

Embassy Bible College - The Blood Covenant

Lesson One - The Basic Principles of Covenant.

The first mention of a covenant with God - a Covenant of Promise that we all enjoy.

Genesis 9:9-17
Verses 12-13

And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth.

God covenants with Noah never to flood the earth again.
The covenant is also with every living creature that is with Noah.
Also with all animals forever that there will be no more global flood.
The sign of the covenant is the rainbow.
This not a Blood Covenant, but it shows:
Two basic aspects of a covenant - promise and protection.

We are looking in this teaching at the Blood Covenant.

As a covenant it must contain the basics of promise and protection - but there is more to it.

Lev. 17:10-11

So first we will look at the importance of the blood itself.
For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that makes an atonement for the soul.
The life of the flesh is in the blood. Only blood can deal with sin.

Hebrews 9:22

And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.
Blood representing life must be shed if sin is to be forgiven.

Blood Covenants have existed throughout time between people in every culture.
The more civilized we become, the more we seem to have moved away from covenants of blood and the demands of absolute loyalty.

In the days of the Old Testament, families cut the covenant based on strengths and weaknesses - not upon having things in common. Never entered into lightly.
A warrior tribe could be in covenant with a farming tribe, with obvious mutual benefits.
Each covenant representative would be someone who summed up the whole tribe.

Covenant (Hebrew) Beriyth - A pledge. From a root meaning to form by cutting.
Covenant (Greek) Diatheke - Covenant, testament, agreement between parties.

Blood Covenants often meant that each party would be cut and their blood would mingle.
You probably have heard the phrase - to stick out like sore thumb.
That is a sign of a covenant person who has cut his thumb as a sign of the covenant.

The reasons for Cutting a Covenant:

1. Protection of the lesser by the greater.
The strong becomes available to the weak.
2. Equality by sharing resources or power.
They will not take advantage of one another.
3. Love and devotion.
Everything will now be motivated by love, forever.
God=s principal motive for covenant is love.

The method of Cutting a Covenant:

4. Decide upon terms of the covenant.
Includes Your enemies are now my enemies@.
5. Exchange of gifts and strengths, what each brings into the covenant.
6. Blessings and curses pronounced.
7. Sign or witness of the covenant.
8. Memorial or covenant meal (bread and wine).
9. Exchange of names.

A Blood Covenant is always seen as permanent.

It is an agreement Assigned in blood by both parties.

Blood covenant friendship is the total giving of self in covenant faithfulness, unreserved trust.

Covenant is forever, whether we get along or not.

Whoever keeps the terms of a Blood Covenant will receive the blessings of the arrangement.

Blessing means - empowered to prosper.

Whoever breaks a Blood Covenant will incur the curses of the arrangement.

Cursing means - empowered to fail.

The exchange of names declares - the name by which each party is now to be known.

For example, God says - I will be your God and you will be my people.

The parties now become one family.

The earlier example would now be known as: The Farmer-Warrior Tribe.

The Abrahamic Covenants

Genesis 15:1-18

The representatives of the covenant.

God represents the Godhead and Abraham represents all people.

v2

What will you give me? **Abram asks about the terms.**

This covenant is about God meeting Abram=s need.

v4

Prophecy about the child of promise - Isaac. **Covenant of promise.**

v7

God brought Abram here to give him the land.

v8

Abram wants assurance that it he will inherit the land.

- v9-10 Now begins the covenant process.
God tells Abram what he has to do for his part.
Provide the animals for the sacrifice. **The shedding of blood.**
- v11 There is always opposition when entering a covenant with God.
The enemy hates covenant-based relationships.
- v12-16 God=s word to Abram - is so he can KNOW (v13). **Comfort.**
- v17-18 Even in our darkest hour - God is still thinking - Covenant.
The furnace is symbolic of their future afflictions in Egypt.
The burning lamp is the presence of God.
God walked through the blood of these animals - personally.
This is a personal covenant guarantee from God.
A covenant guarantee upon the land.
The terms of the covenant.
- Genesis 17:5-27
- v5 God changes the name of Abram (exalted father)
to Abraham (father of many nations).
The covenant name change.
- v7 *And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your
descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting
covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.*
This covenant establishes Jehovah as God.
The terms of the covenant - described as everlasting.
- v8 *I will give this land to your descendants - and I will be their God.*
The blessing of the covenant.
Fully prescribed in Deuteronomy 28:1-14.
- v9-13 God wants every man to enter into a covenant with Him personally.
The shedding of the blood of the male reproductive organ symbolises
that this is a generational covenant. An everlasting covenant.
Blood shed - the sign of the covenant.
God is saying: Circumcision is your part of the covenant - My part is to be your God.
The terms of the covenant.
- v14 If anyone refuses to carry out their part of the covenant, he is cut off.
The covenant with Jehovah as God, is broken for that person.
If they won=t have their child circumcised - they are completely cut
off.
The curse declared.
Fully prescribed in Deuteronomy 28:15-67.

- v15-16 God changes the name of Sarai (a princess) to Sarah (The Princess). Sarah=s new name includes her being considered the Princess or Mother of nations and Mother of all female believers.
(1 Peter 3:6 - Sarah whose daughters you are).
The covenant name change.
- v19 Sarah will bear Isaac and God will make an everlasting covenant with him and his seed after him. All the way down the line to Jesus.
- v23-27 Immediately Abraham is circumcised and every male in his house. The covenant is now established.

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Lesson Two - The effect of Abraham=s Covenant.

Genesis 18

- v1-8 God appears to Abraham as three men (The Trinity?). They eat the **Covenant Meal** together.
- v9-15 Sarah is given a word from God about the birth of Isaac. In the natural, this is impossible because of their age.
But: Now they are in covenant nothing is impossible. Everything is now possible to fulfil a word from God.
- v16-22 Now in covenant with Abraham, God cannot hide his plans.
v23-33 Now in covenant with God, Abraham can bargain with God. Abraham established a blood-covenant precedent of intercession that has stood through the ages.

Genesis 21

- v1-3 Sarah bore a son and they called him Isaac (laughter). Sarah was even able to breast-feed Isaac.
- v4 Isaac was circumcised at eight days old, fulfilling the covenant.

Genesis 22

- v1-2 God tests Abraham in order to strengthen his trust in his God. Sacrifice your son (the one who will pass on the covenant).
Heb. 11:17-19 Abraham believes that if he kills Isaac, God will have to raise him up from the dead to fulfil the promise of the covenant.
- v3-5 Abraham said to his servants - **we** will come back again. He completely trusted his covenant partner.
- v6-10 *And Abraham said,
My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.*
They set up the altar and Abraham=s faith is still for God to provide Himself a lamb. Could that mean Aprovide Himself as The Lamb@?
Abraham raises the knife to kill Isaac.
- v11-13 The angel of God stops him just in time.
And God said, Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.
Inferring - so I will not withhold My Son.
These are covenant partners talking in covenant terms.

- v14 *And Abraham called the name of the place, AThe Lord Will Provide@ as it is said to this day, In the Mount of The Lord it shall be provided.
The Lord Will Provide = **Jehovah jireh.**
The Lord will provide a Lamb in the mount of the Lord.
This is Mount Moriah - which was later to be called Calvary.
God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son where He would sacrifice His.*
- v15-19 *God swears by Himself since there is none greater to swear by.
God=s throne became the surety of His promise.
Because of Abraham=s obedience and faithfulness, God blesses him.
Abraham is blessed to be a blessing.
His seed shall be as the sand of the seashore - his natural descendants.
His seed shall be as the stars of the sky - his spiritual descendants.*

Israel - The Blood Covenant people.

- Genesis 26:1-5 *Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father.
Confirming the covenant to Isaac.*
- Genesis 35:9-12 *And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; your name shall not be called Jacob anymore, but Israel shall be your name." So He called his name Israel. Also God said to him: "I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body. The land which I gave Abraham and Isaac I give to you; and to your descendants after you I give this land.
Confirming the covenant to Jacob - who God renames Israel.*
- Exodus 2:23-25 *So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them.
Much later - God hears the groaning of His people.
He remembers His covenant with Abraham and prepares deliver them.*
- Exodus 3:15-17 *Moreover God said to Moses, Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: >The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.
This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.
This God=s new name to Israel.
He will bring you into a land flowing with milk and honey.
No nation has ever been delivered in such a miraculous way.
This only happens to people who are in blood-covenant with God.*

Exodus 15:26 They have just been delivered from Egypt and crossed the Red Sea. Yet they are murmuring already, but look at their Covenant God. Even in the midst of their complaining, he declares Himself as healer. *For I am the Lord who heals you.*

In the wilderness: God led them with a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. He fed them with quail, with manna, and water from a rock.

Deut. 29:5 *I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out on your feet. That is a Covenant-keeping God.*

The Blood-Covenant Law

Often called the Mosaic Law because Moses was the instrument through which it came. Israel were the only people who had a covenant with God. The Covenant was central to everything in the life of this blessed nation.

Ten Commandments The basis of all the Law, written by God Himself upon stone.

The Tabernacle The place where God dwelt among His people. This tabernacle was a shadow the original in heaven - Hebrews 8:5.

The Priesthood God instituted the priesthood with Aaron as High Priest and the tribe of Levi as the ministers of the tabernacle. The priests were sanctified with blood and cleansed. Holy people with holy tasks to perform.

Atonement Once a year the High Priest entered into the Holy of Holies to make sacrifice for the sins of the people, after he had been cleansed by blood. Their sins were then atoned (covered) for the coming year.

The Scapegoat The High Priest cast lots over two goats. One was sacrificed for the sins of the people. He then confessed the sins of the people over the scapegoat. The scapegoat was sent away - with the sins - away from the people.

The Offerings When an Israelite was in fellowship - he could bring a Peace Offering. If he had sinned against his brother - he brought a Trespass Offering. If he had sinned against God - he brought a Sin Offering.

The Blessings and Curses

Deuteronomy 28 clearly declares these two essential aspects of the Blood Covenant.

Deut. 28:1-14 *and all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God.*

If the people would diligently adhere to all the obligations of the covenant, they would be subject to these blessings upon their life. Enemies could not prevail against them. Crops and herds would be healthy and multiply. They would never be in lack. This is normal for people who are in Blood Covenant with God.

Deut. 28:15-68 *But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you.*

Refusing to comply with God=s commandments brought these curses upon the individual. Not because God wanted to curse the person, but because they had walked outside God=s sphere of protection for them.

Imagine it is raining and God is carrying the umbrella of protection. We have no right to complain about being wet when we have chosen to walk a different direction to Him rather than following Him.

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Lesson Three - The New Covenant.

The first requirement is to establish the need for a New Covenant.

Jeremiah 31:31-32 *Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke.*

God=s people broke the Old Covenant. There is a reason for that.

Old Covenant Was cut between God and man. God cannot fail but man did.
A new covenant can now be established because One Man fulfilled the Law in its entirety. Jesus.

New Covenant Can now be cut between God and Jesus. Neither one can fail.
This New Covenant is not directly with us at all.
It is important that we realize this.

Romans 8:17 *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*
When we accept Jesus as our Savior we become joint heirs with Him.

The Abrahamic Covenant

Before we get fully into the New Covenant, we need to speak about the Abrahamic Covenant and how much of it still applies to us.
Remember - God said that this covenant was to be everlasting.
Almost everything about the New Covenant can be understood in the light of the Old Covenant with Abraham.

Gal. 3:29 *And if you are Christ=s, then you are Abraham=s seed, and heirs according to the promise (of the covenant).*
We receive the promise given to Abraham by God.

The Old Covenant Stated that if you did right you would receive the promise, but if you failed to keep God=s commandments you would receive the curse.

The New Covenant Now that the New Covenant has been established.
If we do right by God=s commandments, we still receive the promise of the Old Covenant.
If we fail to be obedient, we receive nothing. Not even the curse.

A Completely New Style of Covenant

Jeremiah 31:33 *But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*
The old covenant was written upon stone tablets and simply required man to be obedient to The Law.
This New Covenant is based upon God having a personal relationship with man by writing His Law in our hearts and minds.

Jeremiah 31:33 *No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, >Know the Lord,= for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.*
Gone are the days of Atonement when man=s sin would only be covered for a year. Now sin is to be forgiven and forgotten by God.

The State of the people in the world.

Ephesians 2:11-12 *Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands. That at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*
Not a part of Israel, therefore we were Gentiles.
Uncircumcised, therefore we were living under the curse.
Strangers from the covenants made with Israel.
All of which made us: Without hope and without God.
We needed a savior.

Remember Mount Moriah?

Genesis 22:14 The Lord will provide a Lamb in the mount of the Lord.
This is Mount Moriah - which was later to be called Calvary.

Revelation 13:8 *And all who dwell on the earth will worship Him, whose names have not been written in the book of life of*
the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
When did God decide that we needed a Savior?

John 1:29 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"*
John recognized in Jesus, the beginning of the New Covenant.

A New Covenant based upon:

Hebrews 9:6-11 **A Better Tabernacle.**
But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.
Remember that Moses tabernacle was just a copy of what is in heaven. Jesus is to be the High Priest of the Heavenly Tabernacle.

Hebrews 9:12-14 **Purer Blood.**
Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.
His sacrifice is to be with purer blood than that of animals.
This sacrifice is to be made in His own blood.

Hebrews 9:15-17 **Better Sanctification.**
The blood of animals could purify the flesh.
The blood of Jesus purges our conscience from dead works.

Hebrews 9:15-17 *And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant
For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.*
For there to be a New Testament, it requires that someone die.
Jesus died and He is the mediator of this New Covenant.
Jesus is the only person ever, to be the Executor of His own will.

The Scapegoat

Matthew 27:17 Pilate got the people to cast lots@ to see who would die.
What Pilate did not know was that God received Jesus as both goats.
He was both the One sacrificed and the One who took away our sin.

The Covenant Meal

Matt. 26:26-28 *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, Take, eat; this is My body. Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*
The Old Covenant was the basis upon which the New Covenant was founded. Jesus had to fulfill all of the Old Covenant requirements.

Payment for Sin

Because we interchange the words covenant and testament we need to clarify something very important here.

In the Bible, which is the first verse of the New Testament?

Matt. 28:1-9

The New Testament was to be a Blood Covenant in the blood of Jesus Himself; it could not begin until Jesus had been raised from the dead. Most of what is recorded in each of the Gospels is still happening under the Old Covenant, before Jesus' blood was shed for us.

John 20:11-18

Jesus said to Mary, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

Why?

Jesus says that Mary cannot touch Him. (Touch rather than cling)
He has not yet ascended to heaven.
He has not poured His blood out on the heavenly mercy seat.
The New Covenant cannot begin until He has.

Luke 24:36-39

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, Peace to you. But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.

Jesus now says that they can handle Him - touch Him.

If Mary could not touch Him because He had not yet ascended to Father, what has happened in between these two events?

Note also Jesus words - He says that He has flesh and bone, not flesh and blood. His blood has been poured out in heaven for you and me.

It is important to know that Jesus ascended twice.

Once to fulfill the New Covenant and once to sit at Father's right hand until He comes for us.

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Lesson Four - The New Covenant in Detail.

Jesus fulfilled all of the Old Testament requirements.

The Passover Lamb.

Exodus 12:5-13 *Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it
And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will **pass over** you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.*

Deut. 15:21 *But if there is a defect in it, if it is lame or blind or has any serious defect, you shall not sacrifice it to the Lord your God.
It was important that the lamb be without blemish.
Only the best is good enough to sacrifice to God.*

Jesus - The Final Passover Lamb.

Hebrews 9:14 *How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

1 Peter 1:19 *But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

John 1:29 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
John recognized in Jesus, the beginning of the New Covenant.*

Luke 22:7-8 *Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the Passover, that we may eat.*

In Jewish culture, each new day began at 6 p.m.
They celebrated their Passover meal together that evening.
The Passover Lamb had to be killed before 6 p.m. the next day.

Luke 22:19-20 *And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.
Jesus is declaring Himself to be the Passover sacrifice.*

The Priesthood.

Genesis 14:18-20 The first mention of the word priest is very significant.
And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.
Melchizedek pronounced God=s blessing upon Abraham.
Believed to be a pre-incarnation of Jesus.

Hebrews 7:1-3 *For this Melchizedek without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.*
This person had neither parent descended from the tribe of Levi.
In the Old Testament, the High Priest had to come from that tribe.
God is setting a precedent with Melchizedek being an exception.

Psalms 110:4 *The Lord has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."*
Old Testament prophecy.

Hebrews 6:20 *Where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.*
New Testament fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy.
Jesus is the High Priest of the New Covenant.

Circumcision as the Sign of both Covenants.

Genesis 17:11 *You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you.*

Colossians 2:11-12 *In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses,*

Romans 2:28-29 *For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.*
We become circumcised in our hearts when we are Born Again.
We are Born Again when we recognize our sinful state and accept Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior.

Atonement or Remission of sins.

- Exodus 30:10 *And Aaron shall make an atonement upon the horns of it once in a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonements: once in the year shall he make atonement upon it throughout your generations: it is most holy unto the Lord.*
Once a year the sins of the people were atoned.
Covered by the blood of the sacrifice for one year.
Sin was not dealt with forever; it was just covered over for a year.
- Romans 3:25 *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.*
Propitiation = The act of atoning for a sin or wrongdoing.
Remission = Payment for the sin and judging the person not guilty.
- Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
Paid in full by Jesus.
- Colossians 1:19-22 *Now He has reconciled you in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight.*
Reconciled - friends again, as if sin had never existed between us.
To be made holy means that sin has been dealt with forever.

The Blessings of the New Covenant.

Righteousness

- 2 Cor. 5:21 *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.*
We have been made righteous - it was not any of our doing.
Righteousness = Right-Standing with God. Nothing separating us.
- Hebrews 4:14-16 *For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*
Only righteous people, free of sin, can come boldly to His throne.

Unity

- Galatians 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*
Jesus and you are one - He lives out His life through you.

- Eph. 2:5 *Even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ, by grace you have been saved.*
We are together with Jesus in every aspect.

Victory

Eph. 1:15-23

According to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, His body. We are in Christ, so we are also far above all these powers. Therefore everything is under our feet too, we are already victorious.

Holiness

Colossians 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, blameless, and above reproach in His sight. We are made holy by a holy Blood Covenant with a holy God.

Eph. 1:4

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love. Holy and without blame

The Right to use His Name

Acts 3:6

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. Authority to use the New Covenant name. The man was healed.

Acts 4:29-30

Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus. Signs and wonders are done through the New Covenant name - Jesus.

Eph. 1:21

Far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. Jesus - the Name above every name is ours to use.

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Lesson Five - Living in The New Covenant.

The Covenant Meal - Communion

1 Cor. 11:23-26 *For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me. In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me. For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord=s death till He comes.*

We take the bread in recognition of the punishment taken by His body. Including - By His stripes we are healed. It is a privilege as we take the bread to remember His sacrifice for us.

We take the cup in recognition of His blood shed for our redemption. A privilege to take the cup and remember His blood poured out in love.

When we take communion we reaffirm the blessings of the Blood Covenant upon us, every time we proclaim the death of our savior. Confessing our faith in Him, we do this together, as one Body. We are commanded to keep doing this until Jesus returns.

At no time does the bread become His body or the wine become His blood, that is heresy. These are merely symbols to remind us.

1 Cor. 11:27-30 *Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord=s body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.*

It is not possible for a sinner to take communion in a worthy manner. A saint can also partake unworthily, if for example in unforgiveness.

Taking communion can result in weakness or sickness for the person. The worst-case scenario will result in death (to sleep in death).

Accessing The Blessing

Galatians 3:16 *Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, And to seeds, as of many, but as of one, And to your Seed, who is Christ.*

The promise and blessing were made to both Abraham and his Seed (Capital S), meaning Jesus.

Galatians 3:29 *And if you are Christ=s, then you are Abraham=s seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

As a Christian you have full access to the blessing of Abraham, it is yours because you are an heir of the promise.

Handling The New Covenant with Skill.

This is done mainly by recognizing the Old Covenant principles that we have studied, within the New Covenant.

Hebrews 5:13-14 *For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

We are encouraged to mature in the things of God, handling the New Covenant correctly. This requires maturity and develops maturity.

Eph. 2:12 *At that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

Brought near to God through Jesus= sacrifice of the Blood Covenant. No longer strangers to the covenants, we now have hope.

Hebrews 7:22-28 *But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.*

Part of the Covenant blessing is to be able to rely on Jesus continually praying for us. One of the strengths He brought to this Covenant.

Galatians 3:22 *But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.*

Remember that Blood Covenants usually include an exchange of gifts. When we believe in the New Covenant, we are given a gift of faith.

Romans 3:21-25 Two more gifts are; being made righteousness and being justified.

Romans 5:17 Again, the gift of righteousness and the gift of abundant grace.

2 Cor. 6:16-18 *And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the*

temple of the living God. As God has said: I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people. Therefore "Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters@, Says the Lord Almighty.

This is your Covenant partner speaking to you, read it carefully.
You are the temple of the living God. Already, simply by believing. I will live in you, and I will walk in you. You are holy enough for that. I will be your God and you will be My people. Covenant name-change. I will be a Father to you and you will be My sons and daughters.

Hebrews 4:16-16

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
Jesus understands our all of our human weaknesses.
He knows exactly what it feels like to be tempted to sin.
As Covenant partners, we can come boldly to His throne any time.
There we can receive everything we would ever need.

Eph 4:17-24

Put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.
We no longer need to be like those without covenant, as we once were.
We are renewed in the spirit of our mind, we can think differently.
Instead we can put on the new man, we can act differently.
This new man was created in righteousness and true holiness.
We do not have to achieve righteousness and holiness, we already are.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
We are already holy and acceptable to God - as His Covenant partners.
We no longer have to conform to the worldly ways of our past.
We are transformed by renewing our minds.

Transformed =

Metamorphosis - a one-way change process that can never be reversed.
Exactly like the caterpillar, the chrysalis and the butterfly.

Renewing our mind = Reading and studying the Word of God so that our mind is renewed in its thinking and the transformation takes place.

Righteousness is The Key

A friend once thought that our attitude to life was arrogance. Once he became a Christian, he realized that the things we had been saying were not arrogance. They were statements based upon the fact that we have been made to be the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

2 Cor. 5:17-21 *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.*

Covenant Partners:

Are a new creation. The old is gone and everything is new.
Have been reconciled to God - as if we had never been in sin.
Have been given the ministry of reconciling others to God and they can tell people that God has dealt with their sin already.
Are ambassadors for Christ. Living in this foreign land.
Have been made to be the righteousness of God.

Twenty Confessions of Faith we can make on the grounds of the Blood Covenant.

I am a joint-heir with Jesus of all the blessings of the Blood Covenant.
I am a child of God.
I am a new creation.
I am loved by God so much, He sent Jesus to die for my sins.
I have instant and permanent access to the throne of God.
I am holy in His sight.
I am the very righteousness of God.
I have a right to peace and joy, always.
I have a right to the grace of God in my life.
I have the power that raised Jesus from the dead dwelling in me.
I have the mind of Christ.
I can do all things through Christ, my strengthening Covenant partner.
I am healed by the stripes inflicted upon Jesus.
When I submit myself to God, I can resist Satan, who will flee from me.
I have a right to victory in every area of my life.
I am more than a conqueror through Jesus who loves me.
I have the right to use the Name of Jesus as if it were my own name.
Whatever I ask in prayer, believing; Jesus will do for me.
I am led and guided by the Holy Spirit at all times.
Jesus has gone ahead to heaven to prepare a place for me there.

How many more can you think of?

Every confession of faith that you make, reaffirms the blessings of the Blood Covenant.