

Covenants at the Throne of Grace.

- Sam's Testimony – What could have been would have been if it should have been.
- Consider the past – That which was positive and that which was neg
- It may be time for a new beginning
 - Determine from this moment on....
 - Don't wait for people / things to change.....
 - Make a quality covenant with GOD for change in you and others
- 3 Initial Covenants – start with these and then follow up throughout your life as the HOLY SPIRIT leads you.

1. Salvation:

“...if you confess with your mouth the LORD JESUS and believe in your heart that GOD has raised HIM from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

Romans 10:9-10

This Scripture clearly shows us that the point of salvation is entering into a covenant with GOD.

Romans was originally written in the Greek language.

The words translated as *confess* or *confession* mean:

- entering into a legally binding verbal contract

Terms and Conditions:

When we confess JESUS CHRIST as LORD, we enter into a binding covenant with GOD for salvation and sonship through CHRIST HIS SON.

2. Covenant we referred to must be a recognition and acceptance on our part of the fact that JESUS CHRIST is more than our SAVIOUR, JESUS IS GOD!

The terms of these covenants are:

- JESUS CHRIST will be MASTER over every area of my life!
- HE is not an optional extra!
- I will bring honour to HIM and to HIS House.

It is impossible for us to grow in our relationship with GOD beyond a certain point until we enter into this Covenant with the LORD.

Many Christians never get beyond this point in their lives.

Count the cost.

Fear of this cost keeps many from progressing.

An example of the cost – Abraham Genesis 12:1-3

Gen 12:1 And Jehovah said to Abram, Go out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house into a land that I will show you.

Gen 12:2 And I will make you a great nation. And I will bless you and make your name great. And you shall be a blessing.

Gen 12:3 And I will bless those that bless you and curse the one who curses you. And in you shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Are you willing to pay the cost?

- Do you sometimes look at the life of another with a longing eye?
- Do you know the blessings their lives entail?
- Do you know the price they paid to get them there?

- Compare Abraham's Covenant with GOD

Hindrances that keep Christians from entering into the fullness of this Covenant:

1. Family relationships.
2. Fear
3. We must come to a quality (wills-) decision that nothing is as important to us as our personal relationship with GOD.

Be willing to change what you can.

The Israelites (remnant) who had returned to Jerusalem after 70 years in captivity in Babylon faced this dilemma. They had fallen into sin and had taken foreign wives.

The LORD sent HIS prophet Ezra to bring revival to Israel so that they would build the Temple.

Ezra faced the people with their sin. He showed them that until they once again placed GOD in the position of being GOD in their lives, GOD could not bless them. It was a matter of great anguish – they loved their wives and families.

- Ezra 10:2-4

Ezr 10:2 And Shechaniah the son of Jehiel, of the sons of Elam, answered and said to Ezra, We have sinned against our GOD and have taken strange women from the people of the land. Yet now there is hope in Israel concerning this thing.

Ezr 10:3 And now let us make a covenant with our GOD to put away all the women, and such as have been born of them, according to the counsel of the LORD, and

of those who tremble at the commandment of our GOD. And let it be done according to the Law.

Ezr 10:4 Arise, for *this* matter *belongs* to you. We also *will be* with you. Be of good courage and act.

We have to fully understand the GODSHIP of GOD.

- If we choose to serve HIM, HE will be GOD in our lives and nothing less.
- Ezra 10 teaches us that it is our responsibility to obey GOD and put HIM first in our lives.

JESUS tells us – Luke 16:26-28

- That nothing can be more important in our lives than HIM.
- To count the cost of becoming HIS disciple.
- HE is GOD and will be the complete LORD of our lives, or nothing at all.
- We cannot allow fear to stop us.
- We must desire a personal experience with GOD to the extend of being willing to give up everything for it ...
 - the “pleasures” of sin
 - personal comfort and security
 - family and friends
 - financial security

Is this a bit extreme?

Would GOD really require this of you?

- Position yourself:

If you want to be in a position where GOD will make and honour Covenants in your life, you must be in a position of obedience to HIM. This is also the reason why the very first Covenant step anyone can take is to make JESUS CHRIST the total MASTER of his/her life.

- You are a co-heir with CHRIST

Gal 4:5 that HE might redeem those under Law, so that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Gal 4:6 And because you are sons, GOD has sent forth the SPIRIT of HIS SON into your hearts, crying, ABBA, FATHER.

Hand HIM every area of your life

Ask the HOLY SPIRIT to help you and write down the areas that represent your life.

These may include:

1. where you will live
2. what kind of work you will do
3. if you have a career, what will happen in your career
4. what will happen to your parents and other loved ones
5. if you are not married, if you will ever get married, and to whom
6. if you are married, what will happen to your spouse
7. if you do not have children, if you will ever have children
8. if you do have children, what will happen in their lives
9. if you will have any friends
10. if you will be “successful”
11. if you will ever make any money, what your finances will be
12. what will happen to your physical body – sickness or health
13. how GOD will work in your life
14. if you will own a home, and what kind of home it will be
15. if you will own a car, and what kind
16. what will happen to your reputation
17. if you will be popular and looked up to, or not
18. what kind of work you will do for the LORD
19. if you are in a ministry, what will happen to it, how “successful” it will be
20. will obey GOD no matter what HE asks of you to do

This list is unique to each individual and one will need leading from the HOLY SPIRIT to personalise it.

3. GOD will reveal HIMSELF to you.

“When you make a vow to GOD, do not delay to pay it.

For HE has no pleasure in fools.

Pay what you have vowed –

Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.”

Ecclesiastes 5:4-5

If you truly desire a close walk with GOD, ask HIM for a personal experience with HIMSELF. JESUS commanded us to “abide in HIM” (John 15) Our part is the asking, but GOD’S part is the doing – this is the difference between being under the law vs being under grace. Once you have asked, trust that GOD will accomplish it. John 6:44 says:” No one can come to ME unless the FATHER Who sent ME draws him.”

Answer the LORD in complete surrender –“Yes, LORD, I surrender all to YOU”.
Read and study the WORD of GOD, get to know what this surrender asks and delivers.

When you obey the commandments of the WORD of GOD – you will prosper!!!

This Covenant with JESUS CHRIST as total MASTER of you life takes you directly to the place of your 3rd Covenant with GOD.

We see this Covenant in Jeremiah 31:31-34. Paul, under the leading of the HOLY SPIRIT, quoted this Scripture in Hebrews, it now applies to us as Christians under the New Covenant. Hebrews 8:10-11.

Jer 31:31 Behold, the days come, says JEHOVAH, that I will cut a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah,

Jer 31:32 not according to the covenant that I cut with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which covenant of Mine they broke, although I was a husband to them, says JEHOVAH;

Jer 31:33 but this *shall be* the covenant that I will cut with the house of Israel: After those days, says JEHOVAH, I will put MY Law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and I will be their GOD, and they shall be MY people.

Jer 31:34 And they shall no more teach each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, Know JEHOVAH; for they shall all know ME, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says JEHOVAH. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sins no more.

Heb 8:10 "For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put MY Laws into their mind and write them in their hearts, and I will be their GOD, and they shall be MY people.

Heb 8:11 And they shall not each man teach his neighbor, and each man his brother, saying, Know the LORD, for all shall know ME, from the least to the greatest.

It is vitally important that you must not be dependant on another human being to hear from GOD. GOD must be able to give you direct revelation and understanding – you cannot live your life in confusion.

According to this 3rd Covenant GOD will:

1. put HIS law into your mind and heart. Thus you will know what is sin and what is not. What is pleasing to GOD and what offends HIM. In every situation you face, you will know what is right and what is wrong, because GOD’S law will be written in your heart.

2. teach you – you will need no other to teach you to know GOD, rather, GOD HIMSELF will manifest HIMSELF to you and teach you to know HIM personally.

Now that JESUS CHRIST is MASTER of every area of your life, take this Scripture before the LORD and see HIM delight as HE answers your prayer and enter into this Covenant with you.

Entering into these Covenants with GOD opens the door for the HOLY SPIRIT to function with greater power in your life. As you seek HIM, GOD will teach you to hear HIS Voice and HE will eventually speak to you about further Covenants

Two types of Covenants

1. Throne of Grace

Heb 4:16 Therefore let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2. Courtroom – Righteous Judge