

GOD'S COVENANTS AND HIS COMING KINGDOM

1/15/12 PM

God has a plan for planet earth.

Though the nations plot, God's plan will be completed.

In spite all the international intrigue and power brokering God will prevail.

God is moving history toward its ultimate climax.

God's prophetic program is outlined in His covenant promises to Israel.

A covenant is a contract or promise

1. Four Prophetic Covenants

a. The Abrahamic Covenant Genesis 12:1-3

- It includes land, seed and blessing.
- It is to the Jews. Genesis 13:15 cf 17:7-8
 - ◆ It is to Abraham's offspring
- It is eternal. cf Genesis 13:15; cf 17:7-8; 2 Samuel 7:12-16
- It is unconditional. cf Genesis 15:9ff
 - ◆ It is a blood covenant
 - ◆ Conditions cannot be legitimately added later. Cf Galatians 3:15-18
- It promises literal land. cf Genesis 15:18 cf 12:7; 13:15
 - ◆ Not allegorical
- It has never been completely fulfilled yet.

Hebrews 11:39-40 And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised,⁴⁰ because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.

◆ Cf 1 Kings 4:21; Hebrews 11:10, 16

1.) They have never possessed all of the land.

“border of Egypt” and “river of Egypt” are not the same

Solomon only got tribute from some of it.

2.) The Jews have not permanently possessed it.

Temporary oversight is not everlasting possession.

3.) Many Bible passages promise Israel future possession of the land after Solomon’s time.

b. The Palestinian Covenant Deuteronomy 30:1-8

28:1-4 What might have been

Conditional

28:15-68 (63ff) What has been

Conditional

30:1-10 What will be

Regathering at the second coming of Jesus cf Isaiah 11;
Ezekiel 11:16-21

Although the covenant is unconditional, the enjoyment of its blessings is conditional until God sets up His kingdom.

It is like a teenager owning a car, but has the privilege of driving it taken away for a time by his father or a judge.

c. The Davidic Covenant 2 Samuel 7:14ff cf Psalm 89:3-4, 34-36

- The covenant promises a house, kingdom, and throne forever.
- Christ is the ultimate fulfiller of this covenant. Cf Luke 1:26-37 (32-33)

d. The New Covenant Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 36:22-31

- The New Covenant promises four things.
 - ♦ Holy Spirit- Jeremiah 31:33; Ezekiel 36:22-31

- ◆ Regeneration (New heart)
- ◆ Forgiveness- Jeremiah 31:34
- ◆ Blessing- Ezekiel 34:25-31
- The New Covenant is fulfilled by Christ.
 - ◆ *Christ* is the agent of the New Covenant. Hebrews 8:6-13; 9:14ff; 10:16-20
 - ◆ *Communion* is the symbol of the New Covenant. Matthew 26:28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25
 - ◆ The blessings of the New Covenant are also on *Gentiles*. Galatians 3:7-9, 14; cf Genesis 12:1-3
 - ◆ The New Covenant is fulfilled for Israel at the *second coming* of Christ. Romans 11:25-27; Ezekiel 34:25-31 cf Acts 2:15-21

2. Two Prophetic Themes

a. The Servant of the Lord

He is referred to as the Messiah and several other titles.

But He is primarily called the Servant of the Lord.

He is both God and man. Isaiah 9:6

He is born in Bethlehem. Micah 5:2

He is a suffering servant and sin bearer .Isaiah 52:13-53:6

Cf Zechariah 12:10

He will rule as king. Psalm 2; Zechariah 14

The second major theme of prophecy is the . . .

b. The Day of the Lord

The day when God will step into human affairs and assume direct control

It will be a time of God's judgment followed by a time of great blessing.

It is referred to frequently in both the Old and New Testaments.

It will be a time of judgment followed by a time of blessing.

Judgment

Joel 1:15; 2:30-32 cf Revelation 6:12-17

Amos 5:18 Alas, you who are longing for the day of the LORD, For what purpose *will* the day of the LORD *be* to you? It *will be* darkness and not light;

1 Thessalonians 5:2-11- Still future

2 Thessalonians 2:2-15- Still future, apostasy first, man of lawlessness revealed, the Restrainer removed.

2 Peter 3:10-13 cf 3-9

cf Revelation 16:14-16; Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 17, 21

Followed by a time of Blessing

Isaiah 11; 35; 65; Ezekiel 40-48

3. An Overview of God's Prophetic Plan

Revelation gives us a chronological picture of the events that occur when Christ returns.

1-3 The Church Age

4-18 The Tribulation Period

19:1-16 Christ's coming

19:17-21 Armageddon

20:1-6 The Millennium

Millennium means 1000 years.

In **Revelation 20:1-7** we have 6 references to a future period of 1000 years when Christ will establish His kingdom.

20:7-9 A Final Rebellion

20:10 Satan doomed

20:11-15 The Great White Throne Judgment

21-22 The New Heavens and the New Earth

Genesis 1-3

Revelation 20-22

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| ◆ In the beginng God created the heavens and the earth 1:1 | I saw a new heavens and new earth 21:1 |
| ◆ The darkness he called night 1:5 | There shall be no night there. 21:25 |
| ◆ God made two great lights (sun and moon) 1:16 | The city has no need of the sun nor the moon. 21:23 |
| ◆ In the day you eat thereof you shall surely die 2:17 | And there shall be no more death, neither sorrow 21:4 |
| ◆ Satan appears as deceiver of mankind 3:1 | Satan disappears forever 20:10 |
| ◆ A garden into which defilement entered 3:6-7 | A city where there shall be no defilement. 21:27 |
| ◆ Walk with God interrupted 3:8-10 | Walk with God resumed 21:3 |
| ◆ Initial triumph of the Serpent 3:13 | Ultimate triumph of the Lamb 20:10; 22:3 |
| ◆ “I will greatly multiply your pain” 3:16 | “Neither shall there be pain any more” 21:4 |
| ◆ Cursed is the ground for your sake 3:17 | There shall be no more curse 22:3 |
| ◆ Man’s dominion broken fall of the first man Adam 3:19 | Man’s dominion in the the New Man, Christ 22:5 |
| ◆ First paradise closed 3:23 | New paradise opened 21:25 |
| ◆ Access to the tree of life lost 3: 24 | Access to the tree of life restored 22:14 |
| ◆ Driven from God’s presence 3: 24 | See him face to face 22:4 |

There is coming a future kingdom when Christ will establish His kingdom on this earth for 1000 years followed by the Great White Throne judgment, then a new heavens and a new earth.

So What?

b. Be awake. 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 24:38

c. Be encouraged.

A great God

A coming hope

d. Be purified. 1 John 3:2-3; 2 Peter 3:10ff