

Galatians 3:15-16 – Covenant & Community, Part 1

Introduction

1. Gate City Baptist Church Membership Covenant
2. The pastor has a strong desire to reinstate the signing of the Church Covenant for unity, the bonds of peace, and as protective measures in an increasingly anti-Christian world
3. The pastor has a strong desire to build the structures for GCBC under the Lord's headship for future generations
4. Our God is a Covenantal God, and His people are to be in Covenant with Him and one another

Christ is the Pinnacle of All of God's Covenants (Galatians 3:15-16)

1. God's Yes & Amen: everything begins & ends with Jesus Christ
2. Each covenant is a continued progressive promised revelation of Jesus Christ
3. God's plan and design was for Jesus to be the SEED that would save and bless sinners from all the nations
4. Throughout history, God progressively reveals His divine plan to save sinners by His grace through faith

The Covenant of Redemption in Eternity Past

1. Before God created the world, the Lord existing in three persons made a covenant together to create and redeem a people for the glory of God
 - a. The Father chose a people to save (**John 6:37, Eph 2:3-4a**)
 - b. The Son agreed to redeem this people through His life, death, and resurrection (**Philippians 2:5-11, Zechariah 6:12-13a**)
 - c. The Holy Spirit consented to apply the redeeming work of the Son to those the Father chose; Awaken, Convict, & Wash
2. Jesus confirmed this covenant in His high priestly prayer (**Jn 17**)
3. The Father rewarded His Son with an eternal Kingdom (**Ps 110**)
4. God was not obligated to save any from the consequences of sin, but from His love and grace, He did

The Covenant of Works in Eden (Adamic or Edenic Covenant)

1. The Lord created the world and man, and promised Adam eternal life if Adam would obey Him perfectly
2. Adam was to have dominion, be fruitful & multiply, and NOT eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil
3. Adam was to obey God and thereby earn the right to eat of the tree of life and MERIT eternal life, Disobedience would MERIT death – Adam rebelled (**Gen 3, Romans 5:12**)
4. Adam represents all of humanity – He is our federal head: If Adam had obeyed, we would all have eternal life
5. Everyone sins because everyone inherited original sin from Adam

6. By our sinful natures, we rebel & go headlong into lawlessness
7. We are all responsible to obey God's Law, and fulfill the Cov. of Works – but we cannot... So God demonstrated His grace

The Covenant of Grace Progressively Revealed Over Time

1. First mentioned in Genesis 3:15 – a SEED of the woman would come to crush the head of Satan, to defeat God's enemies
2. *The Noahic Covenant (Genesis 6-9)* – Never again would the Lord destroy the earth by a flood: He makes a truce w/ creation
 - a. God's SIGNature: A Bow in the Sky – God puts His weapons of war away and patiently awaits the Day of Judgment (see **Jeremiah 20:11, Psalm 18:13-14**)
3. *The Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3)* – God promises a great name, a great house, a great blessing through a SEED that will bless all the families of the earth (**Galatians 3:16, 29**)
 - a. God's SIGNature: Circumcision
 - b. This covenant sets the terms for faith unto salvation apart from works (**Genesis 15:6**)
4. *The Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19-24)* – God saves His people from bondage, then gives them good works to do – His Law
 - a. God's SIGNature: The Sabbath Day – a separate holy people from the world, and unto God
 - b. This covenant preserved the people of God for the coming SEED of the woman and Abraham to arrive
5. *The Davidic Covenant (2 Samuel 7:12-13)* – God established a kingly line that would culminate in a SEED from David to reign and rule forever with perfect justice & righteousness

The New Covenant In Jesus Christ, In the Fullness of Time

1. First mentioned explicitly in the Prophets (**Jer 31, Ezek 36**)
2. Isaiah 40-61 ties the New Covenant to a Servant of God who bears the iniquities of God's people
3. The transformation of God's people is radical creating a new, ideal human-divine relationship
4. *The Covenant of Works*: Who will obey God perfectly to enable us to stand before God, naked and unafraid? Jesus Christ!!!
5. *The Covenant of Grace*: Who will fulfill the covenant of works and atone for our sin? Jesus Christ!!!
6. *The Noahic Covenant*: Who will usher in a new heavens and new earth, one that will not be under judgment? Jesus Christ
7. *The Abrahamic Covenant*: Who will bless the world, and how will the world be blessed since we are sinners? Jesus Christ!!!!
8. *The Mosaic Covenant*: Who will lead an exodus out of slavery and fulfill the Law of God w/ a Satisfactory Sacrifice? Jesus!!!
9. *The Davidic Covenant*: Who will build God's temple (the Church) & rule as the eternal promised King? Jesus Christ!!!