Eph 2:4 KJV) But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

(Eph 2:5 KJV) Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

(Eph 2:6 KJV) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

God's throne room is open to us by way of the New Covenant. A way has been opened in the heavenlies for access to God.

(Eph 2:18 KJV) For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

(Heb 4:14 KJV) Seeing then that we have a great high priest, **that is passed into the heavens**, **Jesus the Son of God**, let us hold fast our profession.

(Heb 4:15 KJV) For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

(Heb 4:16 KJV) **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace,** that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

3. Christ being a perfect man, rendered a perfect service in offering Himself as a sacrifice to God.

(Heb 10:1 KJV) For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

(Heb 10:2 KJV) For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

(Heb 10:3 KJV) But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

(Heb 10:4 KJV) For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

(Heb 10:5 KJV) Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but **a body hast thou prepared me:**

(Heb 10:6 KJV) In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

(Heb 10:7 KJV) Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

(Heb 10:8 KJV) Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

(Heb 10:9 KJV) Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

(Heb 10:10 KJV) By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

(Heb 10:11 KJV) And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

(Heb 10:12 KJV) But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

The sacrifices under the law could not take away sin because they were not perfect. God needed a perfect, sinless, human body for the sacrifice to appease His holy nature. God manifested in the flesh was the only way to provide such a body. Christ then being a perfect man, sinless, then he could pay the price required of you and me.

4. His redemption purged the conscience from dead works – Hebrews 10:14.

Those typical sacrifices were indeed dead works; that is, **they had no redeeming power**. They could not take away sins. Hence, the consciousness of sin never left the offerors, except in certain cases, like David, they looked beyond the type to the anti-type, Jesus Christ, by the illumination of the Spirit. (Heb 9:13 KJV) For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:

(Heb 9:14 KJV) How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

The works of the Law were dead works because they could not make the doer of the Law perfect. It was now a "new and living way" provided through the sacrifice of Jesus. Through a new birth, believers are able to do works that are alive to God and acceptable to Him.

 Christ became the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of His sacrificial death – Hebrews 9:15. His intercession is perfect, sufficient and without cessation, or end. He said, "Because I live, ye shall live also."

(Heb 9:15 KJV) And for this cause **he is the mediator of the new testament**, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

"Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe" as the song says. He instituted the New Covenant and therefore is the only person that can mediate between God and man. He stands between a Holy Righteous God and says, "they are covered by my blood" and God is propitiated, or satisfied.

(1 Tim 2:5 KJV) For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

(Heb 8:6 KJV) 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.

6. Now believers have the promise of an eternal inheritance – Hebrews 9:15.

(Heb 9:15 KJV) And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, **they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.**

"Signed, sealed and delivered!" The New Covenant is complete including our "eternal inheritance." We have a new body awaiting us and a new home prepared for us.

(John 14:1 KJV) Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

(John 14:2 KJV) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you**.

(John 14:3 KJV) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

(John 14:4 KJV) And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

7. **Everlasting, or eternal covenant** - Hebrews 13:20. These sevens are not accidental, but wonderful. They speak of the divine and eternal perfection of God's plan of salvation.

(Heb 13:20 KJV) Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, **through the blood of the everlasting covenant**,

This New Covenant is an "everlasting covenant." There need be no more covenants. It is a perfect covenant sealed with the blood of the God-Man.

Now, let us continue with the "Better Promises" of the New Covenant.

7. Better Sacrifices, the offering up of Christ contrasted with the typical sacrifices which pointed to Him - Hebrews 9:23.

(Heb 9:23 KJV) It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with **better sacrifices** than these.

The "better sacrifices" was the result of a "better body," the body of Christ. He was born of a virgin, thus He had "no sin" in His body.

(Heb 10:5 KJV) Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, **but a body hast thou prepared me:**

(Heb 10:6 KJV) In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

(Heb 10:7 KJV) Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

(Heb 10:8 KJV) Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

(Heb 10:9 KJV) Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

(Heb 10:10 KJV) By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Once offered, the debt was paid. There is no more offering for sin. As we have learned, "Redemption" means "debt paid in full."

(Heb 10:12 KJV) But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

(Heb 10:13 KJV) From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

(Heb 10:14 KJV) For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

(Heb 10:15 KJV) Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,

(Heb 10:16 KJV) This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

(Heb 10:17 KJV) And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

(Heb 10:18 KJV) Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

Once saved, or born again, you cannot get saved again, for you are "perfected forever" and there is no need to get saved again.

You are a "New Creature" that does not die when your flesh sins.

8. A better Possession, spiritual things contrasted with material things - Hebrews 10:34

(Heb 10:34 KJV) For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that **ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.**

We have Christ in us.

(Col 1:26 KJV) Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

(Col 1:27 KJV) To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:**

(Col 1:28 KJV) Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

(Col 1:29 KJV) Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

We are partakers of the "divine nature."

(2 Pet 1:4 KJV) Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

The "Seed within us will never parish.

(1 John 3:9 KJV) Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

9. A better Country, the heavenly contrasted with the earthly - Hebrews11:16.

(Heb 11:16 KJV) But now they desire **a better country**, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

The "New Jerusalem" is named for the Bride. There are many ranks, or companies, of saints. This portion of Scripture and Revelation 21 and 22 is the only description of the heavenly land and city.

(Rev 21:1 KJV) **And I saw a new heaven and a new earth**: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

(Rev 21:2 KJV) And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

God has prepared much for his people.

(1 Cor 2:9 KJV) But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

10. A better Resurrection, a select company raised before the time of the general resurrection - Hebrews 11:35 with Matt. 27:52, 53.

(Heb 11:35 KJV) Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain **a better resurrection**:

There is a "better resurrection" and a "better translation." Old Testament saints looked for a better resurrection and it is described for us when Jesus arose from the grave.

See Special Study "Order of the Resurrection."

(Mat 27:50 KJV) Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. (Mat 27:51 KJV) And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did guake, and the rocks rent;

(Mat 27:52 KJV) And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

(Mat 27:53 KJV) And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.

Paul gives us instruction on this.

(Phil 3:10 KJV) That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

(Phil 3:11 KJV) If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Resurrection, G1815. exanastasis, ex-an-as'-tas-is; from G1817; a rising from death: - -resurrection.

"ek" means "from" or "out of." "out from among the sleepy ones."

(Phil 3:12 KJV) Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

(Phil 3:13 KJV) Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, (Phil 3:14 KJV) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

11. A better Inheritance, for the church- Hebrews 11:40.

(Heb 11:40 KJV) God having provided some **better thing for us**, that they without us should not be made perfect.

"The Old Testament worthies must wait till the resurrection of all the redeemed at the coming of Jesus - Dan. 12:2. Whom does Paul mean by "us" in verse 40? Certainly he does not limit the "better thing" to Israel. The church is included. The many blessings enumerated in this book are surely not for Israel alone. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" - II Tim. 3:16, 17. The church will be raised and translated first. Then the believing dead of Israel will be raised. --- All the believing dead are embraced in "the first resurrection;" for they are "blessed and holy." The phrase, "The rest of the dead," refers to the wicked - Rev. 19:5, 6. What a great and glorious reunion, when all the glorified will meet Jehovah in the air and forever be with Him." – A. S. Copley

12. Better Things spoken by better blood – Hebrews 12:24.

(Heb 12:24 KJV) And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh **better things** than that of Abel.

"The Apostle prefaces these statements (Vs. 18-21) by painting a picture of burning, blazing, quaking, thundering Sinai, when the law was given. He thus describes the nature of the law. - - - - "And so fearful was the spectacle, that Moses said, "I exceedingly fear and quake" - however safe we are in the folds of grace, the very sight of law produces a feeling of terror.

Law is the fixed and relentless expression of divine justice against sin. Therefore, if Moses, as a mediator, and Aaron, the high priest, as representing the basis of mediation (both figuring Christ), had not stood between God and the sinful people that day, they would all have been slain by that fiery law. But Jesus Christ stood in the breach 1500 years later; for there was another Mount Sinai, if I may so say, called Mount Calvary. - - -God's righteous indignation against sin, displayed with such flaming majesty that day - was wreaked out upon the holy Son of Man on the Cross. There the voice of the law was hushed forever; for the stern demands of divine justice were met once and forever. "Christ died for the ungodly and put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Therefore, Paul

exclaimed to those Hebrew believers, and of course to us also, "Ye are not come to the mount that burned with fire, etc," but to the glorious mount of grace." – A. S. Copley