

MAT623 COVENANT THEOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this course is to help students understand the Scriptures, to see the blessings that God has prepared for all those in Christ in the New Covenant. Covenant theology is the most fundamental course that can be studied in any Bible curriculum, touching areas of biblical theology, Systematic theology, and hermeneutics.

Course Content

The course is divided into eight lessons. The first two lessons lay the foundation for Covenant theology by giving a short introduction to the covenants and showing how they fit together. The subsequent lessons develop each of the covenants in more detail. Baptism is referred to in Lesson Four and again in Lesson Eight. This course will show how God deals with men, and it will lay a foundation for biblical theology.

The word 'covenant' is used a total of three hundred thirteen times in Scripture. It is used twenty-four times in Genesis. Genesis, the book of beginnings, is founded upon covenants. Covenant theology is foundational to biblical theology, to systematic theology, and to exegetical theology.

What Is a Covenant?

What is the biblical definition of covenant? This course will define covenants as *a bond in blood sovereignly administered*. First and foremost, a covenant is a bond creating a personal, formal, and legal relationship between the parties. In order to understand the nature of this bond, a distinction needs to be made between covenants made amongst men with covenants made between God and men.

Man-to-Man Covenants

Covenants between men were common in the Old Testament. These covenants were negotiated, and so the parties entered into the covenant as equals. Examples of man-to-man covenants include marriage, adoption, treaties between nations (Josh. 9; Hos. 12:1), the laws between kings and their people (Jer. 34:8-18), business contracts (Gen. 21:27; 31:44), friends entering into contracts (1 Sam. 20:16), as well as agreements between masters and servants (2 Sam. 3:12).

God-to-Man Covenants

In God-to-man covenants, God is sovereign. He sovereignly initiates and imposes terms upon man; man does not negotiate the terms with God. Further, these covenants are bonds in blood; the result of breaching the covenant is death, the shedding of blood. Dr. O. Palmer Robertson defines such covenants as “a bond in blood sovereignly administered.”

There are three principle covenants in the Scriptures:

- a. The Covenant of Works between God and Adam
- b. The Covenant of Redemption between God and Christ, the second Adam
- c. The Covenant of Grace between God/Christ and His elect.

Learn more by purchasing the entire course that covers the following topics:

Lesson 1: Introductory Concepts

Lesson 2: The Structure of the Covenants

Lesson 3: Adam The Covenants of Works and Grace

Lesson 4: God's Covenant with the King

Lesson 5: Moses, Israel, and the Law

Lesson 6: David The Covenant with the King

Lesson 7: Christ The New Covenant and the New Creation

Lesson 8: The Sign and Seal of the Covenant