

Six Covenants

Definition of Covenant

“Covenant” is an English translation of a Hebrew (*berit*) and Greek (*diatheke*) word that describes a formal relationship between two parties who agree to a set of promises so they can work together toward a common goal.

In a two-party covenant, when one party does not keep the terms of the covenant agreement, the obligation of the other party may end.

1. **First Covenant** (though the word covenant is not used)

- a. Genesis 1:26-28
- b. Genesis 2:15-18
- c. Genesis 3:1-13
- d. Genesis 3:14-24
- e. Summary
 - i. Women – pain in childbearing
 - ii. Men – toil, sweat, weeds
 - iii. Serpent – belly in the dust
 - iv. All men – broken fellowship with God
 1. Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—
 - v. All men – promise of one to come through the seed of woman who will mortally wound the serpent

2. **Second Covenant**

- a. Genesis 6:1-7 – About nine generations * later, man had become extremely wicked. (* 1500+ years)
- b. Genesis 6:8 – Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD
- c. Genesis 6:11-21 – God’s plan
- d. Genesis 6:22 – Noah does all that God commanded
- e. Genesis 7:1-24 – The Flood
- f. Genesis 8:1-19 – The flood waters dried up
- g. Genesis 8:20-22 – Noah offers sacrifices and God has a covenant in his heart.
- h. Genesis 9:1-7 – God’s instructions for Noah and his family.
- i. Genesis 9:8-19 – The Covenant is given to Noah and his sons.
- j. Summary
 - i. Men became exceedingly sinful
 - ii. God was sorry he made man
 - iii. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord
 - iv. Noah did all that God commanded
 - v. A great flood covered the earth

- vi. All were destroyed except Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark (2 pairs or 7 pairs).
- vii. God – never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh
- viii. Man – we do absolutely nothing; it is a one-party covenant
- ix. Sign – rainbow – God looks upon it, and we see it

3. Third Covenant

Promise to Abram	Covenant with Abram	Fulfillment in Salvation History
Land/Nation (Gn 12:2)	Genesis 15	Covenant with Moses
Royal Dynasty (Gn 12:2)	Genesis 17	Covenant with David
Worldwide Blessing (Gn 12:3)	Genesis 22	New Covenant through Jesus Christ

a.

b. Genesis 12:1-7

c. Genesis 15:1-21

d. Genesis 17:1-27

e. Genesis 22:15-18

f. Genesis 26:3-5

g. Genesis 28:13-14

h. Summary

- i. Go to a land I will show you (12:1)
- ii. I will make you a great nation, multiply you exceedingly (12:2; 17:2)
- iii. In you all the families of the earth will be blessed (12:3; 22:18)
- iv. and Abram went (12:4)
- v. I will give you this land, and your descendant (12:7; 15:18-21; 17:8)
- vi. You will have an heir from your own body (15:4)
- vii. Count the stars – so shall your descendants be (15:5; 22:17)
- viii. Abram believed in the Lord (15:6)
 - 1. Abram slept through the ceremony
- ix. All males shall be circumcised (17:9-14)
- x. I will establish my covenant with Isaac (17:19)
- xi. You have obeyed my voice (22:18)
- xii. Genesis 26 (with Isaac)
 - 1. I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham.
 - 2. Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws."
- xiii. Genesis 28 (with Jacob)
 - 1. I will give you this land
 - 2. Your descendants will be multiplied
 - 3. All the nations of the earth will be blessed.

4. The Fourth Covenant

- a. Exodus 19:5-8
- b. Exodus 24:3-8
- c. Genesis 15:13-16
- d. Genesis 26:3-5
- e. Genesis 28:13-14
- f. Summary
 - i. God never forgets his covenant.
 - ii. When Abraham's descendants had been in Egypt for 390 years, he appeared to Moses and gave His name "I AM" – I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
 - iii. God opened the way for them through the Red Sea and destroyed Pharaoh and his army.
 - iv. At Sinai in Arabia, he made the covenant of 10 commandments and 613 regulations for the worship and governance of a new nation.
 - v. You shall be My own possession among all the peoples.
 - vi. You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.
 - vii. Israel's part was to obey God's voice and keep God's covenant.

5. The Fifth Covenant

- a. 2 Samuel 7:9-16
- b. Psalm 132:11-12
- c. Psalm 83:
- d. Summary
 - i. God's part - Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever."
 - ii. David's part - If your sons will keep My covenant and My testimony which I will teach them,
 - iii. Micah 5:2
 - iv. Luke 2:4
 - v. Matthew 22:42

6. The Sixth Covenant

- a. Jeremiah 1:2 ,6
 - i. 628 BC – call to prophesy
 - ii. 606 BC – probable time when he wrote much of what the Lord commanded him to write, including the following:
- b. Jeremiah 31:31-34
- c. Isaiah 7:14
 - i. Matthew 1:22-23
 - ii. John 1:14

- d. Luke 2:1-7
- e. Luke 2:8-20
- f. Matthew 26:27-28
- g. Matthew 27:33-54
- h. John 20:1-9
- i. Acts 1:6-11
- j. Hebrews 8:7-13
- k. Hebrews 9:12-15

- i. In a two-party covenant, the covenant cannot continue when one party breaks the terms of the covenant.
- ii. Therefore, God has made a new covenant.
- iii. The new covenant is not like the former covenant.
- iv. The new covenant is better than the old.
 - 1. Better hope (Heb. 7:19)
 - 2. Better covenant (Heb. 7:22, 8:6)
 - 3. Better promises (Heb. 8:6)
 - 4. Better sacrifices (Heb. 9:23)
 - 5. Better tabernacle (Heb. 9:11)
 - 6. Better High Priest (Heb. 8:1-ff)
 - 7. Able to forgive sins (

- l. 1 Peter 2:5, 9