The COVENANTS

- 1. Abrahamic
- 2. Palestinian
- 3. Davidic
- 4. New Covenant

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Gen. 12:1-5

- A. The Unconditional Covenants: The Sovereign act of God where by God unconditionally obligates Himself to bring to pass definite promises, blessing, and conditions for the covenanted people (The Jew) "I will"
- B. This type of covenant is characterized by the formula "I Will" which states God's determination to do exactly as he promised.
- C. Dispensationalism does believe there are conditions in the unconditional covenants.
- D. What is meant by unconditional is that God's fulfillment of His promises is unconditional and He will accomplish all promises stated in the covenant.
- E. God intends to fulfill the content of the covenants, those promises dependent upon God for fulfillment, regardless of whether Israel fulfills hers.
- F. Not all of Abraham's heirs received the promise (Abraham had 8 sons, but only through Isaac, the promise). It went through Isaac, Jacob, and the 12 tribes.
- A. The nature of the unconditional covenants.
 - 1. They are literal and must be interpreted literally as well.
 - 2. The covenants God made with Israel are eternal and not conditioned by time.
 - 3. They are unconditional and are not nullified by Israel's disobedience. They depend upon God not man.
 - 4. These covenants were made with a specific people (Israel). Rom. 9:4, Eph. 2:11-12
- B. The Abrahamic Covenant
 - 1. Gen. 12:1-3, 7 (Acts 7:2) Gen. 13:1, 4-17 Gen. 15:1-21 Gen. 17:1-21 Gen. 22:15-18

Principle: The covenant is unconditional, because it is based purely on God's grace regardless of how often Abraham or his seed (Jews) may fail.

The Provisions of the Covenant

- A. Concerning Abraham. Gen. 12:3
 - 1. Father of a great nation (Israel).
 - 2. He was to poses all of the Promised Land (not fulfilled by Abraham).
 - 3. Other nations (including the Arab States) were to descend from Abraham.
 - 4. Many of his descendants would become kings (both Jewish and non-Jewish)
 - 5. Abraham was to receive personal blessings.
 - 6. Abraham was to be a blessing to others.
 - 7. His name was to become great. That's true today for Jews, Christians, and Muslims.

Summary: Some of these were fulfilled in his lifetime, but some were not (like ownership of the land), and therefore and have a future fulfillment.

B. Concerning the Seed (Israel)

Promises made to the nation were:

- 1. To become a great nation.
- 2. It was ultimately to become innumerable. Gen. 15:5
- 3. They would posses all the promised land.

<u>Doctrinal Statement</u>: These promises were made to Abraham and his seed. These blessing have not been fulfilled, but await the Messianic Kingdom (Millennial Kingdom – 1,000 years)

- C. Concerning the Gentiles
 - 1. Blessings for blessing Israel. Gen. 12:3
 - 2. Cursings for cursing Israel. Gen. 12: 3
 - 3. The Gentiles also were to receive spiritual blessings. Jesus Christ is Jewish, from Abraham

How and What are these blessings: The spiritual blessings came through one specific Seed of Abraham (The Messiah Jesus Christ). Gen. 12:3, Gal. 3:1-18.

The Abrahamic Covenant contained both physical and spiritual promises. While the physical promises were limited to Israel, the spiritual promises or blessings were to extend to the Gentiles.

- D. The Reconfirmation of the Covenant
 - 1. Abraham has 8 sons by three different women
 - a. Hagar Gen. 16:3, 15-16 (Ishmael)
 - b. Sarah Gen. 21:1-5 (Isaac)
 - c. Keturah Gen. 25:1-12 (Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, & Shuah)

- 2. Through which one would the Abrahamic Covenant be confirmed? Isaac Gen. 26:2-5, 24
 - a. Isaac is to be blessed. Gen. 26:3, 24
 - b. The land is promised to Isaac and his seed. Gen. 26:3-4
 - c. The seed multiplied. Gen. 26:4, 24
 - d. The basis of the confirmation is God's covenant with Abraham. Gen. 26:3, 5, 24
- 3. Jacob
 - a. Isaac had two sons and God chose to confirm the covenant with Jacob only. Gen. 28:13-15
- 4. Three specific provisions were made:
 - a. The land to Jacob and his seed. Gen. 28:13-15
 - b. The seed multiplied. Gen. 28:14
 - c. The Gentiles will someday be blessed through the Seed. Gen. 28:14
- E. The Continuity of the Covenant
 - 1. In Egypt Ex. 2:23-25
- F. The Reaffirming of the Covenant
 - 1. Ex. 6:2-9 To Moses
 - 2. 1 Chron. 16:15-19 To David (1,000 years before Christ)
 - 3. 2 Chron. 20:5-8 To Josephat (850 years before Christ)
 - 4. Neh. 9:7-8 (450 years before Christ)
- G. Testimony of the Gospels & New Testament
 - 1. Luke 1:54-55, 68-73
 - 2. Jesus spoke of it when he taught on resurrection. Mat. 22:23-33
 - 3. Gal. 3:15-22
 - a. Mosaic Law = temporary
 - b. Abrahamic Covenant = eternal

Just as God fulfilled his promise to Israel in the past, He will do so again in the future, because of the unconditional nature of the Abrahamic Covenant. The "I Will" of God. Gen. 12:2-3

- H. Conclusion: The timing of the provisions of the Covenant
 - While a covenant may be signed and sealed at a specific point of time, it does not mean every provision goes immediately into effect. History has shown this to be true.
 - 2. Immediately:
 - a. Changing names: Abram, Sarai
 - 3. Near future
 - a. Birth of Isaac (25 years)
 - b. Egyptian enslavement and the Exodus (over 400 years)
 - 4. Future
 - a. Total possession of all the Promise Land by the patriarchs and their descendants (still future).

PALESTINIAN COVENANT

(Land)

- A. The title deed to the land portion of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - 1. Gen. 12:7 I will give this land.
 - 2. Gen. 13:15 To your descendants; all the land you see.
 - 3. Gen. 17:7-8 Eternal ownership
- B. Not the same covenant as the Mosaic Covenant or Law (613 laws)
 - 1. Deut. 29:1, 10-15
- C. Provisions of Covenant
 - 1. Deut. 30:1-10, 19-20 It's between God and Israel. Over 400 years from Abraham
- D. Possession of the land based upon obedience.
 - 1. Deut. 28:58-65 They would be driven off the land for disobedience.
- E. Neh. 9:7-8 The Abrahamic Covenant with the land portion stated. 400 years before Christ, 1,600 years after Abraham.
- F. Possession of the land based on obedience; obedience based upon conversion (salvation). Rom. 11:25-27 all Israel
 - 1. Universal regathering in unbelief. Ez. 36:22-32, 37:1-28, 39:25-29
- G. When does this take place?
 - 1. 2nd Advent: Is. 11:1-10, Zech. 14:1-10, Matt. 24

Summary: The covenant is literal, unconditional (God's part) and eternal. The only element is the time element, the program is certain, the time when this program will be fulfilled depends upon the conversion of the nation of Israel. It's literal, unconditional, eternal.

DAVIDIC COVENANT

- A. 1,000 years before Christ, 1,000 years after Abraham
 - 1. Will there be a 1,000-year Kingdom?
 - 2. Will Israel be regathered as a nation?
 - 3. Is this Kingdom present or future?
- B. The Covenant 2 Sam. 7:1-17 (Salvation), 1 Chron. 17:10-15 (Christ)
 - 1. Reference 2 Sam. 7:16 & Luke 1:26-33
- C. Disobedience in David's family will not nullify God's covenant with David. Ps. 89:19-37
- D. It is further confirmed Is. 9:6-7 (200 years after David Judah), Jer. 23:5-6, Jer30:4-11, Jer. 33:14-22, Ez. 37:24-28, Hosea 3:4-5 (Israel)
- E. The throne without a King. Hosea 3:4-5 (time factor), Matt. 23:37-39
- F. When is the House of David, Kingdom and Throne fulfilled (2nd Advent)? Zech. 14:1-9 v.9 King over all the earth.
- G. The divided kingdom to become one. 200 years after David. Ez. 37:15-18
- H. David's throne re-established. Jer. 23:5-6, 33:14-22, 30:1-11
- I. Who is David's heir to his throne? Rev. 22:16, Luke 1:26-33
- J. Conclusion:
 - 1. Israel must be preserved as a nation.
 - 2. Israel as a nation, future from David's time.
 - 3. The greater Son Jesus Christ will return.
 - a. Bodily
 - b. Literally Rev. 19:11, Zech. 14
 - 4. It will be a literal kingdom. Rev. 20:1-6
 - 5. It will be eternal. Rev. 21:1-8, 22:1-7
 - 6. No king on the throne of David. No king from 586 BC to today.

THE NEW COVENANT

- A. New Covenant stated Jer. 31:31-37, Jer. 32:37-42 (Not the Mosaic Covenant)
- **B. Provisions:**
 - 1. Jer. 31 House of Israel united as a nation. House of Judah v. 31
 - 2. A new heart v. 33 regeneration or salvation
 - 3. God's law within them. V. 33 <u>Doctrinal Statement</u>: The Old Testament sacrifices.
 - 4. Forgive their sins v. 34 (Covered sin. The cross forgives.)
- C. The New Covenant promises a new heart which is regeneration.
 - 1. The indwelling Holy Spirit is also included Jeremiah 31:33
 - a. Ez. 36:27 and I will put My spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.
- D. When will this take place? Jer. 30:1-11 (The Tribulation)
- E. The character of the New Covenant. It's called eternal. Jer. 31:36-37
 - 1. It's God's "I Will" that will provide for its fulfillment. Jer. 31:33
- F. When will this take place? 2nd Advent Ez. 39:25-29, Isa. 11:1-12
 - 1. The fulfillment is future; therefore, Israel must be preserved as a nation to live on the land.
 - 2. Israel must be converted as a nation to partake of the blessing at the Abrahamic Covenant: Land, Seed, Blessing
 - 3. Land: God promised Abraham. Gen. 12:1-3
 - 4. God promised David his son would rule Israel.
 - 5. The right heart (Salvation) to enjoy these blessings.
- G. Conclusion:
 - 1. A nation forever
 - 2. A land forever
 - 3. A king forever
 - 4. At the 2nd Advent Jesus fulfills the promise of the Abrahamic Covenant. Land, Seed, Blessing
 - 5. Zach. 14:1-11 Future

EXPLANATION OF THESE COVENANTS

Matthew 24 - 25

- A. What is the expectation of the Jewish people?
- B. When will the Abrahamic Covenant be fulfilled?
 - 1. Land, Seed (People), Blessing: Salvation Gen.12:1-3
- C. Creation to Abraham 2,000 years; from Abraham to King David 1,000 years; from David to Jesus 1,000 years; from Jesus to today 2,000 years; 6,000 years to human history
- D. The Hope in Jesus's Day 2,000 years ago
 - 1. Luke 1:67-73 Zacharias
 - 2. Luke 1:54-55 Mary

The Hope of the Abrahamic Covenant: Land, Seed, Blessing Also, the greater son of David Luke 1:32

- E. The forerunner to announce the coming King.
 - 1. 1st Advent: Isa. 40:1-8 with John 1:19-28, 1st Advent: Matt. 11:7-14 with Mal. 3:1 2nd Advent: Matt. 17:9-13 with Mal. 4:5-6
 - 2. <u>Doctrinal Statement</u>: John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah at the 1st coming to identify the Messiah, Jesus King of the Jews, they rejected Him.
 - 3. Elijah will come in person before the second coming. Mal. 4:5-6, Rev. 11:1-7
 - 4. Jesus came the first time to offer Himself as the Messiah, the King of Israel. The Son of David. John 1:9-13
 - 5. John the Baptist came as a forerunner to His 1st Advent (Jesus). His message: Repent Matt. 3:1-3; 2nd Advent: Elijah will come.

6. Jesus came to the Jew first; He sent His disciples only to Israel.

Matt. 10:5-7 with Matt. 15:21-28 He was rejected by the nation of Israel.

When will the unconditional covenants be fulfilled? At the 2nd Advent.

Start and explain Matt. 23:37-39 and Matt. 24