

Message Six

The Covenanting God and His Covenants (1)

Major Covenants That God Made with Man

EM Hymns 191

Scripture Reading: Gen. 3:15; 9:8-17; Gal. 3:14, 16, 29; 2 Sam. 7:12-14a; Exo. 24:1-8

- Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity / Between you and the woman / And between your seed and her seed; / He will bruise you on the head, / But you will bruise him on the heel.
- Gen 9:8 Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying,
- Gen 9:9 And I Myself now establish My covenant with you and with your seed after you
- Gen 9:10 And with every living animal that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every animal of the earth with you, of all that came out of the ark, every animal of the earth.
- Gen 9:11 And I establish My covenant with you, that never again will all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood, and never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.
- Gen 9:12 And God said, This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living animal that is with you, for perpetual generations:
- Gen 9:13 I set My bow in the clouds, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth.
- Gen 9:14 And when I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow is seen in the clouds,
- Gen 9:15 I will remember My covenant which is between Me and you and every living animal of all flesh, and never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all flesh.
- Gen 9:16 And the bow will be in the clouds, and I will look upon it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living animal of all flesh that is upon the earth.
- Gen 9:17 And God said to Noah, This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is upon the earth.
- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- Gal 3:16 But to Abraham were the promises spoken and to his seed. He does not say, And to the seeds, as concerning many, but as concerning one: "And to your seed," who is Christ.
- Gal 3:29 And if you are of Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise.
- 2 Sam 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
- 2 Sam 7:13 It is he who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- 2 Sam 7:14a I will be his Father, and he will be My son. ...
- Exo 24:1 Then He said to Moses, Come up to Jehovah, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship at a distance.
- Exo 24:2 And Moses alone shall come near to Jehovah, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him.
- Exo 24:3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of Jehovah and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, All the words which Jehovah has spoken we will do.
- Exo 24:4 And Moses wrote down all the words of Jehovah. And he rose up early in the morning and built an altar at the base of the mountain and twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel.
- Exo 24:5 And he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of bulls to Jehovah.
- Exo 24:6 And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.
- Exo 24:7 And he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, All that Jehovah has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.
- Exo 24:8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people and said, Here is the blood of the covenant, which Jehovah has made with you in accordance with all these words.

I. The covenant that God made with fallen man can be seen with the seed of the woman in Genesis 3:15:

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity / Between you and the woman / And between your seed and her seed; / He will bruise you on the head, / But you will bruise him on the heel.

A. Christ as the seed of the woman refers to the incarnated Christ, the complete God becoming

a perfect man through the dispensing of Himself into humanity in order to destroy Satan and to save the believers in Christ from sin and death—v. 15; Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:16, 20-21, 23; Gal. 4:4; John 1:1, 14; 8:58; Heb. 2:14; 1 Cor. 15:53-57.

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity / Between you and the woman / And between your seed and her seed; / He will bruise you on the head, / But you will bruise him on the heel.

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin will conceive and will bear a son, and she will call his name Immanuel.

Matt 1:16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

Matt 1:20 But while he pondered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife, for that which has been begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit.

Matt 1:21 And she will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins.

Matt 1:23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel" (which is translated, God with us).

Gal 4:4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under law,

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

John 8:58 Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Before Abraham came into being, I am.

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

1 Cor 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

1 Cor 15:54 And when this corruptible will put on incorruption and this mortal will put on immortality, then the word which is written will come to pass, "Death has been swallowed up unto victory."

1 Cor 15:55 Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

1 Cor 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

1 Cor 15:57 But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. "God sent forth His Son, born of a woman," for our judicial redemption; God "sent forth the Spirit of His Son," the transfiguration of His Son, to "sonize" us for our organic salvation— Gal. 4:4, 6; 3:13-14.

Gal 4:4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under law,

Gal 4:6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father!

Gal 3:13 Christ has redeemed us out of the curse of the law, having become a curse on our behalf; because it is written, "Cursed is everyone hanging on a tree";

Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

C. The resurrected Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the transfigured descendant of the woman, dispensed into us to bruise the serpent's head in us and to make us the corporate seed of the woman, the overcoming man-child, to carry out God's judgment on the ancient serpent and to be God's dispensational instrument to change the age and usher in the manifestation of God's kingdom—Rev. 12:5.

Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

D. The Lord as the leading Overcomer (3:21) is the Head, center, reality, life, and nature of the man-child, and the man-child as the following overcomers is the Lord's Body:

Rev 3:21 He who overcomes, to him I will give to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne.

1. The way to become the man-child is for us to be daily strengthened into our inner man, to be empowered to experience the riches of Christ, and to be strong through putting on the all-inclusive Christ as the armor, taking the word by means of all prayer—Eph. 3:8-9, 16; 6:10-20.

Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

Eph 3:9 And to enlighten all that they may see what the economy of the mystery is, which throughout the ages has been hidden in God, who created all things,

Eph 3:16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

Eph 6:10 Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth and having put on the breastplate of righteousness

Eph 6:15 And having shod your feet with the firm foundation of the gospel of peace;

Eph 6:16 Besides all these, having taken up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming darts of the evil one.

Eph 6:17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,

Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

Eph 6:19 And for me, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known in boldness the mystery of the gospel,

Eph 6:20 For which I am an ambassador in a chain, that in it I would speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

2. The spontaneous life-power of Christ as the life-seed bruises the serpent's head in us as we employ the blood of the Lamb, speak forth the word of our testimony, and love not our soul-life even unto death—Rom. 8:2; Rev. 12:10-11; Acts 1:8.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

II. God's covenant with Noah and the rainbow as a sign of His covenant signify that we are the church of the covenant, living in the reality of the new covenant of grace—Gen. 9:8-17:

Gen 9:8 Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying,

Gen 9:9 And I Myself now establish My covenant with you and with your seed after you

Gen 9:10 And with every living animal that is with you: the birds, the cattle, and every animal of the earth with you, of all that came out of the ark, every animal of the earth.

Gen 9:11 And I establish My covenant with you, that never again will all flesh be cut off by the waters of the

flood, and never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.

Gen 9:12 And God said, This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living animal that is with you, for perpetual generations:

Gen 9:13 I set My bow in the clouds, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth.

Gen 9:14 And when I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow is seen in the clouds,

Gen 9:15 I will remember My covenant which is between Me and you and every living animal of all flesh, and never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all flesh.

Gen 9:16 And the bow will be in the clouds, and I will look upon it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living animal of all flesh that is upon the earth.

Gen 9:17 And God said to Noah, This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is upon the earth.

A. **The rainbow around God's throne signifies that God is the covenanting God, the faithful God, who will keep His covenant while executing His judgment upon the earth—Rev. 4:3; Ezek. 1:26-28.**

Rev 4:3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance, and there was a rainbow around the throne like an emerald in appearance.

Ezek 1:26 And above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, like the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man, above it.

Ezek 1:27 Then I saw something like the sight of electrum, like the appearance of fire encased all around, from the appearance of His loins and upward; and from the appearance of His loins and downward, I saw something like the appearance of fire. And there was brightness all around Him.

Ezek 1:28 Like the appearance of the rainbow that is in the cloud on a day of rain, such was the appearance of the brightness all around. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of Jehovah. And when I saw it, I fell on my face and I heard the voice of someone speaking.

B. **The three primary colors of the rainbow are blue (the color of the sapphire throne, which signifies God's righteousness—v. 26; Psa. 89:14); red (the color of the sanctifying fire, which signifies God's holiness—Ezek. 1:4, 13, 27; Heb. 12:29); and yellow (the color of the glowing electrum, which signifies God's glory—Ezek. 1:4, 27; Heb. 1:3):**

Ezek 1:26 And above the expanse that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, like the appearance of a sapphire stone; and upon the likeness of the throne was One in appearance like a man, above it.

Psa 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; / Lovingkindness and truth go before Your face.

Ezek 1:4 And I looked, and there came a storm wind from the north, a great cloud and a fire flashing incessantly; and there was a brightness around it, and from the midst of it there was something like the sight of electrum, from the midst of the fire.

Ezek 1:13 As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches; the fire went to and fro among the living creatures, and the fire was bright; and out of the fire went forth lightning.

Ezek 1:27 Then I saw something like the sight of electrum, like the appearance of fire encased all around, from the appearance of His loins and upward; and from the appearance of His loins and downward, I saw something like the appearance of fire. And there was brightness all around Him.

Heb 12:29 For our God is also a consuming fire.

Heb 1:3 Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

1. **Christ died on the cross to satisfy the requirements of God's righteousness, holiness, and glory and was resurrected to be our righteousness, holiness, and glory—Gen. 3:24; 1 Cor. 1:30.**

Gen 3:24 So He drove the man out, and at the east of the garden of Eden He placed the cherubim

- and a flaming sword which turned in every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.
- 1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,
2. **Christ Himself, signified by the rainbow of righteousness, holiness, and glory, is the covenant of God given to His people—Isa. 42:6; Heb. 8:10-12.**

Isa 42:6 I am Jehovah; I have called You in righteousness; / I have held You by the hand; / I have kept You and I have given You / As a covenant for the people, as a light for the nations;

Heb 8:10 For this is the covenant which I will covenant with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will impart My laws into their mind, and on their hearts I will inscribe them; and I will be God to them, and they will be a people to Me.

Heb 8:11 And they shall by no means each teach his fellow citizen and each his brother, saying, Know the Lord; for all will know Me from the little one to the great one among them.

Heb 8:12 For I will be propitious to their unrighteousnesses, and their sins I shall by no means remember anymore."
 3. **Christ is wisdom to us from God, transmitting Himself into us as righteousness (that we might be reborn in our spirit), sanctification (that we might be transformed in our soul), and redemption (that we might be transfigured in our body)—1 Cor. 1:30; Rom. 8:10; 12:2; 8:23; Eph. 5:25-27.**

1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

Rom 8:10 But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.

Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

Rom 8:23 And not only so, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan in ourselves, eagerly awaiting sonship, the redemption of our body.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her

Eph 5:26 That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word,

Eph 5:27 That He might present the church to Himself glorious, not having spot or wrinkle or any such things, but that she would be holy and without blemish.
 4. **In eternity as the New Jerusalem (a city whose foundations have the appearance of a rainbow—Rev. 21:19-20), we will be a rainbow to testify of God's faithfulness to carry out His new covenant in making us exactly the same as He is as righteousness, holiness, and glory—vv. 10-11.**

Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;

Rev 21:20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoptase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

Rev 21:10 And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

Rev 21:11 Having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, as clear as crystal.
 5. **The spiritual reality of this rainbow should be manifest in the church today—we need to allow God to fill us with His presence of righteousness by giving Him the full opportunity to work in us as the fire of holiness for His splendor of glory through us—1 Cor. 1:30.**

1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,
- C. **The rainbow is a sign of God's faithfulness in keeping His covenant that there will be no**

more judgment of death; we must live under the new covenant and not believe in any failure, weakness, darkness, or negative thing; we are the covenanted people, and we have a verse of promise to meet every situation—Lam. 3:22-23; Rom. 8:1; 2 Cor. 12:9; 2 Tim. 1:10; 2:1; Jude 24; 1 John 1:9; 1 Cor. 1:9.

Lam 3:22 It is Jehovah's lovingkindness that we are not consumed, / For His compassions do not fail;

Lam 3:23 They are new every morning; / Great is Your faithfulness.

Rom 8:1 There is now then no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.

2 Cor 12:9 And He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me.

2 Tim 1:10 But now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who nullified death and brought life and incorruption to light through the gospel,

2 Tim 2:1 You therefore, my child, be empowered in the grace which is in Christ Jesus;

Jude 24 But to Him who is able to guard you from stumbling and to set you before His glory without blemish in exultation,

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Cor 1:9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

D. All of the New Testament realities of Christ typified in the life and work of Noah have been covenanted to us—cf. Gen. 6:8, 13-18; 8:4, 18; John 10:28-29; 1 Pet. 3:20-21; Rom. 6:3-4.

Gen 6:8 But Noah found favor in the sight of Jehovah.

Gen 6:13 And God said to Noah, The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; and now I am about to destroy them with the earth.

Gen 6:14 Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; you shall make rooms in the ark and shall cover it within and without with pitch.

Gen 6:15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.

Gen 6:16 You shall make an opening for light for the ark, and you shall finish it up to a cubit from the top; and you shall put the entrance of the ark in its side; you shall make it with lower, second, and third stories.

Gen 6:17 And now I am about to bring a flood of water upon the earth to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die.

Gen 6:18 But I will establish My covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.

Gen 8:4 And the ark came to rest in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.

Gen 8:18 So Noah went forth, as well as his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him.

John 10:28 And I give to them eternal life, and they shall by no means perish forever, and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.

John 10:29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them out of My Father's hand.

1 Pet 3:20 Who had formerly disobeyed when the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared; entering into which, a few, that is, eight souls, were brought safely through by water.

1 Pet 3:21 Which water, as the antitype, also now saves you, that is, baptism, not a putting away of the filth of the flesh but the appeal of a good conscience unto God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Rom 6:3 Or are you ignorant that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.

III. The covenant God made with Abraham is that Christ as the seed of Abraham is for the blessing to all the families of the earth; the unique seed of Abraham as the last Adam became the life-giving Spirit—Gen. 12:2-3, 7; 17:7-8; Gal. 3:14, 16, 29; 1 Cor. 15:45b; John 12:24:

- Gen 12:2 And I will make of you a great nation, / And I will bless you / And make your name great; / And you shall be a blessing.
- Gen 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, / And him who curses you I will curse; / And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.
- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- Gen 17:7 And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your seed after you.
- Gen 17:8 And I will give to you and to your seed after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.
- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- Gal 3:16 But to Abraham were the promises spoken and to his seed. He does not say, And to the seeds, as concerning many, but as concerning one: "And to your seed," who is Christ.
- Gal 3:29 And if you are of Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to promise.
- 1 Cor 15:45b ... the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- John 12:24 Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

A. The resurrected Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the transfigured descendant of Abraham, the seed of Abraham, dispensed into us to make us the sons of Abraham, the corporate seed of Abraham, those who can receive and inherit the consummated Spirit as the blessing of Abraham—Gal. 3:7, 14; 4:28:

- Gal 3:7 Know then that they who are of faith, these are sons of Abraham.
- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- Gal 4:28 But you, brothers, in the way Isaac was, are children of promise.

1. The physical aspect of the blessing that God promised to Abraham was the good land (Gen. 12:7; 13:15; 17:8), which is a type of the all-inclusive Christ as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Cor. 3:17).

- Gen 12:7 And Jehovah appeared to Abram and said, To your seed I will give this land. And there he built an altar to Jehovah who had appeared to him.
- Gen 13:15 For all the land that you see I will give to you and to your seed forever.
- Gen 17:8 And I will give to you and to your seed after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.
- 1 Cor 15:45b ... the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.
- 2 Cor 3:17 And the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2. Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the blessing of Abraham (Gal. 3:14), the reality of both the seed of Abraham and the good land promised to Abraham; our blessing today is God Himself, who is embodied in Christ and realized as the Spirit to be dispensed into us for our enjoyment.

- Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

B. By the hearing of faith, we can continually receive Christ as the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit for His growth in us as the seed of Abraham and for our enjoyment of Him as the land promised to Abraham—vv. 2, 5; 2 Cor. 4:13:

- Gal 3:2 This only I wish to learn from you, Did you receive the Spirit out of the works of law or out of the hearing of faith?

- Gal 3:5 He therefore who bountifully supplies to you the Spirit and does works of power among you, does He do it out of the works of law or out of the hearing of faith?
- 2 Cor 4:13 And having the same spirit of faith according to that which is written, "I believed, therefore I spoke," we also believe, therefore we also speak,
1. To receive the Spirit we need to have an ear to hear what the Spirit says to the churches (Rev. 2:7; cf. Heb. 5:11-14); the measure of the Spirit that can be dispensed into our inward parts depends on the measure of our hearing (Mark 4:23-25; Matt. 13:14-16; 5:3, 8; Luke 10:38-42).
 - Rev 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.
 - Heb 5:11 Concerning whom we have much to say that is also difficult to interpret since you have become dull of hearing.
 - Heb 5:12 For when because of the time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you what the rudiments of the beginning of the oracles of God are and have become those who have need of milk and not of solid food.
 - Heb 5:13 For everyone who partakes of milk is inexperienced in the word of righteousness, for he is an infant;
 - Heb 5:14 But solid food is for the full-grown, who because of practice have their faculties exercised for discriminating between both good and evil.
 - Mark 4:23 If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.
 - Mark 4:24 And He said to them, Take heed what you hear. With what measure you measure, it shall be measured to you, and it shall be added to you.
 - Mark 4:25 For he who has, it shall be given to him; and he who does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him.
 - Matt 13:14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, "In hearing you shall hear and by no means understand, and seeing you shall see and by no means perceive.
 - Matt 13:15 For the heart of this people has become fat, and with their ears they have heard heavily, and their eyes they have closed, lest they perceive with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart, and they turn around, and I will heal them."
 - Matt 13:16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.
 - Matt 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.
 - Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
 - Luke 10:38 Now as they went, He entered into a certain village, and a certain woman named Martha received Him into her home.
 - Luke 10:39 And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at the Lord's feet and was listening to His word.
 - Luke 10:40 But Martha was being drawn about with much serving, and she came up to Him and said, Lord, does it not matter to You that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to do her part with me.
 - Luke 10:41 But the Lord answered and said to her, Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things;
 - Luke 10:42 But there is need of one thing, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.
 2. We need to be one with Christ as the Slave-Savior by loving Him to the uttermost and taking Him as our absolute consecration, giving Him the way to open our ear to hear His divine instructions, His fresh messages, which dispense the divine Spirit into us for our service to God in our spirit in the gospel of His Son—Exo. 21:1-6; Isa. 50:4-5; Phil. 3:3; John 6:63; 2 Cor. 3:6; Rom. 1:9.
 - Exo 21:1 Now these are the ordinances which you shall set before them.
 - Exo 21:2 If you buy a Hebrew servant, he shall serve six years; but in the seventh he shall go out free without payment to you.
 - Exo 21:3 If he came in by himself, he shall go out by himself; if he is the husband of a wife, then his wife shall go out with him.

Exo 21:4 If his master gives him a wife and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall be her master's, and he shall go out by himself.

Exo 21:5 But if the servant plainly says, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free;

Exo 21:6 Then his master shall bring him to God and shall bring him to the door or to the doorpost, and his master shall bore his ear through with an awl; and he shall serve him forever.

Isa 50:4 The Lord Jehovah has given me / The tongue of the instructed, / That I should know how to sustain the weary with a word. / He awakens me morning by morning; / He awakens my ear / To hear as an instructed one.

Isa 50:5 The Lord Jehovah has opened my ear; / And I was not rebellious, / Nor did I turn back.

Phil 3:3 For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh,

John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

2 Cor 3:6 Who has also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant, ministers not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Rom 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers,

IV. The covenant God made with David is that the resurrected Christ as the seed of David carries out God's New Testament economy for the dispensing of the processed Triune God into the members of His Body—2 Sam. 7:12-14a; Rom. 1:3-4; Psa. 89:3, 28:

2 Sam 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you sleep with your fathers, I will raise up your seed after you, which will come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2 Sam 7:13 It is he who will build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2 Sam 7:14a I will be his Father, and he will be My son. ...

Rom 1:3 Concerning His Son, who came out of the seed of David according to the flesh,

Rom 1:4 Who was designated the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness out of the resurrection of the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord;

Psa 89:3 I have made a covenant with My chosen one; / I have sworn to David My servant:

Psa 89:28 I will keep My lovingkindness for Him forever, / And My covenant will stand firm with Him.

A. The Lord of David in His divinity, the Root of David, was incarnated to become the son of David, the Offspring of David, in His humanity, to be the last Adam; and the last Adam, the son of David, was resurrected to become the firstborn Son of God and the life-giving Spirit, a transfigured descendant of David, dispensed into us to make us the many sons of God and co-kings of Christ—Matt. 22:41-46; Rev. 22:16; John 1:14; 1 Cor. 15:45b; John 12:24; Rom. 8:28-29; Acts 13:33; Rom. 5:17.

Matt 22:41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus questioned them,

Matt 22:42 Saying, What do you think concerning the Christ? Whose son is He? They said to Him, David's.

Matt 22:43 He said to them, How then does David in spirit call Him Lord, saying,

Matt 22:44 "The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies underneath Your feet"?

Matt 22:45 If then David calls Him Lord, how is He his son?

Matt 22:46 And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor did anyone from that day dare to question Him anymore.

Rev 22:16 I Jesus have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright morning star.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

1 Cor 15:45b ... the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit.

- John 11:24 Martha said to Him, I know that he will rise again in the resurrection in the last day.
- Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.
- Rom 8:29 Because those whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brothers;
- Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."
- Rom 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
- B. The Lord of David became the son of David to accomplish God's judicial redemption; the son of David (the seed of David) became the firstborn Son of God as the life-giving Spirit to carry out God's organic salvation.**
- C. The resurrected Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the transfigured descendant of David, the seed of David, dispensed into us as God's sure mercies, His eternal covenant, for our enjoyment—Isa. 55:1-3, 6-11; Acts 13:33-35.**
- Isa 55:1 Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters, / And you who have no money; / Come, buy and eat; / Yes, come, buy wine and milk / Without money and without price.
- Isa 55:2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, / And the result of your labor for what does not satisfy? / Hear Me attentively, and eat what is good, / And let your soul delight itself in fatness.
- Isa 55:3 Incline your ear and come to Me; / Hear, so that your soul may live; / And I will make an eternal covenant with you, / Even the sure mercies shown to David.
- Isa 55:6 Seek Jehovah while He may be found; / Call upon Him while He is near.
- Isa 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, / And the evildoer, his thoughts; / And let him return to Jehovah, and He will have compassion on him; / And to our God, for He will pardon abundantly.
- Isa 55:8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, / And your ways are not My ways, declares Jehovah.
- Isa 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, / So My ways are higher than your ways, / And My thoughts higher than your thoughts.
- Isa 55:10 For just as the rain comes down / And the snow from heaven, / And does not return there, / Until it waters the earth / And makes it bear and sprout forth, / That it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater;
- Isa 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; / It will not return to Me vainly, / But it will accomplish what I delight in, / And it will prosper in the matter to which I have sent it.
- Acts 13:33 That God has fully fulfilled this promise to us their children in raising up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."
- Acts 13:34 And as to His having raised Him up from the dead, no longer to return to corruption, He spoke in this way, "I will give you the holy things of David, the faithful things."
- Acts 13:35 Therefore He also says in another place, "You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption."
- D. The resurrected Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the transfigured descendant of David, the seed of David, dispensed into us for us to share His kingship in His resurrection in the eternal kingdom of God—2 Tim. 2:12; Rev. 20:4, 6.**
- 2 Tim 2:12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him; if we deny Him, He also will deny us;
- Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of the testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and of those who had not worshipped the beast nor his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.
- Rev 20:6 Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no authority, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.
- E. The resurrected Christ as the life-giving Spirit is the transfigured descendant of David, the seed of David, the seed of the kingdom, dispensed into us to make us the sons of the**

kingdom, reigning in life to live in the reality of the kingdom so that we may be translated by Him and return with Him in the manifestation of the kingdom as the corporate smiting stone to annihilate the kingdoms of this world and become a great mountain, the kingdom of God, that fills the whole earth—Mark 4:26; Matt. 13:18-23, 38; Heb. 11:5-6; Gen. 5:21-24; Dan. 2:34-35.

- Mark 4:26 And He said, So is the kingdom of God: as if a man cast seed on the earth,
Matt 13:18 You therefore hear the parable of the one who sowed.
Matt 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand, the evil one comes and snatches away that which has been sown in his heart. This is the one sown beside the way.
Matt 13:20 And the one sown on the rocky places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
Matt 13:21 Yet he does not have root in himself but lasts only for a time, and when affliction or persecution occurs because of the word, immediately he is stumbled.
Matt 13:22 And the one sown in the thorns, this is he who hears the word, and the anxiety of the age and the deceitfulness of riches utterly choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.
Matt 13:23 But the one sown on the good earth, this is he who hears the word and understands, who by all means bears fruit and produces, one a hundredfold, and one sixtyfold, and one thirtyfold.
Matt 13:38 And the field is the world; and the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one;
Heb 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated so that he should not see death; and he was not found, because God had translated him. For before his translation he obtained the testimony that he had been well pleasing to God.
Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to Him, for he who comes forward to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
Gen 5:21 And Enoch lived sixty-five years and begot Methuselah.
Gen 5:22 And Enoch walked with God after he had begotten Methuselah three hundred years, and he begot more sons and daughters.
Gen 5:23 And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty-five years.
Gen 5:24 And Enoch walked with God, and he was not, for God took him.
Dan 2:34 You were watching until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the image at its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.
Dan 2:35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed all at once, and they became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

V. The law had been decreed on the mountain of God, but there was still the need for the law with its ordinances to be enacted as a covenant—Exo. 24:1-8:

- Exo 24:1 Then He said to Moses, Come up to Jehovah, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel; and worship at a distance.
Exo 24:2 And Moses alone shall come near to Jehovah, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him.
Exo 24:3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of Jehovah and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, All the words which Jehovah has spoken we will do.
Exo 24:4 And Moses wrote down all the words of Jehovah. And he rose up early in the morning and built an altar at the base of the mountain and twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel.
Exo 24:5 And he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of bulls to Jehovah.
Exo 24:6 And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar.
Exo 24:7 And he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, All that Jehovah has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.
Exo 24:8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people and said, Here is the blood of the covenant, which Jehovah has made with you in accordance with all these words.

- A. God's eternal purpose is to have a people to be His counterpart, His expression, and His dwelling place; in order to fulfill this purpose, God must impart Himself into His chosen people and work Himself into them:
1. From the very beginning it was not God's intention to give man commandments to keep or to have man do things for Him; likewise, in bringing the children of Israel to the mountain of God, it was not God's intention to give them a list of divine commandments as requirements for them to fulfill.
 2. Rather, His intention was to bring His people into His presence so that He could reveal Himself to them and impart Himself into them through His speaking to them—cf. 34:28-29.

Exo 34:28 And he was there with Jehovah forty days and forty nights; he did not eat bread, and he did not drink water. And He wrote upon the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.

Exo 34:29 And when Moses came down from Mount Sinai—and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain—Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone by reason of His speaking with him.
 3. God's people, however, did not understand His intention; their natural, fallen, and religious concept was that God wanted them to do certain things for Him, and they thought they were able to do these things—19:8; 24:3, 7.

Exo 19:8 And all the people answered together and said, All that Jehovah has spoken we will do. And Moses brought back the words of the people to Jehovah.

Exo 24:3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of Jehovah and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, All the words which Jehovah has spoken we will do.

Exo 24:7 And he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, All that Jehovah has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.
 4. Since this was their concept, it was necessary for God to give them commandments, enacting the law (the old covenant) to show them how high His requirements are and how unable to fulfill these requirements they were—Rom. 8:3, 7-8.

Rom 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:7 Because the mind set on the flesh is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, for neither can it be.

Rom 8:8 And those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- B. In the new covenant the righteous requirement of the law is fulfilled in us spontaneously and unconsciously by our walking according to our mingled spirit with the inward working of the law of the Spirit of life—vv. 4, 2.
- Rom 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.
- Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.