

THE COVENANTS: PART 1

LIVING IN THE WORD

WITH DR. GARY YATES

PART 1 | WHY STUDY THE BIBLICAL COVENANTS?

We are beginning a study of the five major covenants in the Bible:

1. The Creational/ Noahic Covenant
2. The Abrahamic Covenant
3. The Mosaic Covenant
4. The Davidic Covenant
5. The New Covenant

There are several reasons why we study these covenants and their theological significance. First, these covenants are central to the storyline of the Bible and help us to see how God carries out his plan of redemption and restoration for a fallen world and sinful humanity. Tracing these covenants through Scripture will help you to become a better Bible reader and will help to you to more fully understand the big picture of what the Bible is all about. Second, these covenants remind us of the faithfulness of God and how God keeps his promises and commitments. The consistency of God's character is related to his covenant promises. Finally, these covenants from the Old Testament point us to Jesus Christ as the focal point of Jesus, because these covenants and their promises ultimately find their fulfillment in Christ.

Read the following passages:

Genesis 6 and 9 on the Noahic Covenant

Genesis 15 on the Abrahamic Covenant

THE COVENANTS: PART 1

Exodus 19 on the Mosaic Covenant

2 Samuel 7 on the Davidic Covenant

Jeremiah 31 on the New Covenant

Questions for Reflection:

1. How do the biblical covenants help us to see the unity of Scripture and to better understand the biblical story of redemption and salvation history?
2. How are Genesis 2-3 and Revelation 21-22 related to one another and how do these passages ultimately relate to the purpose of the biblical covenants?
3. What are some of the key features about the covenants that you saw in the chapters you read?
4. What do we learn about the character of God in these covenants and what difference does that make in our own lives? How does this aspect of God's character relate to something that is going on in your life or family right now?
5. What do we see about God keeping his covenant promises in passages like Exodus 34:6-7; Numbers 23:19; Jeremiah 33:19-26?
6. What is something that you have learned about God in this study that you can share with someone else to be an encouragement to someone or to initiate a Gospel conversation with someone who does not know Christ?