****May 22, 2016**

**Promises Made & Promises Kept – Part 3**

*‘Why the New Covenant is better than the Old’’*

* The new is the pinnacle of the **scarlet thread of blood** covenants. **Hebrews 8:6** (mediator; the promises & the blood).

**Why ‘covenants’ in the first place – looking back**

* God **delegated authority** over His creation to mankind.

**Matthew 28: 18-19** – delegated authority to us now.

**Luke 4:3-7** - satan tempts Jesus.

**James 4:7** - satan flees from us now.

**Covenant 101 Basics:**

* God ‘cuts’ covenant where blood flows between pieces of flesh to legally establish relationship & **help** to a lesser party.
* Covenants allow the parties to exchange strengths / weaknesses to become stronger.
* Covenant reveals God’s threefold expression

-Father: Words (promises) - to us.

-Son: Mediatorial sacrifice – for us

-Holy Spirit: Seal - in & through us.

* Exchange of garments
* Covenant partners become committed ‘friends’
* New identity is given.

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

**The Abrahamic Covenant comes *before* the Mosaic Covenant**

* The ‘Law’ Covenant **‘added’** to Abrahamic Covenant because of transgressions. **Galatians 3:19**
* God had previously made covenant with Abram.
* Abram was undeserving: so sovereign grace was in operation.
* Called to establish the Jewish nation:  **Genesis 12:1-3**

-A **blessing**/**witness** to the world & Messiah / savior.

* The 5 grace **“I will’s”**
* Abraham **waited 25 years** for the fulfillment -He **inherited through** faith **and** patience:
* **H**e was not ‘perfect’.

-**Fearful & lied** about His wife being his sister

-Resorted to consort with Hagar the servant girl.

**Perspective from where we stand**

**Romans 4:16-21**

* We are the faith of Abraham (not Moses).
* God gives life as His gift: speaks things before they come to pass.
* He was counted to be ‘not weak in faith’
* The seed of faith had grown.
* He believed in the miraculous fist before seeing it.
* God was not only **willing** (promised) but **able** too.

**Final take away:**

**James 2:23**

**Notes**

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