

God's Covenants of Promise

...revealing the coming Messiah and the essential details of God's Kingdom on earth

Key verses

- “By which are given unto us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” (evil desire)
2 Pet.1:4
- “...at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.” Eph.2:12

Messiah in the Old Testament

- “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren, Him you shall hear.” Deut.18:15 Also read v16-19

Many of God's Covenants, Promises and Prophecies in the Old Testament reveal the coming of Jesus as the Messiah and the many roles He fulfills as **Saviour** and future **King** on earth.

Here are some examples:

Gen.49:10; Deut.18:15-19; Psa.ch2, ch22, ch72; ch110; Isa.2:1-3, 7:14, ch53, 63:1-6; Jer.23:5-6,33:15; Dan.7:13-14; Zech.6:12-13,12:10,13:6; Mic.5:2.

The first Bible Promise

The Saviour to cure sin and death Gen.3:15

New Testament: Matt.1:21; John 1:29

A promise in **symbolic language** speaking of a **future Saviour**, who would be the cure for sin and death. Those who support ungodliness and sin are portrayed as the “**seed**” of the serpent, and enemies of God's people who are portrayed as the “**Seed**” of the woman.

What is a Covenant?

A covenant is an agreement between two parties with varied ways of sealing this agreement. Covenants were confirmed or finalised in Old Testament times with the parties to the covenant passing **between pieces of flesh**, the need for **shed blood** being part of the covenant process (Heb.9:16-20). God's covenant with Abraham was confirmed in this manner (Gen.ch15). God used a **smoking oven** and a **burning lamp** to pass between the pieces of flesh as a sign of His confirmation, meaning that God was **taking an oath** to carry out the Promises to Abraham (Luke 1:73), and **has sworn by His very existence** to carry out the terms of this covenant (Gen.22:16-18).

Covenants of Promise

In ancient times in the Middle East a king could make a covenant, promising benefits to an individual and their descendants. This was known as a king's “royal grant” and was a **sworn, unconditional and everlasting** promise. The covenants of promise are **Royal Grants of God** that He has sworn to keep (See Psa.89:3-4, 110:4, 132:11; Isa.54:9; Luke 1:73; Acts 2:30). Covenants of Promise answering this description were made with **Noah, Abraham, Phineas and two with King David**.

All Scripture quoted on this sheet is from the N.K.J.V.

The order of the Covenants

The Covenants of Promise reveal in an amazing sequence and in an ascending order all the **basic necessities** for God's Kingdom to be a reality in the earth.

1. Survival of the planet without fear of destruction
2. Centrally situated Holy Land for the government
3. A peaceful ruling class to guide the people
4. A peaceful King on David's Throne ruling over the re-established Jewish people in Israel
5. The High Priest to mediate

Note: Each of the Promises listed below also have New Testament support verses listed.

Five Covenants of Promise

Survival of the earth Gen.8:20 to ch9:17

New Testament: Matt.19:28; Acts 3:21

Noah was promised that never again would God destroy earth's population by the waters of a flood. This Covenant promises that **all the natural needs like seed time and harvest, seasons, day and night will be maintained** (Gen.8:22). This guarantees that the earth, and all the natural life cycles, **will be preserved for, “the renovation”**, in God's future Kingdom. The sacrifice Noah offered, of clean birds and animals, pointed forward in a type to **Jesus' sinless sacrifice** on our behalf (Gen.8:20-21).

A Holy Land Gen.12:1-3, ch13:14-17, ch15, ch17

New Testament: Luke 1:72; Acts 3:25; Gal.ch3; Heb.6:13-20

Abraham and his Seed (who is Jesus Christ and all true believers, Gal.3:16,29), are **promised the Holy Land** as an everlasting possession. From this land **all nations will be blessed** by the future King of peace. The “smoking oven” and the “burning lamp” represent Jesus as the future **mediating judge and light** of the world (Gen.15:17; Psa.105:7-11)

The “Covenant of Peace” Num.25:10-13

New Testament: 2 Tim.2:12; Rev.5:10, ch20:6

Phineas was given a “covenant of peace” promising an **everlasting priesthood** and a peaceful lifestyle. This Covenant will have its final fulfilment when Israel is at peace and God's people are given eternal life at the time of the resurrection, and become ruling priests in Jesus' future Kingdom. Also Psa.106:30-3; Isa.54:10; Ezek. 34:23-25; Mal.2:4-5.

King on David's Throne 2 Sam.7:8-16

New Testament: Luke 1:31-33; Acts 2:30, 15:16

King David received two sworn Promises. Firstly that **Israel would be established permanently and safely in their own land** with David's promised Seed, God's Son, as **King over God's kingdom and household forever**.

See also 1 Chron.17:9-14.

The Great High Priest Psa.110:4

New Testament: Heb.5:1-10 and ch7

King David was also promised that God's Son would be a **Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek**. This promise provides the means for Jesus as our **Mediator**, and a guarantee of **justice for all people** in His future Kingdom.

See also Psalm 72:1-4,12-14; Zech.6:12-13.