OF GOD'S COVENANT

1. God's Plan of Salvation Utilizes a Covenant

Although rational creatures are commanded to obey their creator, the distance between God and these creatures is so great that they cannot obtain the reward of life unless God voluntarily acts. God has been pleased to save sinners by using a covenant. 1

1. Luke 17:10; Job 35:7,8

2. The Covenant of Grace

Because humanity brought itself under the curse of the law by its fall, it pleased the Lord to make a covenant of grace. 2 In this covenant, he freely offers sinners life and salvation through Jesus Christ. To be saved, they must have faith in him. 3 To those who are ordained to eternal life, God promises to give his Holy Spirit to make them willing and able to believe. 4

- 2. Genesis 2:17; Galatians 3:10; Romans 3:20-21
- 3. Romans 5:12-19; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22, 45, 49
- 4. Romans 8:3; Mark 16:15-16; John 3:16

3. The Revelation of the Covenant of Grace

The covenant of grace is revealed in the gospel. It was first revealed to Adam in the promise of salvation by the seed of the woman, 5 and then gradually, until it was fully revealed in the New Testament. 6 It is based upon the eternal covenant transaction between the Father and the Son regarding the redemption of the elect. 7 The covenant of grace is the only means through which all of the descendants of Adam that have ever been saved obtained life and blessed immortality, since humanity is now completely incapable of being accepted by God according to the terms that Adam had with God when he was in a state of innocence. 8

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5. Genesis 3:15
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6. Hebrews 1:1

7. 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 1:2

8. Hebrews 11:6, 13; Romans 4:1-2ff.; Acts 4:12; John 8:56