

INTRODUCTION: THE DIVINE COVENANTS

A. SOVEREIGN RELATIONSHIP: TERMS DECREED (Gen.1:26f; 2:15f; Ex.6:7; Lk.22:20)

B. LIFE OR DEATH OUTCOMES: INVIOABLE RELATIONSHIP (Gen.2:17; 15:7f (Jer.34:18); Lk.22:20)

C. CONTINUITY IN PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT (Ex.2:24; 6:5; Ps.105:8; 106:45; Jer.33:25f /Lk.3:23-38; Mt.1:1-17)

D. FULFILLMENT OF ALL IN CHRIST (Gen.5:29; see 2Cor.1:20; Lk.22:20; 24:44; see Hebrews)

E. CHRISTMAS & COVENANTS: JESUS CAME TO FULFILL GOD'S COVENANT/S (see Lk.22:20; 2Cor.1:20)

1. Jesus, The Second *Adam* (see 12/16/12 sermon; Gen.1:26f; 2:7f; 3:15f; Rom.5:12f)

2. Jesus, The True *Noah* (Gen.5:29; Lk.1:32f,69f; Mt.11:28f)

3. Jesus, The Seed of *Abraham* (Gen.3:15; 22:17; Mt.1:1f; Acts 3:25; Gal.3:16f)

4. Jesus, The Prophet like *Moses* (Dt.18:15; Acts 3:22; 7:37)

5. Jesus, The Son of *David* (2Sam.7:12f; Is.9:7; Mt.1:1f; Lk.1:32; 18:38f)

I. THE COVENANT MADE WITH ABRAHAM

A. INITIAL: LAND, SEED, BLESSING (Gen.12:1-3; see 28:13,14; Acts 3:25; Gal.3:8)

B. FORMAL: PLEDGE OF DEATH (Gen.15:1f,6,9f,18; see Jer.34:18,19; Ex.24:7f; see Dt.32:40)

C. CERTIFIED: CIRCUMCISION (Gen.17:2f,10f; see Acts 7:8; Rom.4:11)

D. UNCHANGEABLE: SWORN (Gen.22:16; see Ps.105:9; Lk.1:73; Heb.6:13f)

E. SUMMARY: REPEATED ASSURANCES TO FAITH (see Gen.15:8f)

II. THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM ACCOMPLISHED BY CHRIST

INTRODUCTION: THE HEIR OF THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM (Gal.3:16; see Acts 3:25)

A. INITIAL: LAND, SEED, BLESSING (Mt.28:18f /Heb.2:13; Eph.1:3f /Gal.3:8,14; Acts 2:33; 10:45)

B. FORMAL: PLEDGE OF DEATH (Gal.3:13; 2Cor.5:21; also Ex.24:8f=Heb.9:18f; Lk.22:20)

C. CERTIFIED: CIRCUMCISION (Lk.2:21; Gal.4:4f)

D. UNCHANGEABLE: SWORN (Lk.1:72f; Heb.6:17; see Ps.110:4; Heb.7:20f)

E. SUMMARY: REPEATED ASSURANCE TO FAITH (see Heb.6:17f)

III. THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM APPLIED BY THE SPIRIT IN CHRIST

INTRODUCTION: HEIRS OF THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM IN CHRIST (Gen.17:7,etc.; Rom.8:16f; Gal.3:26f; see Heb.2:13,11; Lk.8:21)

A. INITIAL: LAND, SEED, BLESSING IN CHRIST (Mt.5:5; 28:18f /1Cor.4:5; Gal.4:19 /Gal.3:14; Acts 10:45)

B. FORMAL: PLEDGE OF DEATH IN CHRIST (Gal.3:13; 2Cor.5:21; also Ex.24:8f=Heb.9:18f; Lk.22:20)

C. CERTIFIED: CIRCUMCISION IN CHRIST (Acts 15:1f,8f; Jer.4:4,14; Rom.2:28f (Dt.30:6); 4:11; Eph.1:13f; Gal.3:27f,29; Phil.3:3; Col.2:9-12)

D. UNCHANGEABLE: SWORN IN CHRIST (Heb.6:12f,18f; contrast 7:12(21))

E. SUMMARY: REPEATED ASSURANCES IN CHRIST (see Gen.15:8,etc.; see Heb.6:18,13f(Gen.22:16f))

IV. SUMMARY LESSONS FROM GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

A. FIND YOUR ASSURANCE IN GOD'S COVENANT FAITHFULNESS! (Gen.15:6&8,etc.; Mk.9:24; see Gen.12,15,17,22; word, sacrament, baptism, oath; see Ps.107:1ff; 136:1ff; Heb.6:18f; Jn.10:28f; Rom.4:18f; 8:31f)

B. REMEMBER THAT COVENANT IS BY GRACE, THROUGH FAITH! (Gen.15:1f,6; see Rom.4:3,20f; Gal.3:6; Jms.2:23; see Gen.3:15f; 6:8,17f; note: Gen.22:16f; see 1Jn.4:19; Jn.14:21)

C. KNOW THAT ABRAHAM IS YOUR FATHER! (Gen.15:6; Rom.4:11f,16f; 11:17f; Gal.3:9; 29(28); Phil.3:3)

Discussion question: *Brethren, what shall we do?* (see Acts 2:37f)

Recommended reading: *The Christ of the Covenants* by O. Palmer Robertson (P&R, 1980)