



ZION

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**FROM CONSECRATION
TO COVENANT:**

**WHERE DO
WE GO
FROM
HERE?**



- **HAVE FAITH IN GOD!**
- **LIFE IN CHRIST**
- **IDENTIFICATION**
- **AUTHORITY**
- **AMBASSADORSHIP**

Hebrews 10:1-25 King James Version (KJV)

10 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.

² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.

³ But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.

⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

⁵ Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

⁶ In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.

⁷ Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.

⁸ Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;

⁹ Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

¹⁰ By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

¹¹ And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:

¹² But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

¹³ From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

¹⁴ For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.

¹⁵ Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,

¹⁶ This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

¹⁷ And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

¹⁸ Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

¹⁹ Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

²⁰ By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

²¹ And having an high priest over the house of God;

²² Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

²³ Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

²⁴ And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

²⁵ Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

FROM CONSECRATION TO COVENANT

Ok.....so, we fasted, prayed, and consecrated....now what? Is this enough? Is there more? **WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

Remember, consecration is the setting apart for a Godly purpose or assignment. No, we can't go back to the way things used to be. The disciples didn't have the power to rebuke the demon because they hadn't gone to the next level.

Now that we've come through the advent or event of consecration (fasting & prayer), what's next?

FROM CONSECRATION TO COVENANT

It is vital that every believer understand the truth about covenant.

Kay Arthur calls the truth of **covenant** the "**crimson thread**" that God's Spirit has woven in His Word from Genesis to Revelation.

Larry Richards writes that

"The notion of a **covenant** is unfamiliar today. But the concept of **covenant** is utterly basic to our understanding of Scripture. In Old Testament times this complex concept was the foundation of social order and social relations, and it was particularly the foundation for an understanding of humanity's relationship with God." (Richards, L: Expository Dictionary) (Bolding Added)

Dennis Rainey a well known Christian family life speaker writes that

"For the past two years I have had a growing concern that the Christian community has passively watched the "dumbing down" of **the marriage covenant**. Marriage has become little more than an upgraded social contract

between two people—not a **holy covenant between a man and a woman and their God for a lifetime**. In the Old Testament days a covenant was the most sacred and solemn of pledges. When two people entered into a covenant with one another, a goat or lamb would be slain and its carcass would be cut in half. With the two halves separated and lying on the ground, the two people who had formed the covenant would solemnize their promise by walking between the two halves saying, "May God do so to me [cut me in half] if I ever break this covenant with you and God!" You get the feeling that a covenant in those days had just a little more substance than today." (from The Covenant of Marriage) (Bolding and links added)

Jack Hayford writes that **covenant**...

"is one of the most theologically important words in all of scripture, appearing more than 250 times in the Old Testament....In Genesis 17:7^L, we see the greatest statement of the Abrahamic covenant. This is the foundation of Israel's eternal relationship with God. All other Bible promises are based on this **covenant** God made with Abraham." (Hayford, J. W., & Bauer, R. H. The Spirit-Filled Family: Holy Wisdom to Build Happy Homes. Nashville: Thomas Nelson) (Bolding Added)

Andrew Murray writes that

"One of the words of Scripture, which is almost going out of fashion, is the word '**Covenant**'. There was a time when it was the keynote of the theology and the Christian life of strong and holy men. We know how deep in Scotland it entered into the national life and thought. It made mighty men, to whom God, and His promise and power were wonderfully real. It will be found still to bring strength and purpose to those who will take the trouble to bring all their life under control of the inspiring assurance that they are living in **covenant** with a God who has sworn

faithfully to fulfill in them every promise He has given." (Two Covenants)

covenant was dependent upon both parties keeping commitments.

COVENANT IS GOD'S RESPONSIBILITY

Concerning the significance of God alone moving between the halves of the animals, it is to be noted that it is a smoking furnace and a flaming torch, representing God, not Abraham, which passed between the pieces. Such an act, it would seem, should be shared by both parties, but in this case **God's solitary action is doubtless to be explained by the fact that the covenant is principally a promise by God. He binds Himself to the covenant. God caused a sleep to fall upon Abraham so that he would not be able to pass between the two halves of the animals. Fulfillment of the covenant fell to God alone.**

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE IS TO TRUST

Each person's relationship with God is shaped by their response to God's promises, and that these promises are the antidote to despair and the best option for anyone who is struggling. ***There is sometimes a gap between believing God's promises and actually receiving their outcome, which can be defined as "walking by faith."***

Although people are fallible and don't always keep their promises, **God never fails to keep a promise. God's promises are covenants and he does not break them.** It's in the Bible, Joshua 23:14, ESV. "...**Not one word has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you.** All have come to pass for you; not one of them has failed."

***OUR BIGGEST ISSUE WITH WALKING IN COVENANT IS THAT WE DON'T TRUST GOD TO DO WHAT HE SAYS, BECAUSE OF OUR FAILURES!!!!**

¹⁸ And he (Balaam) took up his parable, and said, Rise up, Balak, and hear; hearken unto me, thou son of Zippor:¹⁹ God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not

AFTER CONSECRATION, THEN COVENANT LIFE

George Barna has a word of warning writing that in... "*Studies we have conducted over the past year indicate that a majority of the people who made a first-time "decision for Christ were no longer connected to a Christian church within just eight weeks of having made such a decision!"* (The Second Coming Of The Church) In this same section of his book Barna goes on to say that in most cases these people are not moving from "decision" to "conversion."

The Believer's Covenant, Life, Identity, and Authority in Christ

Everything in the Kingdom is:

- granted by grace
- appropriated by faith,
- demonstrated in action

WALKING IN COVENANT: HAVE FAITH IN GOD!

An unconditional or unilateral covenant is an agreement between two parties, but only one of the two parties has to do something. Nothing is required of the other party.

The Abrahamic Covenant is an unconditional covenant. God made promises to Abraham that required nothing of Abraham. Genesis 15:18–21 describes a part of the Abrahamic Covenant, specifically dealing with the dimensions of the land God promised to Abraham and his descendants.

The actual Abrahamic Covenant is found in Genesis 12:1–3. The ceremony recorded in Genesis 15 indicates the unconditional nature of the covenant. The only time that both parties of a covenant would pass between the pieces of animals was when the fulfillment of the

make it good?²⁰ Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it. **Numbers 23:18-20 King James Version (KJV)**

- **WE COULD NEVER DO IT ON OUR OWN. GOD CHOSE US!**
- **IF WE CAN TRUST HIM TO SAVE US, WE MUST TRUST HIM TO KEEP US:**
- **WALK BY FAITH!!!**

JESUS PAID IT ALL!

Christ's covenant with us opens the door to our identity and furthermore our authority in HIM.

LEVITICUS 17:14 "For as for the life of all flesh, its blood is identified with its life. (the life is in The Blood)

HEBREWS 13:12 Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.

God is a covenant making and covenant keeping God. Following are some of the covenants He made in the Bible.

- Adam and Eve
- Noah
- Abraham (in to which we were graphed in)
- David
- Jesus and the believer Romans 11:17-24

We find 2 more covenants left to be made between God and Israel and God and Palestine in the new millennium.

What is covenant and why is it so important to God?

1. A covenant is an agreement or contract between two people and an intercessor or mediator isn't needed and is in fact invalid between believers and Jesus.
2. No intercessory priesthood can go to Christ for you it is invalid no matter what it's origin.

3. Jesus is our only intercessor to the Father.
4. **It is a unilateral covenant. It isn't our covenant with Christ it's HIS covenant with us.**
5. **No comingling of blood. It's made and sealed in HIS BLOOD.**
 - a. MATTHEW 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

LIFE IN CHRIST

How does He do it?

REVELATION 3:20 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.

2CORINTHIANS 5:17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

- *He doesn't regenerate the old man. We are made new.*

GALATIANS 3:29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and yours is the heritage by the right of God's undertaking given to Abraham.

- Not only does God want to give you **THE KINGDOM** but he also gave us **HIS SON**.

John 15:4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

John 15:9 "Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love.

He has comingled himself with us. Through the blood atonement. (at-one-ment)

I ONLY LIVE BECAUSE OF HIM!

HE GIVES ME A NEW IDENTITY

HEBREWS 10:12-14

12 but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD,

13 waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET.

14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

- ***Because of His sacrifice we are now perfected, sanctified, and legally Christ's.***

ROMANS 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

GALATIANS 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

1THESSALONIANS 5:5 for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness;

What have we learned about identification in Christ?

- I am His child by adoption.
- I'm His child by faith.
- I'm a child of light.
- I'm a child of the day.

EPHESIANS 2:6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus,

My body HIS life.

HE is living HIS life in us and through us. This is our new identity. We have no need for impotent religion.

Just as our revelation of His covenant helps us understand our identity, so does the revelation of our identity in Christ bring us understanding of our authority.

OUR AUTHORITY IN CHRIST

1CORINTHIANS 4:20 For the kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power.

Acts 1:8 but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.

- Are you seeing the Spirit's power in your church?
- Are you seeing healing and deliverance?
- Are you seeing answered prayer?
- Are you experiencing manifestations of the gifts of the Spirit?
- Are you just hearing some guy's feel good words that he rapped around some scripture?

LUKE 10:19 "Behold, I have given you authority (delegated power) to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you.

1JOHN 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

NUMBERS 23:19 "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

REVELATION 12:11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because

of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death.

- **Your testimony isn't just how you came to Christ.**
- **It's your daily faith walk and confession of your mouth.**

EPHESIANS 6:16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one.

HEBREWS 1:14 Are they not all ministering angels, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

- Notice it's "for us" not "to us."

HEBREWS 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen.

HEBREWS 11:3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible.

2CORINTHIANS 4:18 while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

AMBASSADORSHIP FOR CHRIST

"For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer. Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the

old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Have you realized that if you claim to be a Christian (a follower of Jesus Christ), others look at you as an example of what God Himself is like? Now, nobody may actually say it in those words; but in reality, you and I are representatives of God to the rest of humanity. As representatives, we are literally ambassadors for Christ.

What does an ambassador do? He or she functions as a go-between for their homeland to a foreign land. Those foreigners develop their view of the ambassador's homeland through the attitudes and deportment of the ambassador.

As the redeemed children of God, we may be someone's only opportunity to become acquainted with the love of God. We have been commissioned as ambassadors for Christ. Do your attitudes and deportment reflect the true character of God, or are people getting a tainted view of the One you represent?

- **Ambassadorship is a high calling. It is a position of great responsibility and influence.**
- **Use it to accurately represent the King of kings and Lord of lords.**
- **When the world looks at you, what do they see? Jesus?**

COVENANT CONFESSIONS:

- **I will walk in covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ!**
- **I will have faith in His work in me, through His Spirit!**
- **I will let Him shine through me, that people know I am His child!**
- **Because I am His, I will exercise every authority He says is mine, over my actions and my atmosphere!**
- **I will be His ambassador everywhere I am, speaking the Kingdom of God!**