

Eschatology Lesson 2

Covenants

1A. The Covenants: Similar to a contract, agreement, deal or promise made between two or more persons. There are two types of covenants that God makes with man; conditional and unconditional

1B. CONDITIONAL COVENANTS- is a covenant involving the formula “If you will... then I will” God’s obligation to fulfill the promises he gives in the covenant are based on man doing, keeping, or obeying the decree’s and expectations set down in the covenant. If they keep the covenant they will be blessed if not they will be cursed.

A. Mosaic Covenant (Old Covenant) Conditional Covenant made with Israel at Mount Sinai. *Exodus 19-24, Duet. 28*

I. God reminded the people of their obligation to be obedient to his law. Notice the condition of “If you will”. *Ex. 19:5*

II. The people agreed to obey everything that the Lord had said.
Ex.19:8

III. God promises to make Israel “a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.”

-Israel was to be God’s representatives on this earth.

- In the N.T. the church will be given the “keys of the kingdom” *Matt. 16:19*

2B. UNCONDITIONAL COVENANTS- Is a covenant where God declares an agreement with man and obligates himself with the simple formula “I will”. In this case man is the recipient of what God has promised based simply on the fact that God made the promise. It indicates something God is going to do and it is not based on mans obedience or performance. There are no conditions in which the covenant can be canceled.

A. Rainbow- is a sign of God’s covenant in which he made between himself and the Earth, mankind, every living thing, and all successive generations. *Gen 9: 9-17*

B. Abrahamic Covenant- *Gen 12: 1-3*. God’s promise to Abraham is concerning the Nation Israel and his physical descendants. In this same promise God is declaring promises concerning his Seed, Jesus Christ. Both

the national promises to Israel and the Spiritual promise through Christ were unconditional.

I. 7 Promises-“I wills”

- a. Abraham is to be blessed: in land, servants, cattle, silver, gold and in Spiritual things as well. *Gen 12:2*
-promised land (Palestinian Covenant) *Gen 13:14-17;15:18*
- b. A blessing *Gen. 12:2*
- c. A great name for Abraham. *Gen 12:2*
- d. A great nation *Gen. 12:2*
- Israel, They may be punished and set aside in captivity for a while but are promised unconditionally to be a great nation.
- e. People would be blessed who bless Abraham *Gen. 12:3*
- f. People would be cursed who curse Abraham *Gen 12:3*
- g. All the families of the earth shall be blessed. *Gen 12:3*
- God blessed Gentiles through Abraham. *Gal. 3:8-9*
- God blesses every tongue, tribe, people and nation through Abraham. *Revelation 5:9*
- The Messiah would come through Abraham. *Gal 3:14*

C. Davidic Covenant- *2 Samuel* This covenant is made between God and David through the prophet Nathan in which God promises David and Israel that the Messiah (Jesus Christ) would come from the lineage of David and the tribe of Judah and would establish a kingdom that would endure forever. This Covenant does not place any conditions or requirements on David or Israel making it an unconditional promise.

I. God reaffirms the promise of the land made in the prior two covenants. (Abrahamic and Mosaic) *2 Sam 7:10*

II. God promises that David’s descendant or “seed” will succeed him as king of Israel and that David’s throne will be established forever. *2 Sam 7:12-13*

III. Provisions of the covenant-“house-kingdom-throne” *2 Sam. 7:16, Luke 1:29*

- a. House- Promising a physical dynasty in the lineage of David.
- b. Kingdom- a people who are governed by a King. Eternal
- c. Throne- Emphasizing the authority of the kings rule.
- d. Forever- describing the eternal and unconditional promise.

*Acts Ch1. the disciples were anticipating Jesus setting up His earthly Kingdom.