

SINGLE ALLIANCE

The Covenants- Pt. 4- The Palestinian Covenant

I. Introduction

A. Last week we looked at the Noahic and Abrahamic Covenants. We saw that God desired to reveal Christ in both of them. Both were unconditional covenants and revealed the grace of God.

B. This week we will look at the Palestinian Covenant

C. The Palestinian Covenant is connected to the Abrahamic Covenant. God promised Abraham the land of Canaan for his inheritance and to his seed after him.

1. Gen. 15:7-10

2. God cut covenant with Abraham as confirmation of his oath to give the land of Canaan to Abraham and to His seed forever. This was a covenant of grace. Therefore the land was a gift to Abraham and to his seed.

II. The Palestinian Covenant

A. The Words of the Covenant

1. **Deut. 28-29:1**- Moses says that the words in chapter 28 were the words of the covenant God commanded him to make with Israel in Moab **besides** the covenant made at Sinai. Deut. 28 is the Palestinian Covenant. Many Christians claim the blessings of Deut. 28 but that chapter is contingent upon absolute and complete obedience. If such obedience is not given then the curses are given. If Christians understood this they would quickly opt out! We can only experience the blessings of Deut. 28 by accepting the perfect righteousness and obedience of Christ. He fulfilled the Law for us!

2. God initially gave the Promised Land by grace. It was given to Abraham and to his seed as a gift. The Israelites entered the land and God fought for them. They obtained fruitful lands they had not tilled, houses they did not build, and resources they did not have to work for. [**Deut 6:10-11**] They were all gifts!

3. However, because Israel had rejected God's grace at Mt. Sinai and accepted the Law, they would have to **remain** the Land that was given to them by keeping the Law. [**Ex. 19:4-5, Ex. 24:3-4- They accepted the terms of the Law twice!**] If they would have

asked to remain under the covenant of Abraham they would have received and stayed in the land based upon God's grace and not based upon works. But since they accepted the Law, they would have to keep the Law or they would be removed from the Land into exile. This is what happened. They did not keep the Law and were exiled out of the Promised Land.

4. One of the stipulations of staying in the land was to allow the land a year of rest every seventh year. The Jews did not do this over a 490 year span; therefore they were taken into captivity for 70 years to allow the land to rest.

B. The Blood of the Covenant

1. **Deut. 27:4-7**- God instructed Israel to make an altar of stones as soon as they entered the land and to sacrifice burnt offerings and shed innocent blood. This was given by God to show the sole reason that God's promises and provisions can be obtained and kept. Israel did not understand this. They relied on their own works and broke God's Law and incurred judgment and lack.

2. They were to take stones that were not chiseled and build an altar with them on Mt. Ebal, which means barren. Mt. Ebal was the mountain of cursing and Mt. Gerazim was the mountain of blessing. [**Deut. 11:29**] They were to write all the words of the Law upon them, and then sacrifice burnt offerings on the stone altar.

3. This was to reveal that man's sins and transgressions against God and His Holy Law would be removed by the shedding of blood. Man could not help in this by chiseling the stone. Man could not add anything to the work of redemption. It was God's work.

4. It was by the shedding of blood the curses that caused man to be barren would be removed by the shedding of innocent blood.

This represented Jesus.

C. The Seal of the Covenant

1. [**Lev. 25:1-7**]- The Sabbath Rest for the Land

III. The Spiritual Reality of the Palestinian Covenant

A. The Promised Land was given to Abraham and to his seed by grace, but once they obtained it as a gift they sought to keep it by the works of law [legalism].

B. The same thing is happening to Christians today. They get saved by grace and with Jesus comes all of God's blessings. [**Eph. 1:3**,

Rom. 8:32, 2 Peter 1:3, 1 Cor. 3:21-22] However, many reject grace and try to live in God's blessings and daily provisions by the merits of their own performance and not trust in the finished work of Christ. This is the reason many Christians are struggling in the Christian walk and can't seem to obtain God's blessings and provisions. They think that they come based upon their performance instead of the finished work of Christ.

C. The Sabbaths are a type of Christ. Christ is our Sabbath. [**Col. 2:16**] It is in Christ that we rest from our works to earn God's salvation and daily provisions. It is from resting in Christ that our true work of faith comes from. We are saved by works but saved unto good works. [**Eph. 2:8-10**]

D. Adam was made and placed in the garden at the end of the sixth day of creation. God rested on the seventh day because of His finished work and he sanctified it as a day of rest. Adam therefore rested with God the first full day after he was created! Adam rested on the seventh day with God and then started working on the first day of the week after his rest. Adam's first rested in God and then worked. This is the divine order for Christians.

E. We are to rest in Christ's finished work for us. [**Heb. 4:4, 10-12**] We are to rest in Christ's finished work and allow the Word to work for us. God is resting upon what He has done and said. We need to do the same. We must rest in what Christ has done and said. When we do, the Word will work for us and provide for us!

F. God wants to freely give you his holiness, healing, financial provision, peace, freedom, and blessings. They are based upon Christ's perfect obedience to the Father and His sacrifice for us. What we receive from God empowers us to live a God honoring life. Receiving grace empowers us to holy living.

G. Prayer