

Covenant and Kingdom  
Week 1 - What is Covenant Theology and Why Study It?  
Hebrews 10:19-25

- Why study covenant theology?
  - Properly understanding covenant gives us deeper grounds for greater assurance of our faith, and a greater appreciation of God's wisdom and faithfulness
  - Covenant is the way that God relates to man and the way that the members of the Godhead relate to one another
  - Helps us to see the fullness, scope, continuity, authority, and applicability of all of Scripture
  - Helps to provide a framework for understanding the whole of Scripture in its context
- What is covenant theology?
  - The study and explanation of the united purpose of God in all history past, present , and future (Samuel Renihan)
  - A framework for biblical interpretation, informed by exegetical, biblical, and systematic theology, that recognizes that the redemptive history revealed in Scripture is explicitly articulated through a succession of covenants, thus providing an organizing principle for biblical theology (Ligon Duncan)
  - Strong emphasis on the historical development and outworking of God's redemptive plan
  - Considers and impacts various branches of theology, thus it is important that we carefully consider it and understand it
- Key terms/concepts
  - **Covenant** - A commitment guaranteed by a solemn oath, with the threat of [divine] sanctions
  - **Typology** - The study of analogical correspondence among revealed truths about persons, events, institutions, and other things within the historical framework of God's special revelation, which, from a retrospective view, are of a prophetic nature and are escalated in their meaning (Greg Beale)
  - **Federal Head** - One covenant representative whom God deals with and who connects all those under his headship to the covenant
  - **Covenants of Works** - Covenants in which promised blessings are received on the basis of works done
  - **Covenants of Grace** - Covenants in which promised blessings are received on the basis of free grace as a gift

- **Kingdom/Dominion** - Covenants delegate authority, grant dominion over a particular sphere
- What makes a covenant?
  - **Sanctions** - Threats that enforce and ensure the fulfillment of covenant commitments
  - **Precepts** - The covenant law/obligations
  - **Promises** - Blessings of the covenant
  - **Federal Head**
  - **Delegation of Dominion**
- Major covenants of Scripture
  - Kingdom of Creation
    - Covenant of Life, Noahic Covenant
  - Kingdom of Israel
    - Abrahamic Covenant, Mosaic Covenant, Davidic Covenant
  - Kingdom of Christ
    - Covenant of Redemption, New Covenant