

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