



Biblical Covenants:

The Promises of God that Unite All of Scripture

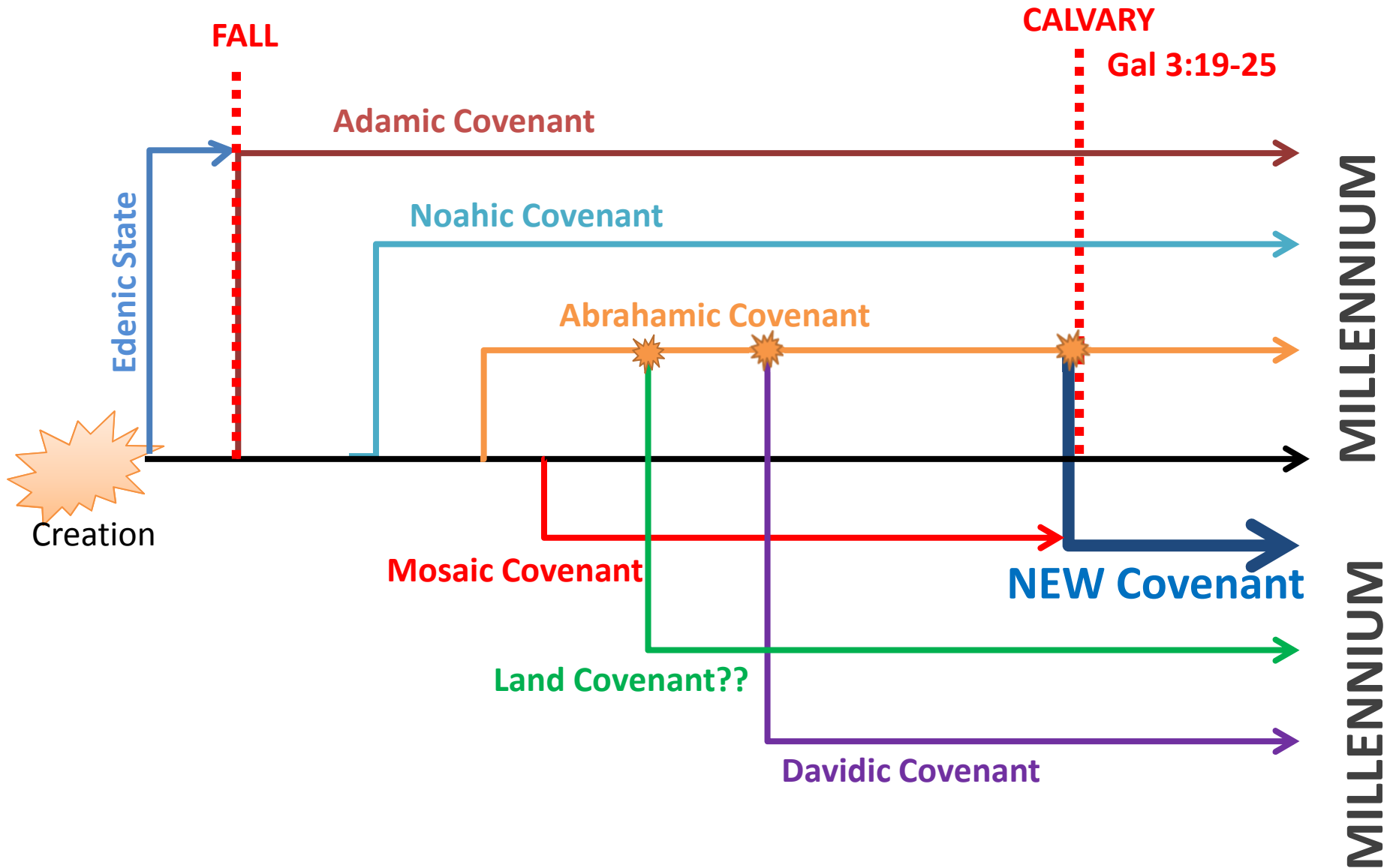
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If asked, how would *you* explain the Bible as one coherent whole?

How would you put all the pieces together?

- Eg. **Christ in all of scripture**: Luke 24:13, 25ff
- Eg. Various **dispensations** in God's interactions with humanity.
- Eg. The **Kingdom of God**.
- Our Series: ***Biblical* Covenants (God's promises to restore & redeem)**... tie much of scripture together into a whole. (6 msgs)

Promises that tie scripture together.



6 Reasons This Topic Matters To Us:

1. Covenants contain **God's sweeping promises** that partially explain His actions in human history...**thus helping to tie scripture together.**
2. God *binds* himself into certain types of **relationships** with humanity. Wow!
3. Covenants reveal **human responsibilities** on certain levels (dispensations).
4. Covenants involve promises of **life and death; blessing and cursing.**

6 Reasons Covenants Matter

5. Covenants run the entire length of human history, **finding their fullest completion in the Lord Jesus Christ**, and his future reign on earth as King.
6. If **dispensations look at the differences** in man's responsibilities to God at different times in human history, **covenants show us some of the sameness** that ties together all periods of human history. (1 is not eternal)

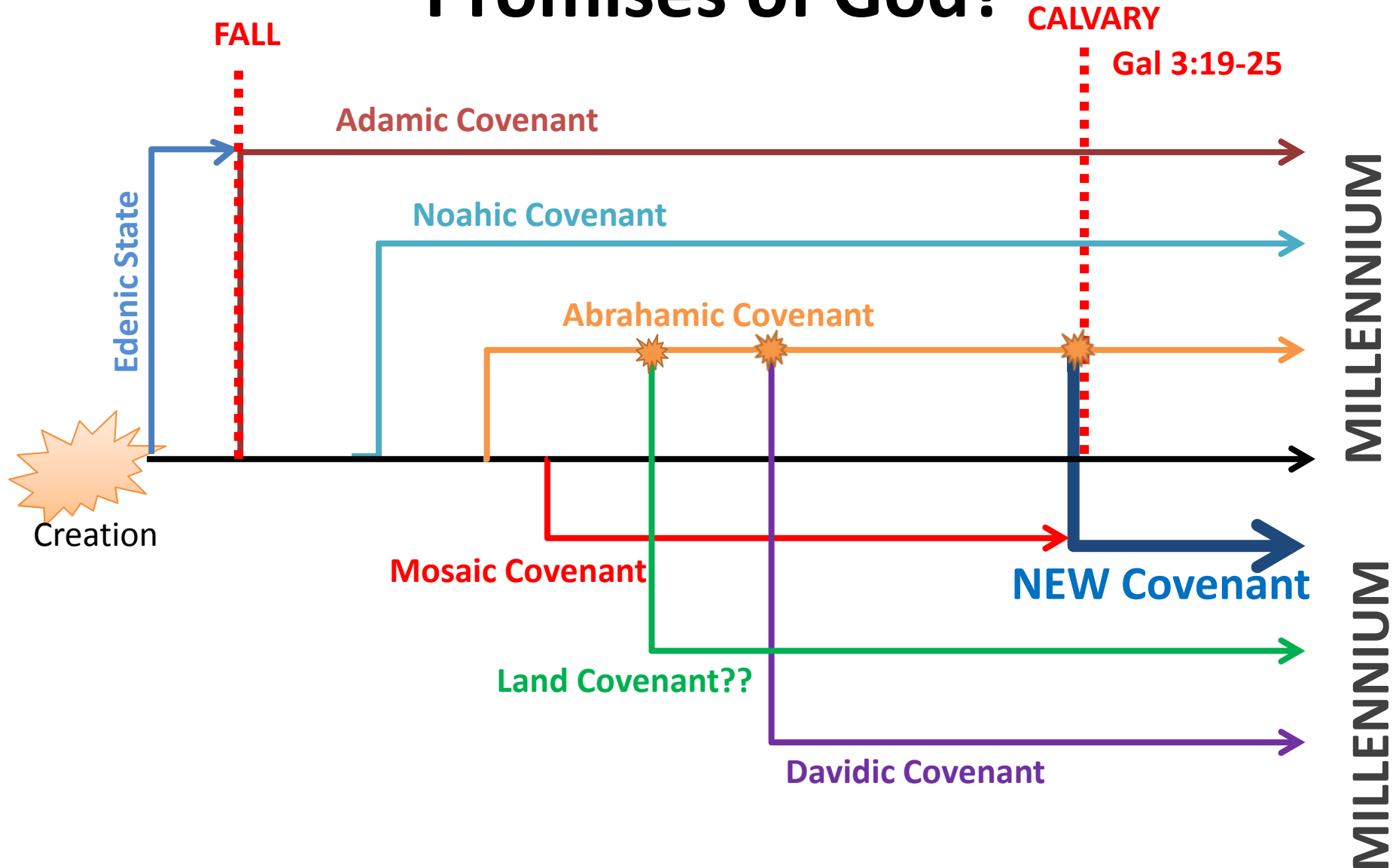
What is a Covenant?

- A relationship established by promises (not family, friendship, etc..)
- A sworn arrangement between two parties with requirements to perform certain duties with blessing & cursing if they did or didn't.
- Historically it bound a “great king” and a dependent vassal into a relationship.
- Heb. *burit*. To make a covenant is lit “**to cut a covenant**.”
- **See: Jeremiah 34:8-18; Genesis 15,**
- Covenants have conditional and unconditional elements.

God is a great *communicator*!

Just as Jesus would later do as he taught the common people in the gospels, the LORD in his dealings with the patriarchs and Israel uses a concept familiar to the ancient world (“cutting a covenant”) to **make sure they clearly understood** the nature of the relationship that he was binding Himself to them in.

What Are the Major Covenant Promises of God?



Review

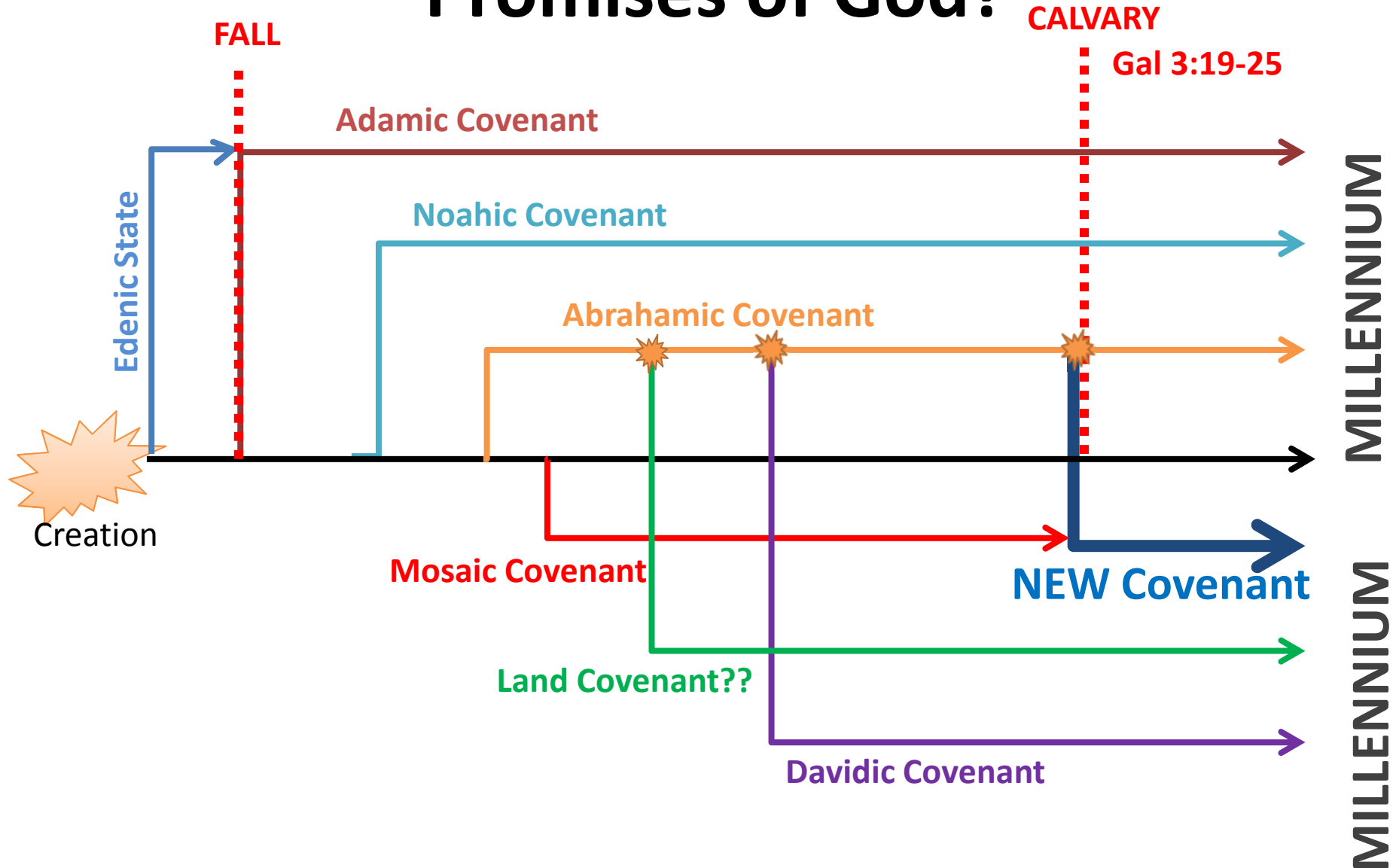
What is a covenant?

Jeremiah 33:20-26

Message 1 Cont...

- a) What went wrong on earth?
- b) Covenant #1 – In Eden w/ Adam
- c) Covenant #2 – Post flood w/ Noah

What Are the Major Covenant Promises of God?



Why did God make these covenants?

What went
wrong on earth
such that God
began to make
promises to his
people?

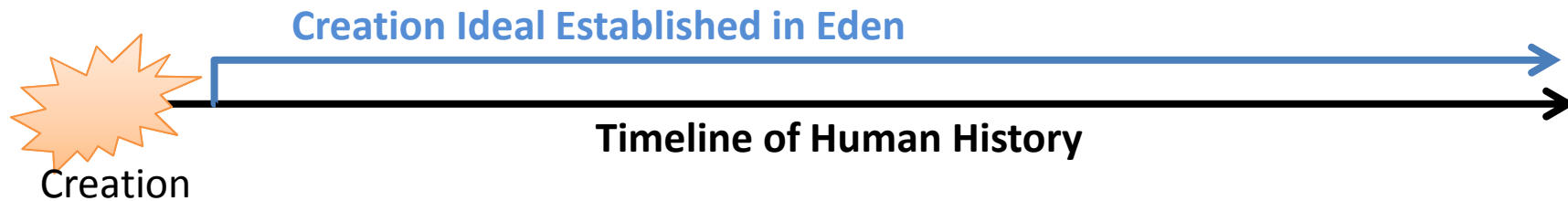
A basic story line...

Let's put together some of the texts of scripture synthetically and see if they trace out a story or **background** that we can use to **frame** the covenants.

God had a plan for earth.

- 1. All things were made by Him [Jesus] and for Him. His creation was “very good”.**
Col 1:15-16, Rom. 11:36
- 2. Creation was designed to glorify God and point our attention to Him.** Psalm 19:1-5
- 3. Man was created to bear God’s image, and reflect God uniquely:** Gen 1:25-26
- 4. God’s desire was that men would glorify Him and be thankful unto Him** – Rom 1:20-21 (implies the opposite occurs)
- 5. It seemed God’s intention to interact freely with man with some measure of fellowship:** Gen 3:10 vs Rev. 21:3

God's Good Plan *Before* the Fall...



God's Instructions to Adam: *THE CREATION MANDATE*

Genesis 1:26-28 (cf. Psa 8:5-8)

Have Dominion, (Adam is made in God's image).

Subdue earth, populate earth, use plants for food.

Genesis 2:15-17

1. Work the garden.
2. Keep/guard it. (from who?)
3. (Perhaps) leave father and mother and cling to wife.

It seems God's Creation was Attacked

- **Angels were created by God to serve Him and worship Him.** Col 1:15; Heb 1:6-7
- **Angels rejoiced at the laying of the foundation of earth.** Job 38:5-7
- **Two scriptures seem to describe a luminous and beautiful angel who attempts to become like God and is judged/cast down.** Isa 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:12-19
- **Genesis 3 – the serpent tempts Adam and eve to question God's goodness, God's Word, and God's rule.**
- **Other angels did not keep their “place of authority” but left their proper dwelling place & were judged.** Jude 1:6

(more vss. that fill out the picture)

- 1. Satan moves about earth tempting men & accusing believers.** (1 Pet 5:8, Job 1:6-11, Zech 3:1-2, Rev 12:9-11)
- 2. We wrestle against these "spiritual forces in heavenly places."** Eph 6:10-13
- 3. Angels oppose other angels attempting to serve the Lord.** Dan 9:11-14
- 4. Rev 12:7 mentions a war in heaven where Satan and his angels are cast out.**
- 5. God has prepared Hell *initially* for the "Devil (slanderer/accuser) and his angels".** Matt 25:41

God teaches the angelic realm through his work on earth.

- God is revealing his wisdom to the angels by means of His work in the church. Eph 3:10
- Angels long to look into events and the salvation that impacts us. 1 Pet 1:12
- 1 Cor. 11:10 We read that a woman should be veiled “because of the angels”.
- In Daniel 4:17 angels are called watchers (sentinels; NEB).
- We may be entertaining angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:2

Given the impact of sin....

...what will God do?

- **Physical Death** - Romans 5:12; 1 Cor 15:22
- **Spiritual Death** - Eph 2:1-3, Rom 5:18-19
- **Sinful Nature** – Jer 17:9, Psa 58:3; Gen 8:21
- **Guilty Conscience** – Gen. 3:7, 10, Gen 3:21 + Heb 9:14
- **Bondage to Satan** – 1 John 5:19, Col 1:13, Acts 26:18
- **Condemnation** – Rom 5:18, John 3:18
- **Cursed Creation** - Rom 8:19-22

So what will God do given this background story?

- The ground is cursed
- Adam and Eve are dying.
- They are to be separated from God and ejected from the garden.
- The angelic realm seems implicated in this.

Will God surrender his good earth to the attack of the angelic realm?

Is this the fall the end of the story? IS God's relationship with humans over?

- **No!** God's other attributes come out.
- In his interactions with His people you regularly see **judgment** mixed with **promised blessing**.

Banished from Eden + Skins to Cover Nakedness
Curse + Promise of the Seed of a Woman

Post Fall – Judgement & Promise



God lets life continue but **restates the creation mandate in negatives** (Gen 3:9-19):

1. Fill the earth, bear children – but in **pain**. V16
2. Marry – but relational **tension** will occur v16.
3. Till the soil – but it will be **cursed**. v17
4. Eat the plants of the field (**in pain / sweat / thorns / weeds**) rather than those of Eden. v18
5. Return to dust (**death**). v18

And a *promise* which gave hope!



Genesis 3:15... **"I Will"** (Covenant language)

- "Seed of a woman" (Gal 4:4)
- "Crush the serpent" who deceived the whole world. (cf. Rev 12:9-11; 20:2,10)
- **A solution to the cause of the fall & the curse!!**



Is this a covenant?

Scripture does not call it one... but...

- The words “I will” in Genesis 3:15 are *very much* covenant making words. It is a **promise of God**.
- It also has **everything to do with the purpose of covenants – restoring righteousness to earth.**
- God *binds himself into a new relationship with humanity based on his promise* to destroy the serpent who attacked the creation.

Remember how covenants create relationships...

God originally bound himself into relationship with humans through the creation mandate.

Now he does so afresh by restating it but also by making a great promise to **one day deal with the initial cause of mans downfall and restore the earth to its Edenic state (millennium) .**

This promise still affects us today

- **Satan's power has been broken (Heb 2:14) but Christ will one day authorize his final destruction hinted at in Gen 3:15. See (Rev 20:2, 10). We await this.**
- **We also await the lifting of the curse. Rom 8:19-23, Rev. 21:4, 22:3.**

COVENANT #2 - WITH NOAH



**SADLY... SIN REIGNS AFTER THE FALL
(GEN 6:5, 11)**

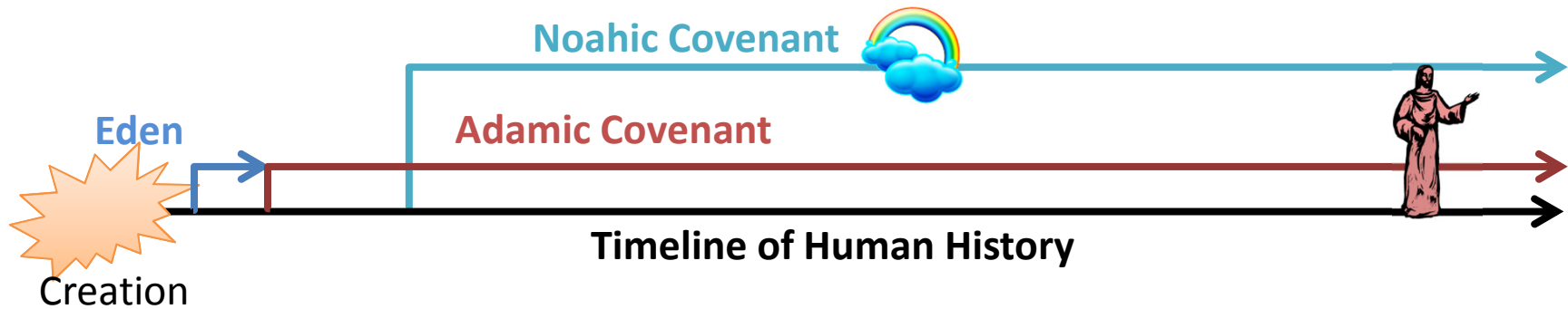
Is this the end of the story?

No! God comes in again with **judgment** and **promised blessing**.

Deadly flood (God won't surrender earth to evil)
+ Promise of no more worldwide flood.

God binds himself into yet another relationship with man.

Covenant With Noah



The terms of the covenant with Noah guide man's relationship with God, creation, and other men from that point on.

**This is the first time Covenant is
mentioned in scripture: Gen 6:18 see
also Gen 9:8-9, 11**



Blessing aspects surrounding the Covenant with Noah

1. Genesis 8:20—9:1-2 **restores the creation** mandate from earlier and then adds other features that would characterize life after the flood:
2. “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth” (Gen. 9:1,7).
3. **Animosity between mankind and the animal** kingdom introduced (9:2).
4. **Man allowed to eat animal flesh for food** (9:3). (Cf Lev.17:10-16 “blood is sacred and this is part of the Mosaic Cov)



More Features surrounding the Covenant with Noah

5. Animal's blood shall not be consumed, but drained (9:4).
6. God requires punishment by the death of the one who murders a human—capital punishment (9:5-6).

AND THEN WE HAVE THE COVENANT....

Features of the Covenant with Noah

God promises to never destroy the world again through a flood (9:8-11). The sign that God will keep His promise is the rainbow (9:12-17). A rainbow is likely chosen because it is presented elsewhere as an item that surrounds the very throne room of God (Ezek. 1:28; Rev. 4:3) representing His person and presence.

(From Thomas Ice [http://www.pre-trib.org/data/pdf/Ice-\(Part4\)CovenantsandD.pdf](http://www.pre-trib.org/data/pdf/Ice-(Part4)CovenantsandD.pdf))

It is a covenant with Noah **..and..**

“... with your descendants after you...” v10

“...and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you... of all that come sount of the ark” v11

The Noahic Covenant is between God and all subsequent humanity, **including the entire animal kingdom** (9:8-10).

#2 PROMISE of Peace: Isa 54:9-10

- *V10 God draws a link between the covenant with Noah and “A COVENANT OF PEACE/Stability”*
- **Man could have some measure of peace with God knowing that he would not suddenly destroy the entire earth again.**
 - Man could know that the seasons would not be interrupted.
 - Man could know that God would not strike earth with a curse because of sin.
 - Man could know that God would not suddenly destroy the entire planet.

This covenant/promise also affects us today.

- Gen 8:22 “while the earth remains”
- Gen. 9:8-16. “... and your offspring after you”; “for all future generations”
- **Jeremiah 33:20** seems to use this covenant as an anchor for the stability of the Davidic covenant: “my covenant with the day and the night.”
- God says he will **remember** his covenant every time he sees the rainbow (Gen 9:14-15)
- God never rescinded any of the aspects of this covenant.
It is called an EVERLASTING COVENANT in Gen9:16

THE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

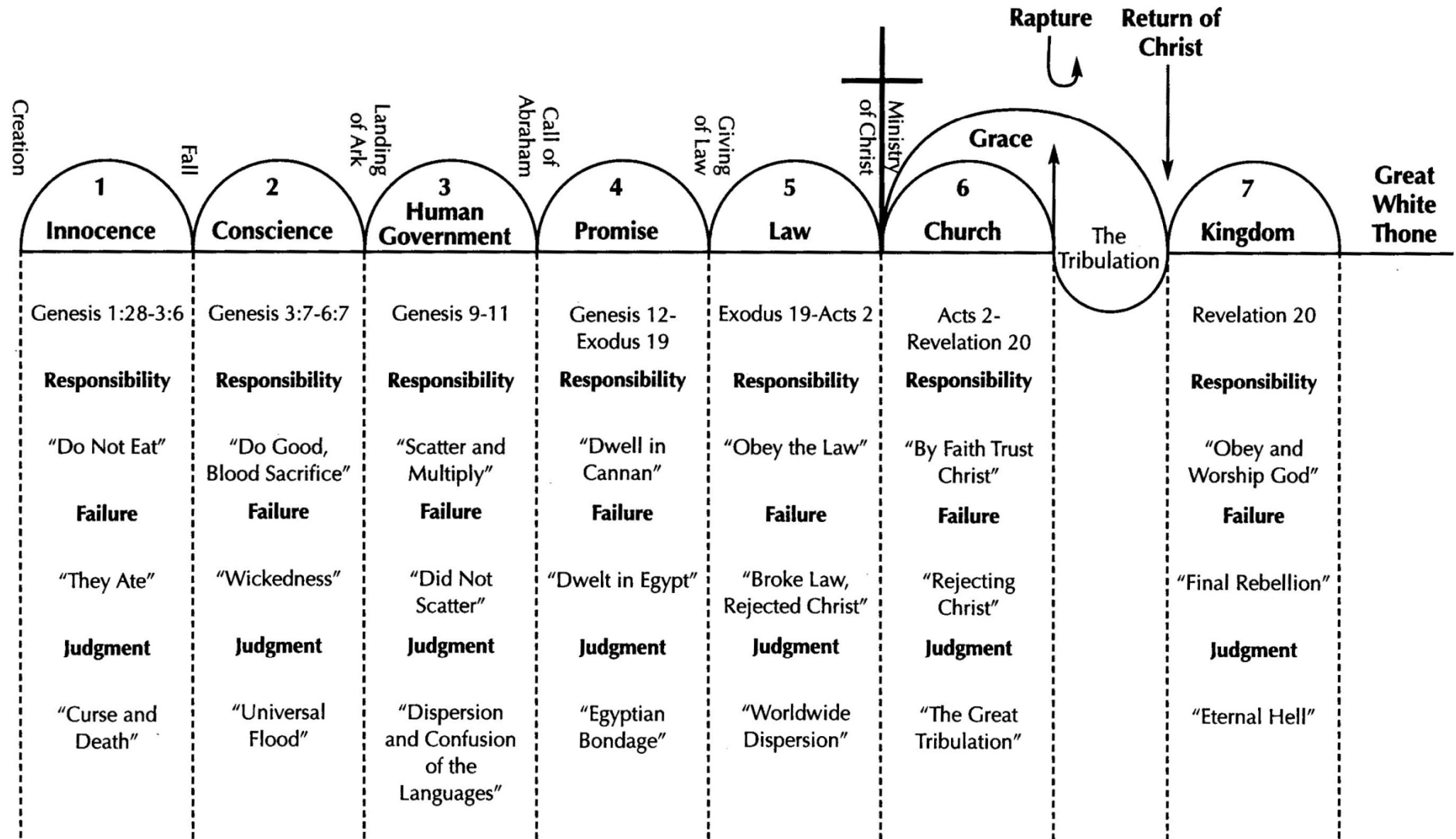


Here are two slides to help get you thinking (a) one slide is a chart of dispensationalism, the (b) second slide hints at the relationship between Biblical covenants and dispensations.

HOW DO BIBLICAL COVENANTS RELATE TO DISPENSATIONALISM

(The Dispensations)

“A dispensation is a distinguishable economy in God’s master plan whereby God tests mankind.”



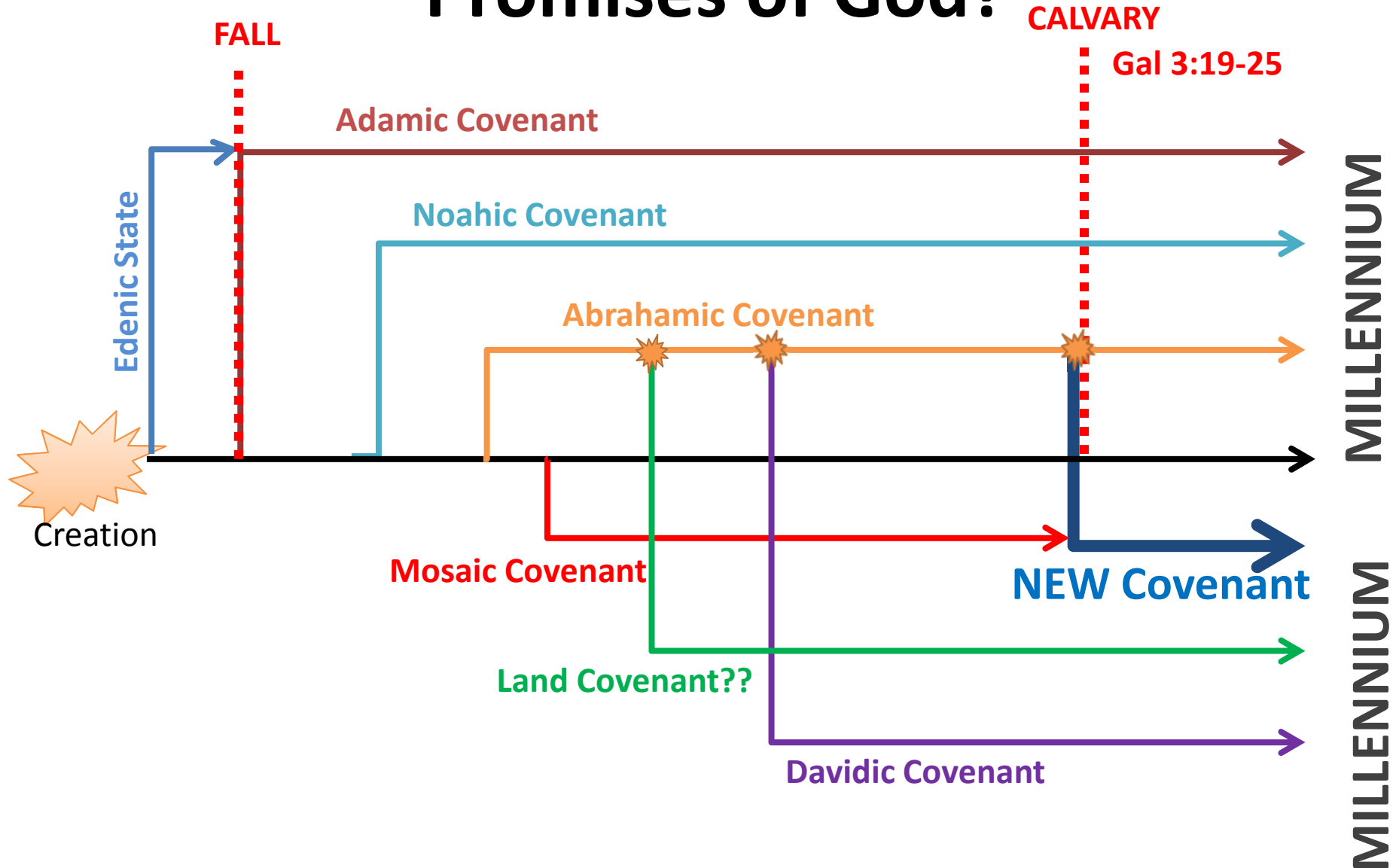
Covenants and Dispensations

Each covenant precedes or sets the features for the dispensation that follows it.

1. **Edenic** State > Disp. **Innocence**
2. **Adamic** Covenant > Disp. **Conscience**
3. **Noahic** Covenant > Disp. **Human Government**
4. **Abrah.** Covenant > Disp. **Promise**
5. **Mosaic** Covenant > Disp. **Law**
- **Davidic** / **Palestinian**
6. **New** Covenant > Disp. **Church / Grace (!!)**

7. **All 7** Covenants > Disp. **Messianic Kingdom**

What Are the Major Covenant Promises of God?



Review: What is a covenant?

- A relationship between two parties established by means of a promise.
- **A sworn arrangement between two parties with requirements to perform certain duties with blessing & cursing if they did or didn't.**
- Historically it **bound** a “great king” and a dependent vassal into a relationship.
- **God uses this covenant idea to communicate his big promises to bring salvation and restoration to humanity.**

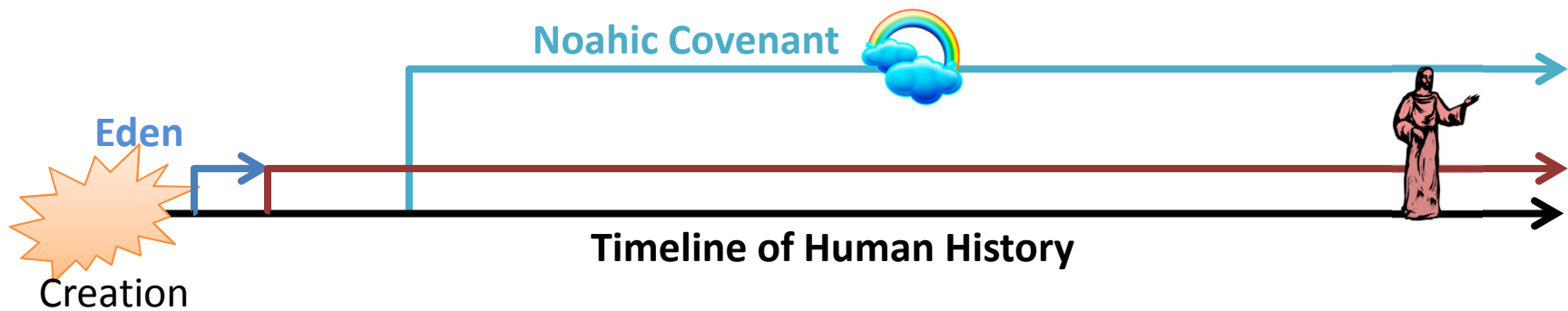
So far we have covered:

Covenant in Eden with humanity generally –
Promise to send a seed to crush the serpent.

Covenant with Noah & all earth – **promise to not destroy the earth with a flood + requirements of civil law.**

And now a covenant will be made with one particular family of the earth: Abrahams seed.

... building our covenant chart...



Importance of the Abr. Covenant

It is recognized by all serious students of the Bible that the covenant with Abraham is one of the important and determinative revelations of Scripture. It furnishes the key to the entire Old Testament and reaches for its fulfillment into the New. In the controversy between premillenarians and amillenarians, the interpretation of this covenant more or less settles the entire argument. The analysis of its provisions and the character of their fulfillment set the mold for the entire body of Scriptural truth.

John F. Walvoord, *The Millennial Kingdom* (Grand Rapids: Dunham, 1959) 139.

400 years after the Covenant with Noah.

Following the covenant with Noah 400 years passed without additional revelation regarding God's plan for earth, *including no other information about the "SEED" who would come and crush the serpents head...except for one hint..*

400 years after the Covenant with Noah.

Genesis 9:24-27 “blessed be the Lord God of Shem” - **Blessing** - on the Semitic nations. **A possible hint about where the “promised seed” would come from.**



Once again we start with a scene of sin. The post-Flood race of humans ignores God. What will God do?



Humanity Continues to Depart From God

As before the flood humanity continues ignoring the God of Adam, Seth, Noah, Shem....

- Little mention is made of humanity following the God of Noah after the flood.
- They seem to disobey the command of the Lord to fulfill the renewed creation mandate (Gen 8:15-17)
- Instead humans make shrine that empowers humanity in some way.
- **They try to make themselves great (“great name”) without God** as had Nimrod before the flood.
Consider...

Notice the emphasis on “great names”

Genesis 6:4 - Just before the flood this rebellion produced “men of renown,” literally, “**men of a name**” who got fame by warrior deeds without God.

Genesis 11:1-8 – men refuse to fulfill the creation mandate; instead they build a tower to heaven and try to “**make a name for ourselves**” and not be dispersed.

RIGHT AFTER THIS STORY IS A PROMISE TO MAKE A GREAT NAME FOR A MAN OF GOD’S CHOOSING.

So is this the end of the story? What will God do?

Again! God shows grace and truth. Grace and justice. In his interactions with His people comes both **judgment** mixed with **promised blessing**.

Judgment at Babel +

Blessing by calling of a family to bless “all the world through a man of his own choosing.”

How? -> God says “I will”...

Rather than the race being unified through false religion, God promises to create a family that He will bless the entire world through in the seed that would also crush the Serpent! The covenant promises include:

A great name for Abraham..

A nation

A descendent who would inherit the promises (**Seed**)

A land for this new people (**Land**)

A blessing for the *whole world* . (**Blessing**)

God had a world-wide plan (early on) that would come through Abraham.

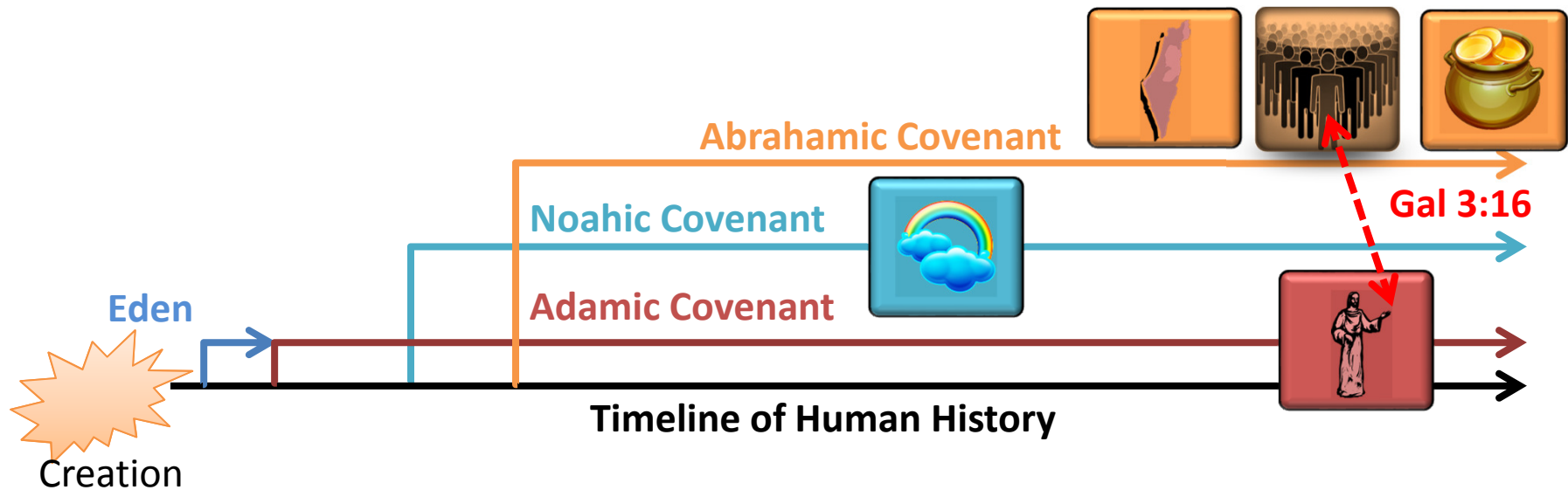
A point for worship...

Compare the God's of the ANE who were unpredictable, threatening, selfish... with Yahweh the God of Old Testament.

Despite repeated sin, God continually comes in to restore, and bless.

Humanity wants to build towers... but God wants to bless the whole world... including you.

Abrahamic Covenant



God promised a land, seed, blessing through Abrahamic covenant. (Everlasting Cov. Gen 16:7)

Judgement *and* blessing.

Several major curses mar the early Biblical story:

- a.) **Curse** of the serpent (Gen 3:14)
- b.) **Curse** of the ground (Gen 3:17, 5:29)
- c.) **Curse** of Cain (Gen 4:11)
- d.) **Curse** of Canaan (Gen 9:25)

Here God repeatedly initiates **blessing and restoration** for all the world.

Here we see hints of the creation of Israel; God's nation.

1. Israel was chosen **to be a depository of the divine revelation**. It is through Israel that men were to come to know truth. (Rom 3:1-2)
2. Israel was also chosen **to be the mother of the Savior**. (Rev 12)
3. To carry **the message of salvation to the nations**. (John 4:12, Rom 11:11ff) Almost all the apostles & early church were Jewish.

A New Creation Hinted At?

God was restoring some order out of the post flood chaos... the Gen 10 nations are randomly scattered after Babel (Gen 11).

“in the presence of the God in whom he believed,
*who gives life to the dead and calls into existence
the things that do not exist.* Romans 4:13-17

A New Creation Hinted At

- Recall the terms of Genesis 1:28 (“**ble**ss**, be fruitful, and multiply**”) are repeated to Abrahams seed.

Ex. Gen 28:3 “God Almighty **ble**ss**** you; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will fulfill the oath which I swore to your father Abraham. I will **multiply** your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth will be **ble**ssed****.”

A frequently repeated covenant.

Unlike the previous covenants, which are mentioned once, this is repeated over and over.

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
<p>Gen. 12:1–3</p> <p>(Abraham first called to leave Ur.)</p>		<p>"I will make of you a great nation."</p>	<p>"I will bless you and make your name great <i>so that</i> you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."</p>

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
Gen. 12:7 (Arrival in Cannan)	“to your offspring I will give this land.”		
Gen. 13:14–18 (Separation from Lot) (Settles in Hebron – oaks of Mambre)	“for all the land you see I will give to you and your offspring forever.” V14 “... arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land for I will give it to you.” V17	“I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth...” v16	
Gen. 15:1–18 (after Melch. Abraham says God has given			

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
<p>Gen. 15:1–18</p> <p>(after Melch. Abraham says God has given him no seed.)</p> <p>Covenant actually “cut” here. 15:9-18</p>	<p>“I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.” V7</p> <p>“To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, ... V18</p>	<p>“...your very own son shall be your heir.” V4</p> <p>“... number the stars, if you are able to number them.... So shall your offspring be.”v5</p>	

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
<p>Gen. 17:1–22</p> <p>(Abram's name changed. Age 99. Must obey. Circumcision given as sign of covenant. V10-14.</p> <p>Everlasting covenant promised to seed after Abraham. Not Ishmael but Isaac)</p>	<p>I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession.." v8</p>	<p>"my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations." V4</p> <p>"...your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations." "...I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you." V6</p>	<p>Gen. 17:1–22</p> <p>(Abram's name changed. Age 99. Must obey. Circumcision given as sign of covenant. V10-14.</p> <p>Everlasting covenant promised to his seed after Abraham. Not Ishmael but Isaac)</p>

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Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
<p>Gen. 22:15–19</p> <p>(Covenant affirmed after offering up Isaac)</p> <p>Referenced “seed, not seeds” in Galatians 3:16</p>	<p>“...your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies.”</p> <p>V17</p>	<p>“...and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.” V17</p>	<p>“...and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you...”</p> <p>v16-17</p> <p>“...in your offspring (seed Gal 3:16) shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, <u>because you have obeyed my voice.</u>”v18</p>

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
<p>26:2–6</p> <p>(Covenant promised to Isaac if he will not go down to Egypt during famine.)</p>	<p>“...and will give to your offspring all these lands.” V4</p>	<p>“...for to you and to your offspring I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father.” V3</p> <p>“I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven,,,” v4</p>	<p>“Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you...” v3</p> <p>“and in your offspring all the nations of the earth <u>shall be blessed, because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.</u>”</p> <p>V 4-5</p>

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
Gen. 26:24-25 (after disputes with the herdsmen of Gerar over wells)		... and multiply your offspring for my servant Abraham's sake." V24	And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, "I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will bless you
Gen. 27:28–29 Jacob blessed by Isaac instead of Esau.	“May God give you of the dew of heaven and of the fatness of the earth and plenty of grain and wine.”v28		“Cursed be everyone who curses you, and blessed be everyone who blesses you!” v29

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
Gen. 28:10-22 (Jacob at Bethel – vision of angels on ladder to heaven.)	<p>“...the land on which you lie I will give to you and your offspring.” V13</p> <p>“Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” V15</p>	<p>“Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south...” v13</p>	<p>“... and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.” V13</p>

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
<p>Gen. 32:22–32</p> <p>(Jacob wrestles at night. Name changed to ISRAEL. General blessing.)</p>			<p>...But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me. And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then he said, 'Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed." V26-28</p>

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
Gen. 35:9–15 (Jacob returns to Bethel in Canaan. Sets up a pillar. Just before Rachel dies in childbirth.)	“The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you.” V12	“I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body.” V11	

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Gen. 48:16, 19 (Jacob passes on the blessing to Josephs sons)		“...let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.” V16 “...I know my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.” V19	
GEN 49:1-28	BLESSINGS ARE PASSED ON TO THE SONS OF ISRAEL.		

Abrahamic Covenant Chart

	LAND	SEED	BLESSING
Gen. 50:23–25 (Jospeh makes the Israelites swear to bring his bones back to Canaan because of the Abrhamic covenant)	“I am about to die, but God will visit you and bring you up out of this land to the land that he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.” V24		

The Unconditional Nature of the Covenant & Promises

- God had placed the responsibility for fulfilling this promise upon himself alone (Rom 4:16) in contrast to the Covenant with Moses.
- Here a major question of Bible prophecy comes in – which deals with whether the covenant promises made to Israel as a nation have passed away or if they are still in effect:

An Unconditional Covenant

- **Ex 2:24** – God remembers his covenant three hundred years after Joseph
- Deut 9:5-6, Deut 4:31, 2 Kings 13:23, Micah 7:18-20, Luke 1:67-73 – their entire history was one of failure and sin. Yet God keeps his covenant based on his promises to “the fathers.”
- **Acts 3:25-26** show that the “blessing” aspect of the covenant was being fulfilled as a result of the cross, proving beyond any doubt that the Abrahamic covenant had stayed active through Israel’s entire sinful history and on into Acts.
- **Hebrews 6:13, 17-18**: writer speaks of God swearing an oath to show “the heirs of the promise” the unchangeableness of His purpose.
- *It is called an **EVERLASTING COVENANT** in **Genesis 17:7, 13, 19, Psa. 105:8-11***

An Unconditional Covenant

- We are not told that Israel broke the Abrahamic Covenant, like we are told they broke the Mosaic Covenant in Jer 31.
- **Galatians 3:16-19** plainly state that the entire dispensation of the Mosaic Economy did not annul or affect the promises made under the Abrahamic Cov.
- **Galatians 3:17** clearly says that the “inheritance” was by promise, not by law, therefore it could not be lost by failing to keep the law.
- **Gen 15:8ff** – God put Abraham to sleep and walked between the “cut pieces” of the Covenant without Abraham... breaking the normal tradition where both parties would walk through the cut sacrifice.

The Abrahamic Covenant **Expands into 3 other Covenants.**

Given to **Abraham** in Gen. ch 12, 15, 17, 22 (especially)

Confirmed through **Isaac** (not Ishmael) Gen 26:2-5, 24

Confirmed through **Jacob** (not Esau) Gen 28:13-15

Confirmed to the **12 Tribes** Gen 49

(**Unconditional** because Abraham Obeyed: Gen 22:18; 26:4-5)

Gen. 12:1, 7, 15:7

Gen. 12:2a, 3a

Gen. 12:2b, 3b

Land Promise

National Promise (Seed
and descendants)

Spiritual Blessing
Promise



Land Covenant

Deut 29-30

Davidic Covenant

(2 Sam 7:10-17)

(1 Chron 17:10-15)

(Psalms 89:1-4, 19-37)

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Ezekiel 36:24-28

Application

1. God was thinking of you (“all the world”) way back in the Old Testament times. Gen12:3
2. God keeps His promises.
3. God is not ashamed to be called “their God” – they believed his promises and looked for a homeland, a country, a city God had promised. Hebrews 11:13-16

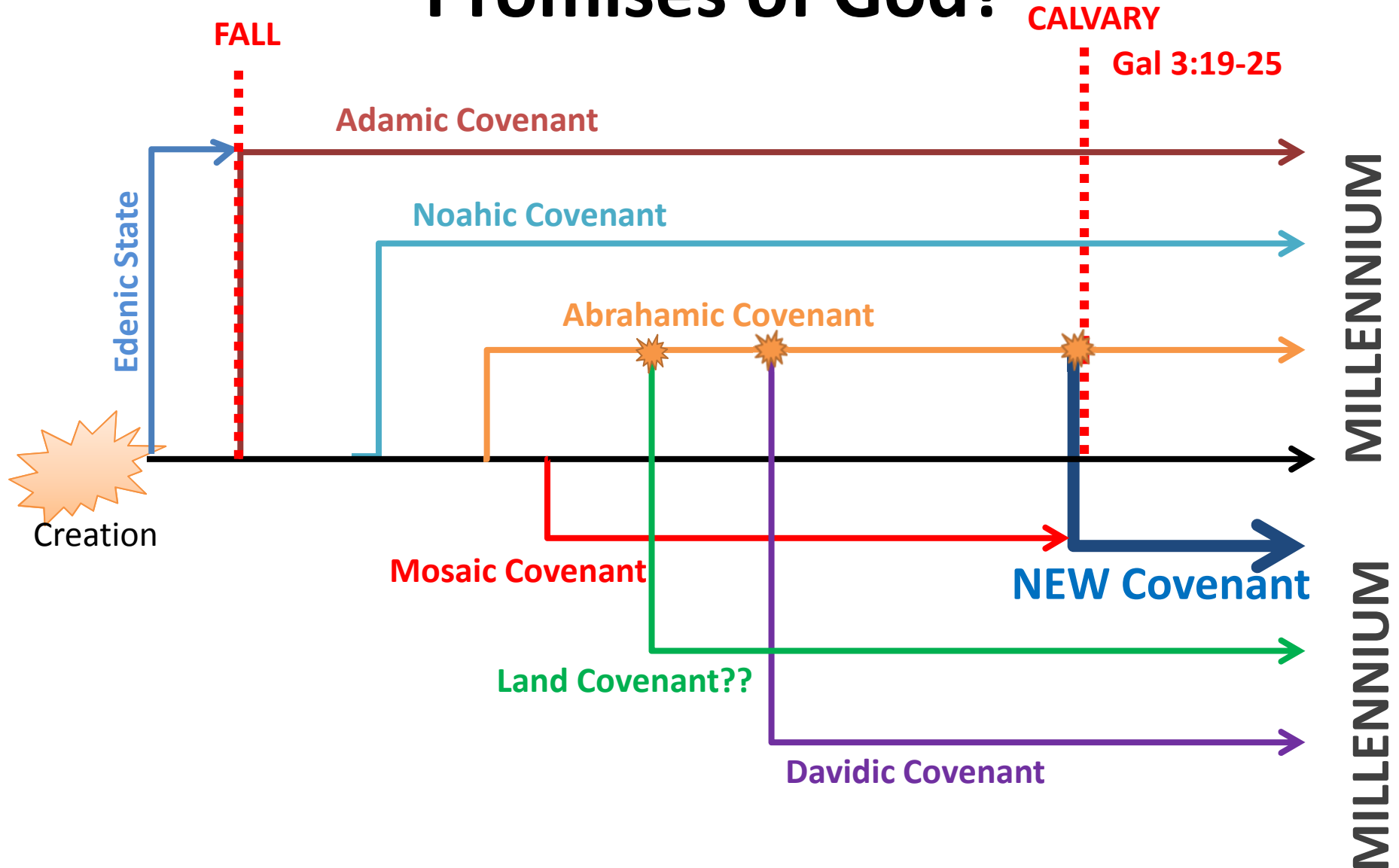
The Abrahamic Covenant **Affects Us Today**

Gen. 12:1, 7, 15:7	Gen. 12:2a, 3a	Gen. 12:2b, 3b
Land Promise	National Promise (Seed and descendants)	Spiritual Blessing Promise
↓	↓	↓
Physical Land (Gen 13:14ff) Heavenly Land (Rev 11:13-16 + Rev 21:2)	Physical Offspring (Ezk 33:24) Spiritual Offspring (Rom 4:11, Gal 3:7, 29)	Physical Blessings (Gen 13:1ff) Spiritual Blessing (Acts 3:25)



MESSAGE #4: **THE MOSAIC** **COVENANT**

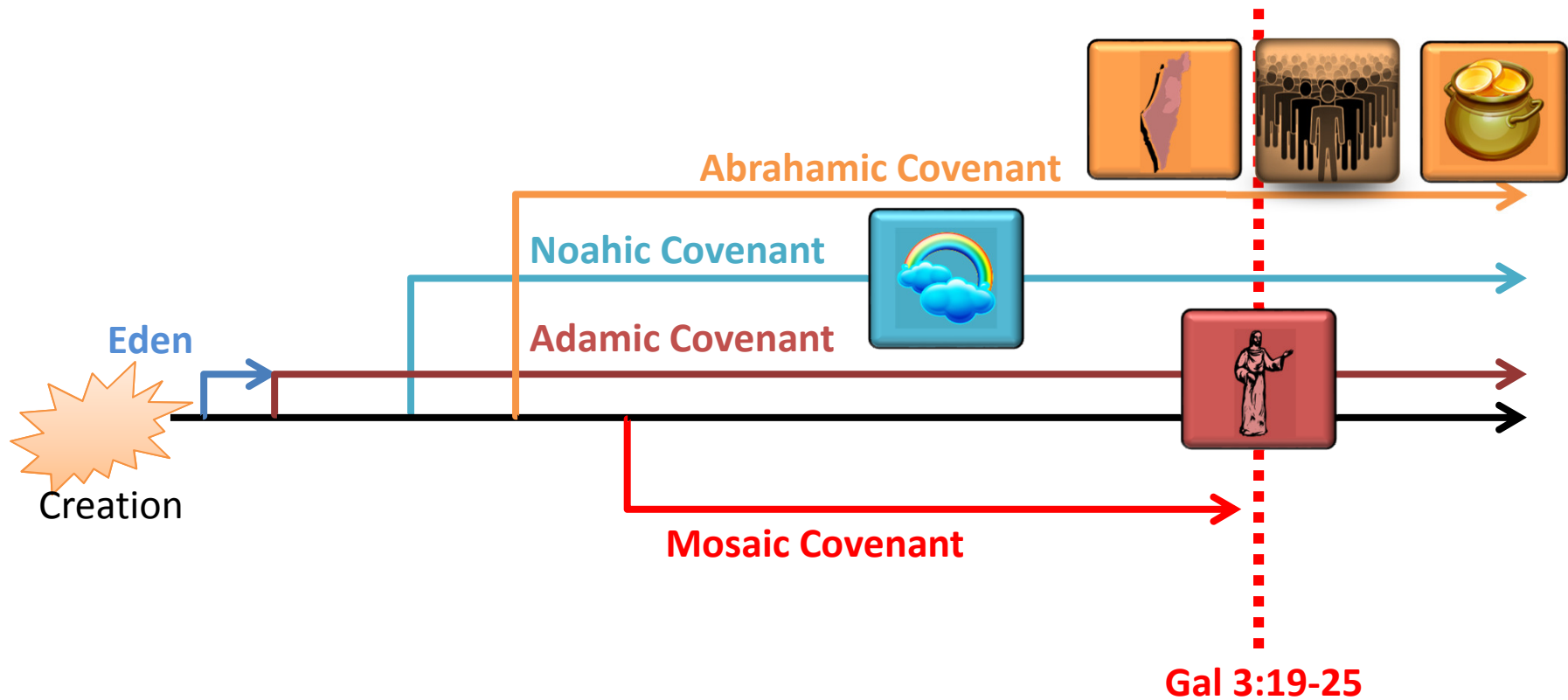
What Are the Major Covenant Promises of God?



Review: What is a covenant?

- A sworn arrangement between two parties with requirements to perform certain duties with blessing & cursing if they did or didn't.
- Historically it bound a “great king” and a dependent vassal into a relationship.

Mosaic Covenant



God is slowly revealing his restoration of earth to His original plan...

- A promised seed to crush the serpent.
- God's willingness to punish sin, but also be merciful.
- The requirement for men to hold others accountable.
- The promise of worldwide blessing through a descendent of Abraham.
- And now... a nation that lived very differently than other nations... After God's heart.

Big Idea: **The Law's purpose.**

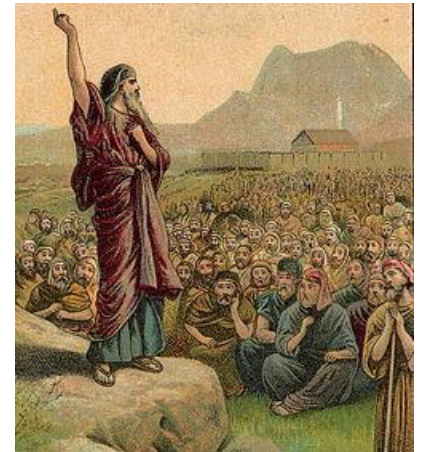


The Mosaic Covenant (i.e. the law) **was given to guide a nation of God's earthly people into righteousness among pagan nations until the promised seed (Christ) arrived.**

Abrahamic covenant contained major promises but had very few resources to guide a people as they became a nation!

Big Idea: **The law's purpose.**

The Abrahamic covenant established promises for the people of God.. The Mosaic Covenant set up a temporary set of guidelines for how a nation of God's people could enjoy those promises. Disobedience under the Mosaic covenant did not remove the Abrahamic covenant (Gal 3:17).



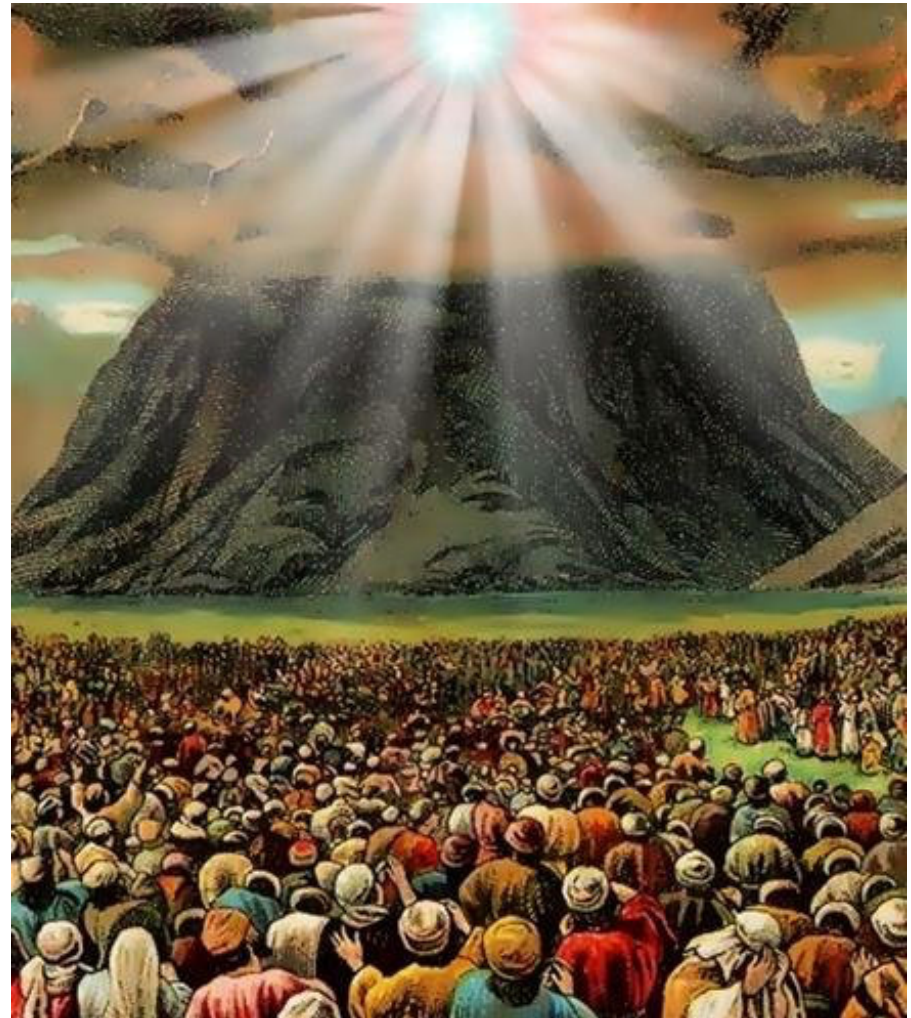
When was it given?

- It was given first at Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:1-5)
- It was reviewed after the wilderness wanderings (before entering the land). Deut 5:2



To whom was it given?

- It was given only to the nation of Israel. See Psalms 147:19-20 and Ex 19:4-6
- Not to all the earth like Adamic/Noaic covenant.



What promises or requirements did this covenant contain?

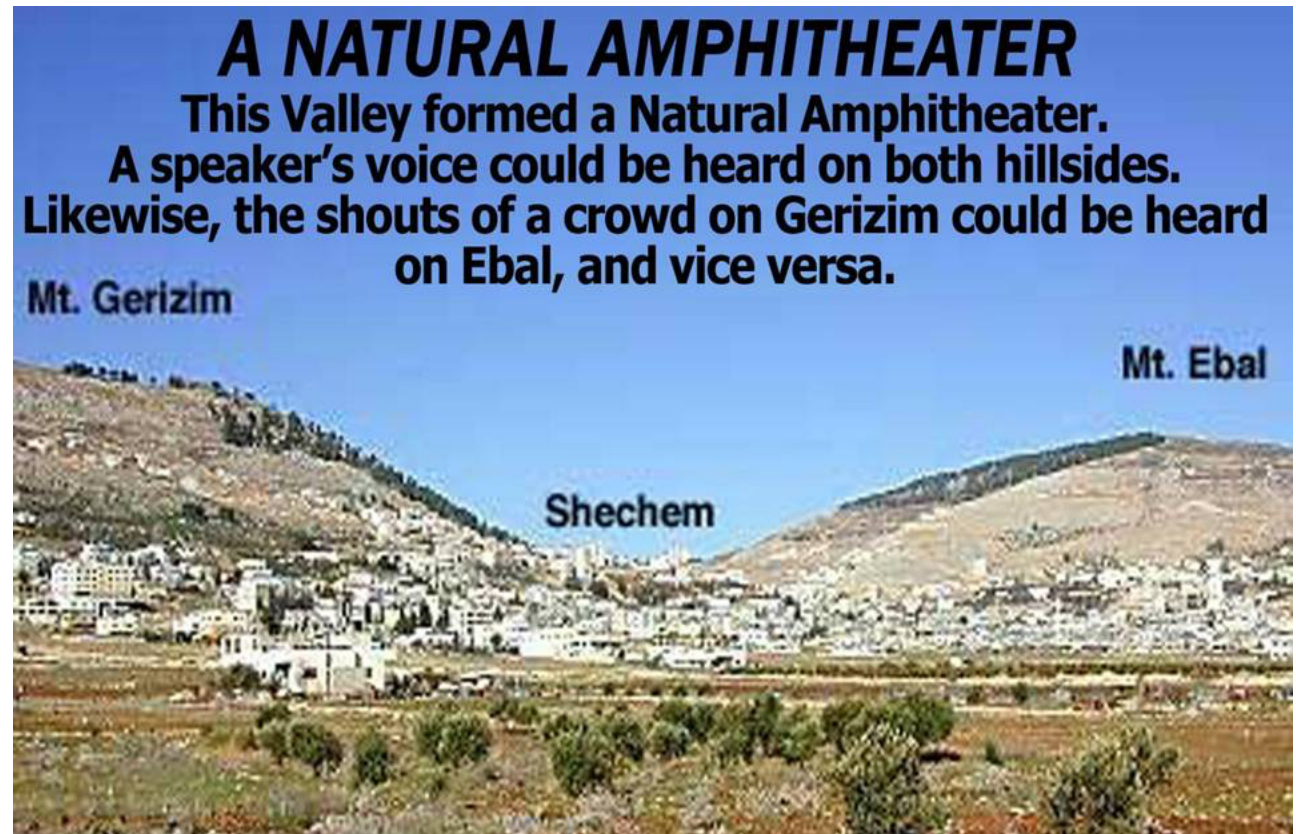
- Unlike the earlier covenants, the Mosaic is FULL of requirements on the part of the nation.
- 613 commandments summarized by the 10 commandments. (Ex, Lev, Numb, Deut)
- **“IF you do this THEN I will do that”** (Bilateral).
See Ex 19:4-8,



Bilateral: Blessings & Cursing

Covenant Curses for disobedience
(Deut 27, Lev 26)

**Covenant
Blessings** for
obedience
(Deut 28)



Why Was this Covenant Given?

1. To guide God's people during history until Christ came (Gal 3:19). It **showed them how to keep God's will and enjoy *the promises of the Abrahamic covenant.***

“Obey the commandments and you will live!”
(cf Deut 28:1, 30:1-3)

Why Was this Covenant Given?

2. To set Israel off from the other nations and make a testimony to the Lord in contrast to the pagan nations around them.

Ex. 19:5-6

Psalms 147:19-20

Eph 2:11-14



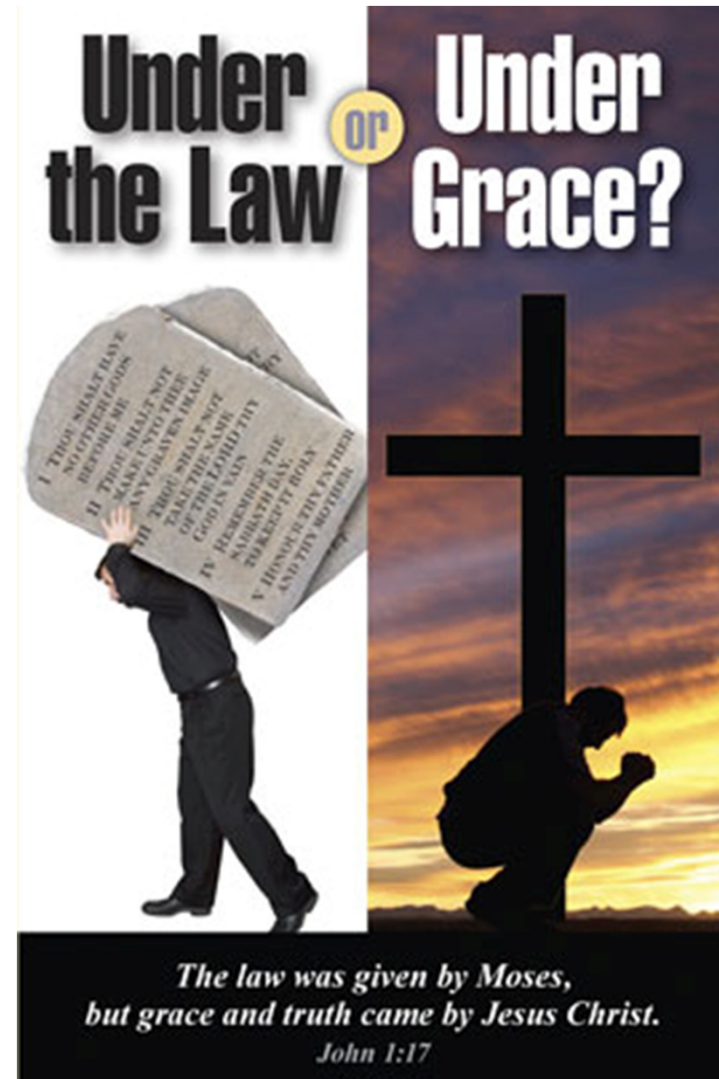
Why Was the Covenant Given?

3. **To show people their need for a savior! Drive them to Christ** as an answer to their sinfulness and inability to live up to God's law. To make them realize their need for grace, and mercy.

Galatians 3:19-24

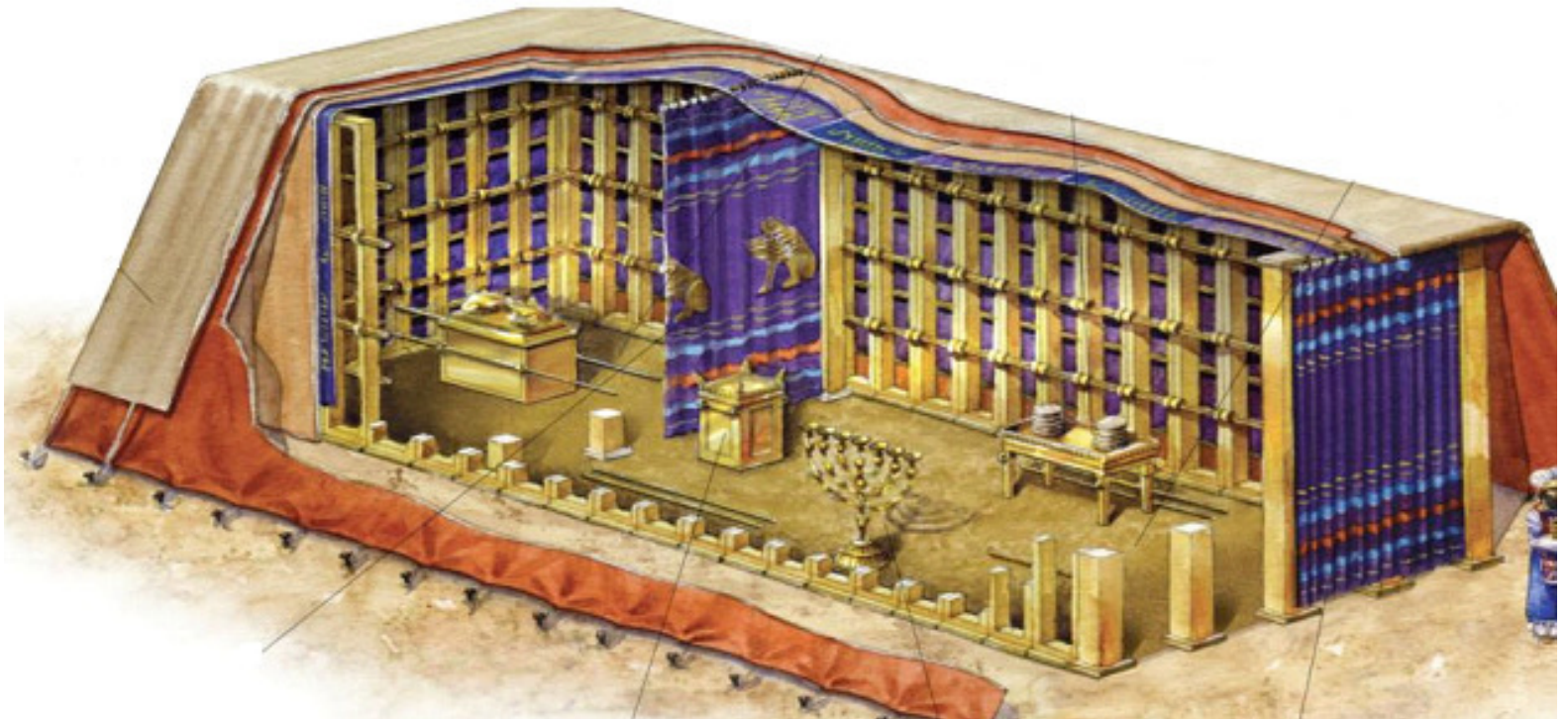
Romans 7:7-14

Acts 15:5, 10



Why Was the Covenant Given?

4. It was full of **types and shadows** that pointed to Christ. **Hebrews 10:1**. The dispensation of the law is full of object lessons for our learning. **1 Cor 10:6-11**



How did the Mosaic Covenant differ from the Abrahamic?

	<u>ABRAHAMIC COVENANT</u>	<u>MOSAIC COVENANT</u>
Purpose:	Physical blessing to Believing Jews Gen. 12:2-3 Salvation blessing to Believing Jews & Gentiles Gen. 12:2-3	To govern Israel (Deut. 4:39-40) To separate Israel from pagan neighbors (Deut. 18:9-13; 7:1-6) To show men their sin (Rom. 7:7, Gal. 3:19) To condemn sinners (Gal. 3:10, Deut. 27:26) To foreshadow Christ (Col. 2:16-17, Heb. 10:1) To lead men to Christ (Gal. 3:24)
Character:	Unconditional Gen. 12:1-3; 15:1-21	Conditional (Deut. 28:1-68)
Duration:	Forever Gen. 17:7	Temporary - ended at Christ's death (Gal. 3:19, 13-14; Matt. 5:17-18; Rom. 10:4) - fulfilled by Christ

Abrahamic & Mosaic Covenant Compared.

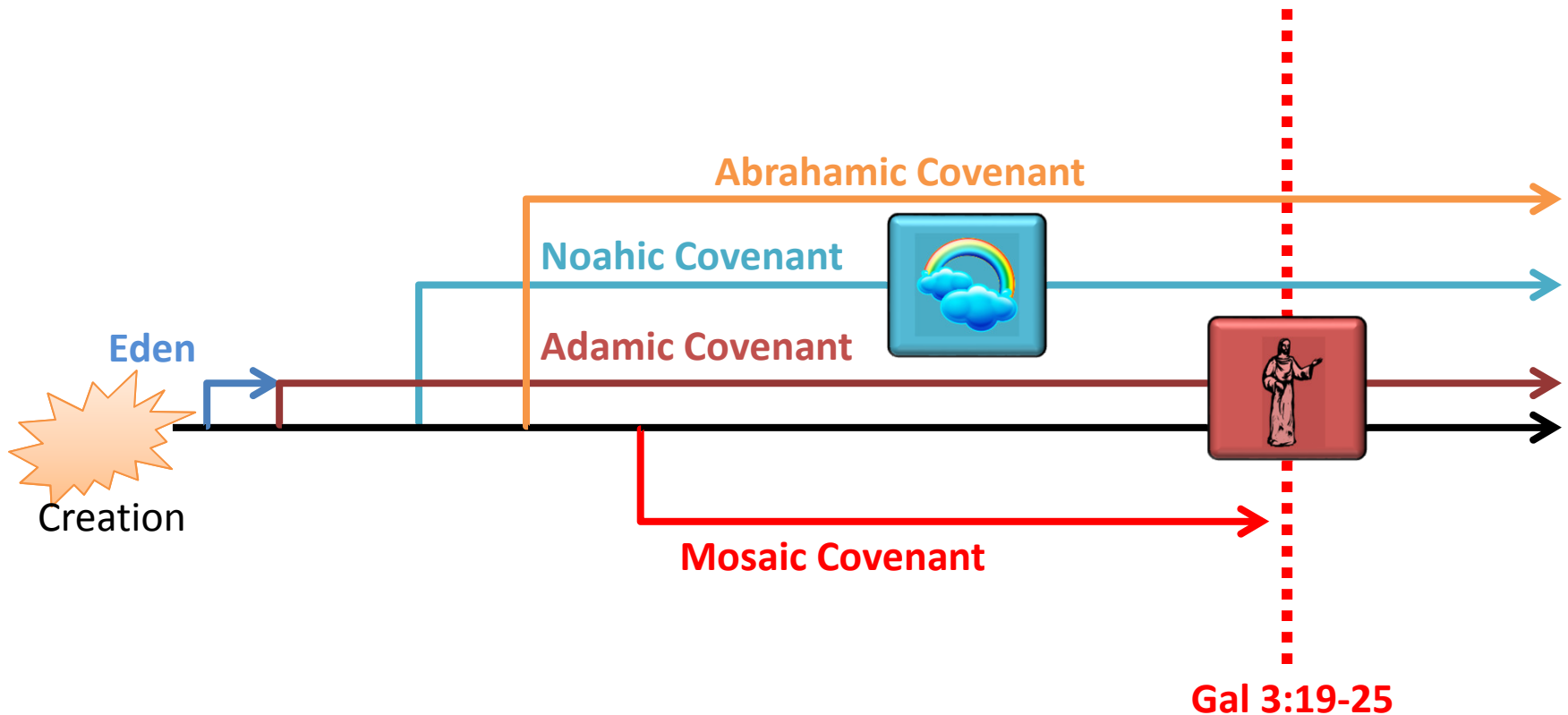
Abrahamic Covenant	Mosaic Covenant
Covenant of Promise	Covenant of Law/Works
Blessing: Galatians 3:9-14	Possible Cursing: Gal 3:13
Life: Rom 4:17-25, Heb 11:19	Death: 2 Cor 3:6; Rom 7:9-10
Resurrection	

Why say the law has been fulfilled?

**WHY DO WE SAY THE MOSAIC
COVENANT HAS COMPLETED ITS JOB?**

Mosaic Covenant is not eternal...

because it is *fulfilled!*



A hint at a coming change..

Not destruction but fulfillment.. What could this mean?

Matt. 5:17-20 Christ says he came to fulfill the law and the prophecies contained in the Scriptures. **This enables the law to pass away (v18) The things it was to accomplish are accomplished in Christ.**

Paul Makes It Clear: the Law Was Intended to be Temporary

Gal 3:19 – it was given temporarily.

a.) It was “added” (alongside an already existing set of covenant promises)

b.) *because of transgressions..*

c.) “*until*” the seed should come to whom the promise was made.

(cont...)

...its job was to bring us to Christ.

Gal 3:17-25. As a “chaperone / schoolmaster” the law was a temporary addition during the Abrahamic Covenant. Once it brought us to Christ it’s primary work was done.

A New Covenant Has Come

- **Heb. 8:7-8, 13.** The announcement of a “New Covenant” meant the Mosaic covenant was now the “old Covenant” – and was obsolete, and ready to vanish away.
- **(this is where we get “new testament” and “old testament” from)**

**It was a shadow.
The reality has come.**

Heb 8:4-6. The Mosaic priesthood/temple was a shadowy copy of heavenly realities. **8:1-2, Jesus is now seated in real heavenly tabernacle, ministering there.**

Matt. 5:17-20 Christ says he came to fulfill the law and the prophecies contained in the Scriptures. **This enables the law to pass away (v18) The things it was to accomplish are accomplished in Christ.**

The Law Condemned Externally Without Guiding Internally

Col. 2:13-14 At the cross Christ forgave us all trespasses. He wiped out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us.

The Law Lacked the Resources to Make Us Spiritually Complete.

Heb 7:11-12. The Levitical priesthood could never fully take away sin. Christ came after a different order. Melchizadek. **A change in the priesthood requires a change in the law.**

Heb 9:6-15 The way into God's presence was not open as long as the Mosaic temple system was still operative. **It could never make the inner conscience clean... it only purified externally.**

The Law Lacked the Resources to Make Us Spiritually Complete.

Heb 7:18-19 The law could make nothing perfect, and so men could not draw near to God. The former commandment is annulled

Rom 10:1-4 The law could never bring righteousness (justify sinners). Christ is the end of the law, as a means of trying to become righteous, when a person comes to Christ.

**We could never live up to the law
without the indwelling Spirit (a New
Covenant blessing)**

Rom. 8:1-4 God found fault in the law (i.e. our attempts to keep it) because of the weakness of the flesh of those trying to keep it.

When we die with Christ through salvation (symbolized in baptism, we died to the law)

Rom 7:1-4, 6. You died to the law through the body of Christ.

When the promised seed came sin was dealt with.

- Romans 3:19-26
- When Christ came sin was dealt with judicially. The promise to Abraham was still in effect, the seed had come, the world was blessed through that seed, there was no longer a need for a law to help control men in sin until he came.

So why was the law given.

1 Timothy 1:7–10

a.) the law is good if used properly

b.) it is given for disobedient, lawless, etc..

The law helps to restrict and restrain sin. Even human laws are a reflection at some level of God's given laws.

Why was the Law given?

Romans 3:20

“to give men the knowledge of sin”

Gr. *Epignosis* = not just familiarity but full knowledge of. Prepares men for their need of Christ when they realize the law can not help them.

Why was the law given?

Romans 7:8-13

Show the terrible nature of sin.

Placing a boundary before the flesh reveals to us quickly how out of control it is and how terrible its nature is.

1 Cor 15:56 = the law is the strength of sin.

Why was the law given?

How can the law restrain sin but also cause sin to increase?

Answer: it has two elements, the command, and the penalty. The command can cause the flesh to rear up in rebellion. The penalty can help restrain us.

Why was the law given?

- Romans 3:19– the law was given to shut every mouth and establish the guilt of all the world.

“guilt” refers not just to that of a single crime, but that the law was broken and a person is under the obligation to pay – one is under judicial sentence.

Why was the law given?

- Galatians 3:23-24 –
 - “kept”, “shut up” imply restraint
 - the law was our chaperone, *Gr. Paidagogos* –

This was not a schoolteacher that taught. This was a slave that chaperoned a child until they were old enough to act as sons of the family on their own.

The law exercised restraint on men until Christ came and brought a new type of mature inner restraint through the indwelling Holy Spirit and new birth.

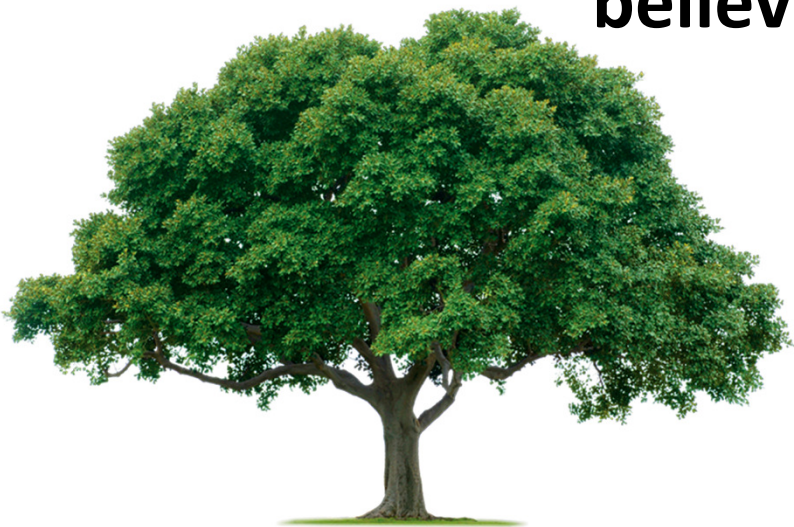
Why was the law given?

- Romans 3:21 – the point prophetically and via types to salvation through Christ.
- Eventually righteousness appeared *apart* (gr. *Chrois*) from law. (Cf Heb 4:15 for same word usage).
- Righteousness does not come at all through law. **Divine righteousness came apart from the law but was witnessed to by the law.**

**WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE THE
BELIEVER TODAY IN RELATIONSHIP TO
THE LAW OF MOSES?**

What is the laws purpose today?

- It's purpose is to convict the unbeliever of sin and make him realize he needs a savior.
- It's purpose is to instruct and illustrate to the believer the righteous heart of God about many topics – **even though the believer is called to a higher standard today (maturity).**



The So Called “**Third Use of the Law**”

1. Convict men of sin.
2. Lead men to Christ.
3. Provide a rule of life for the believer.
Means of sanctification.

Some argue that we are NOT under the law for justification, but God still wants us to keep the law as a means of sanctification.

A response.

Yes, God can convict the conscience of the believer & unbeliever by having him read the law.

Yet the scriptures do not call the believer to attempt to follow “the law” as a means of maintaining holiness. **They call the believer to walk after a higher standard, through the inward aid of the Holy Spirit.**

Does Rom 6:14 imply we are not under law *only regarding* justification?

1. Rom 6:12-14

(a) **If** 6:14 means the Christian is not **NOW** under law for justification, and sanctification is not in view in v14 (as some claim) ...

(b) ...then by necessity **Paul would have to be saying the readers WERE ONCE under the law** for justification, but are no longer. This contradicts many scriptures.

(C) **The context** of Romans 6:1-14 is clearly sanctification not justification from sins penalty.

Scripture Does Not Teach The Law Is Primarily now For Sanctification

2. Rom. 7:7-8

- (a) Many divide the law into **Civil / Ceremonial / and Moral parts.**
- (b) They say we are **still under the moral law.**
- (c) Rom 7:6 clearly says we **are released from the law.** Is this just the civil / ceremonial parts?
- (d) Rom 7:7-8 Paul uses one of **the “Ten commandments” (moral law) as an example** of the part of “the law” we were released from.

Scripture Does Not Teach The Law Is For Sanctification

3. Roman 8:1-5

8:1 Those in Christ walk by the Spirit.

8:2 This principle (law) has made us free from the law (Mosaic) of sin and death.

8:3 Jesus did the justifying work the law could not do.

8:4-5 the requirements of the law **ARE FULFILLED** in us if we walk after the Spirit.

SEE GALATIANS 5:16ff

The Higher Standard Under the Spirit

Matt. 5:21ff. As the new law giver, Christ raises the standard for life in his kingdom above what the Mosaic Law required.

Matt 22:34-40. Jesus brought the foundation and heart of the law into focus apart from the commandments.



The Higher Standard Under the Spirit

The 10 commandments are all repeated in the New Testament except for the Sabbath. This allows the Mosaic law to be done away with while preserving the God's eternal moral requirements.

The Higher Standard Under the Spirit

John 13:13, 1 Corinthians 13

Jesus calls us to a NEW Commandment, a HIGHER standard to Love one another **“as I have loved you.”**

The Higher Standard Under the Spirit

John 14:12-18. The Holy Spirit would indwell believers as part of the New Covenant promise. Jeremiah clarified that he would write God's laws on our hearts.

With these two internal principles the Believer does not need the Mosaic Covenant to serve as an external chaperone to keep us in line.

The Higher Standard Under the Spirit

The believer now lives life in the Spirit, walking after the Spirit, controlled by the Spirit, filled by the Spirit.

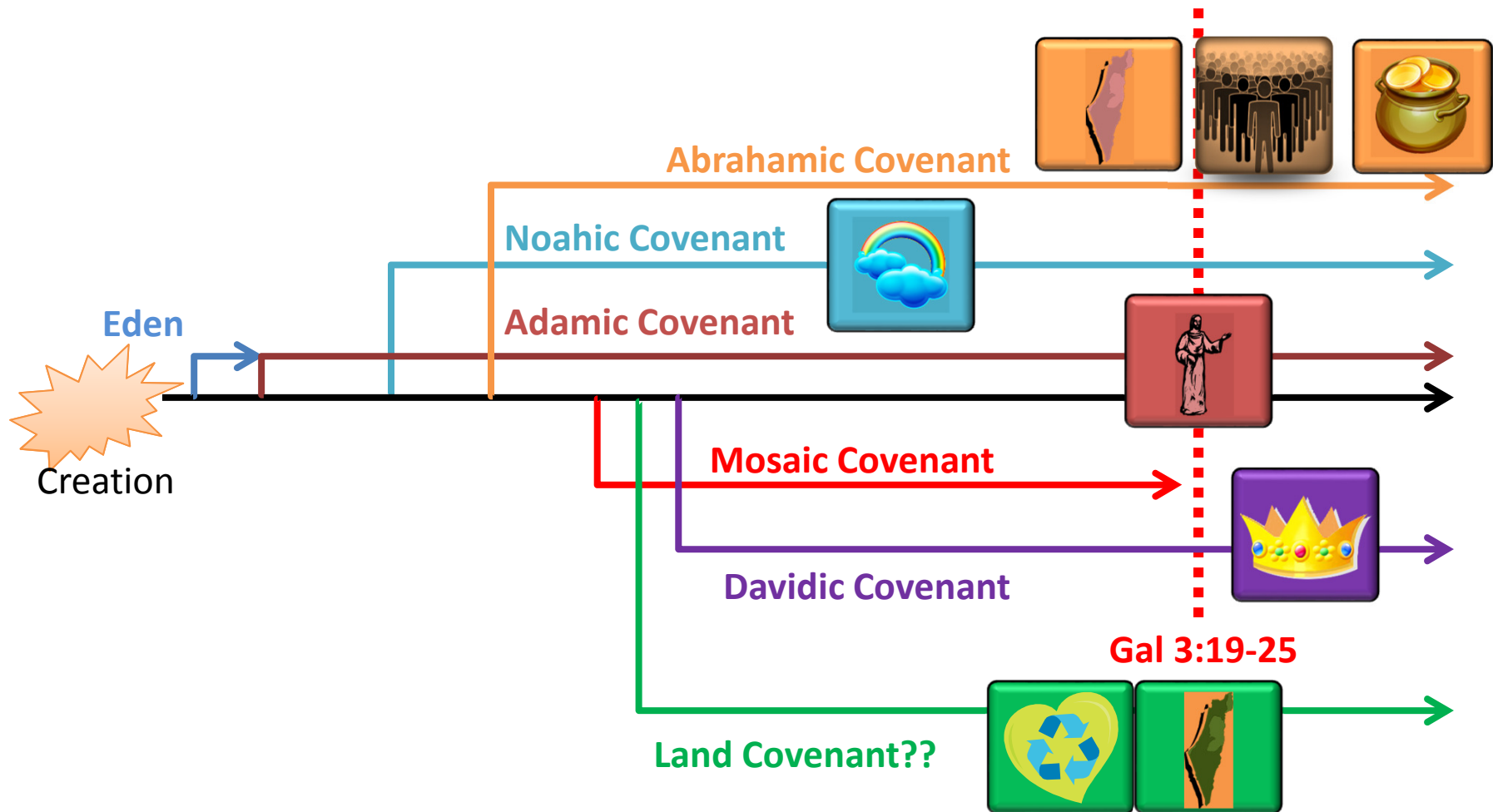
Gal 5:16-26 / Rom 8:1-11

If the indwelling Spirit can not get a man to do what God wants, no matter of observing the Mosaic law will.

The Irony ..




- Old Testament believers were under the law for Sanctification... which should have driven them to faith for justification.
- The whole point of the New Covenant was that the Spirit would indwell the Lord's people and do far more than was possible by studying the external law.

Land/Restoration Covenant



THE ABERHAMIC COVENANT'S RELATIONSHIP TO COVENANTS THAT FOLLOW IT

Abrahamic Covenant expanded into 3 covenants!

Gen. 12:1, 7, 15:7	Gen. 12:2a, 3a	Gen. 12:2b, 3b
Land Promise	(Seed: kings, and descendants)	Spiritual Blessing Promise
		
Land / Restoration Covenant Deut 29-30	Davidic Covenant (2 Sam 7:10-17) (1 Chron 17:10-15) (Psalms 89:1-4, 19-37)	New Covenant Jeremiah 31:31-34 Ezekiel 36:24-28

A Promise to Restore

- Deut 29:1, 12 – differentiated from Mosaic covenant.
- Deut 30 – Land Covenant explained.
 - (a) restoration to the Land 30:5
 - (b) a new heart 30:6
- 30:20 “that you may dwell in the Land which the Lord swore to your fathers.

What did it do?

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT = *title deed to the land.*

LAND/RESTORATION COVENANT = *the conditions under which they would enjoy/stay in the land.*

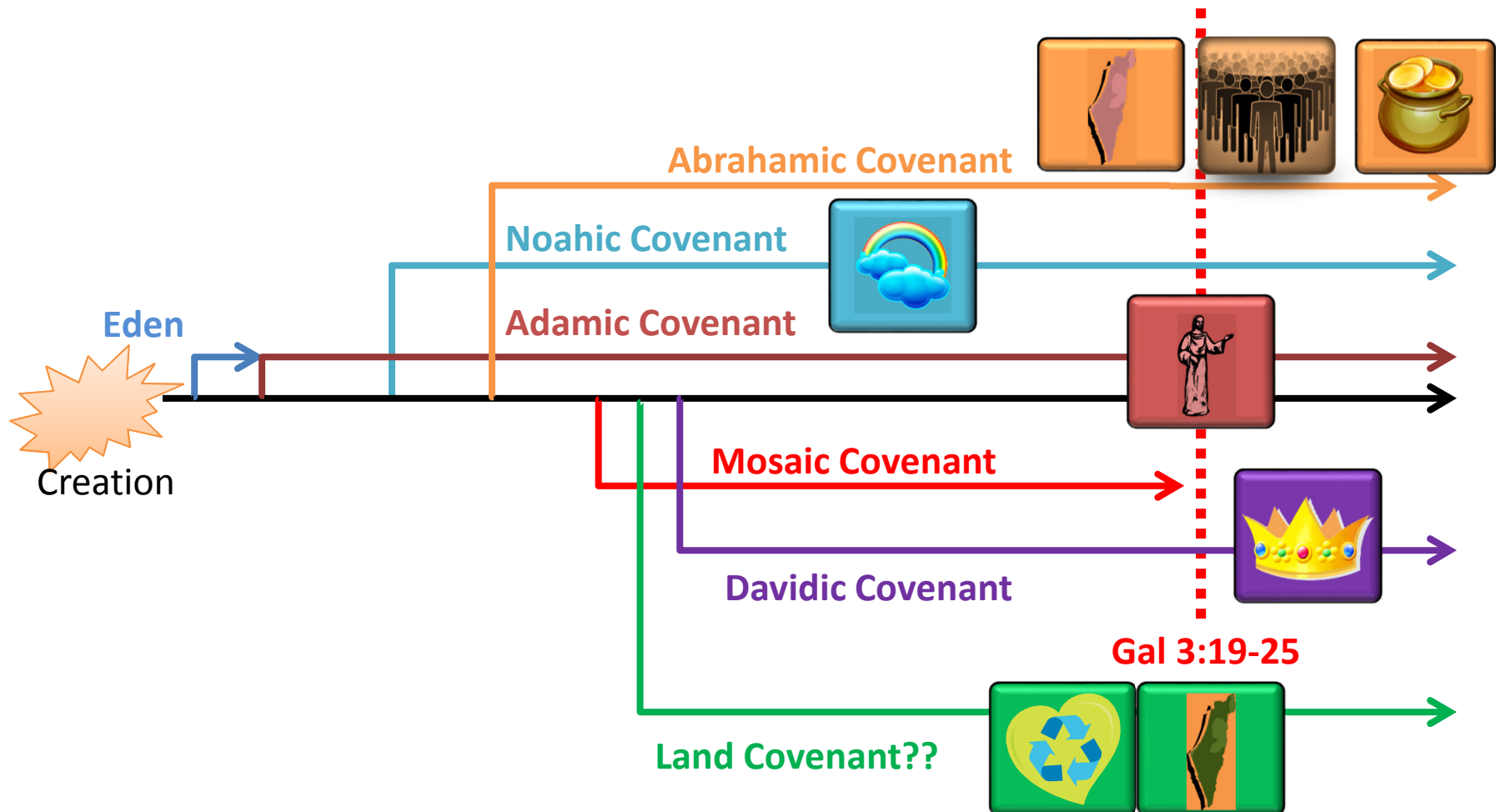
Features of the Covenant

- Repeats the promises in the Abrahamic Covenant of a permanent home for the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (the nation of Israel)
- Dt. 30:1-20. Guarantees ownership of the land despite Israel's failings
- Dt. 30:3. Tied blessing in the land to Israel's obedience
- Dt. 30:20. Predicts Israel's temporary removal with subsequent return to the land
- Dt. 30:3-5. Assures Israel's restoration and blessing during

Enjoying Promises vs Losing Them

- Deuteronomy 30:20 – a good example of how the promises were to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. They were secure.
- Whether the nation **enjoyed** the promises were based on obedience of the Covenant with Moses.
- There is a world of difference between Israel not being able to **enjoy** the covenant promises and God **ending** the covenant

Davidic Covenant






THE BIG PICTURE:

Under the Abrahamic Covenant God promises a land and seed and nation.

- Land covenant promises a return after departure/punishment.
- The Davidic covenant provides a king over God's nation forever... to rule the people of God ... And eventually the earth in righteousness.
- **LEADER, SHEPHERD, PROTECTOR, KING**

THE ABERHAMIC COVENANT'S RELATIONSHIP TO COVENANTS THAT FOLLOW IT

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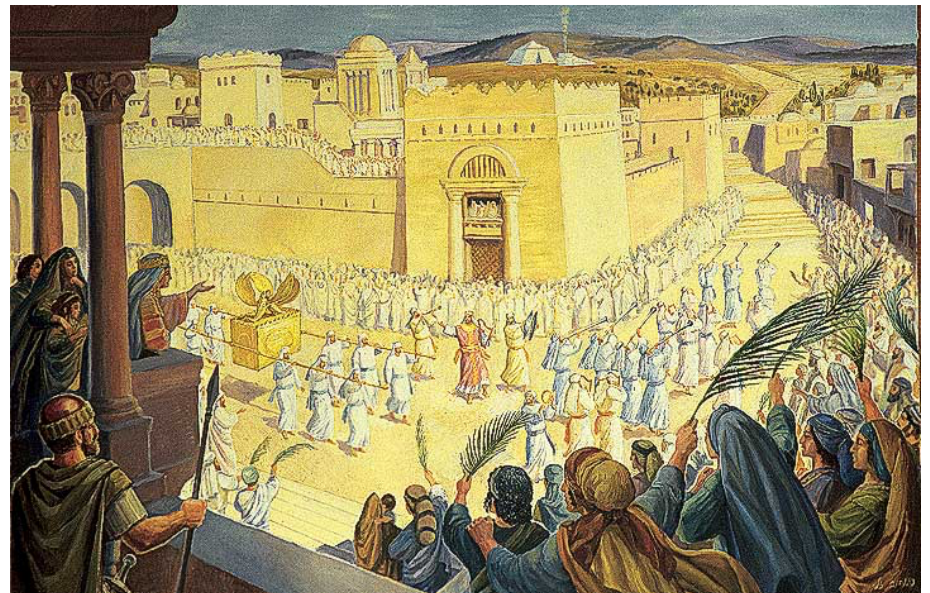
The promises are focusing on Christ

- **In Eden:** A seed to from all the world to crush the serpent.
- **Post Flood:** A blessing on the Semitic race.
- **Patriarchs:** A nation called in Abraham.
- **Patriarchs:** A promised seed in Judah's tribe (end of Gen)
- **In the Land:** A son of David to sit on the throne forever.
- **THE PROMISED ONE IS COMING!**



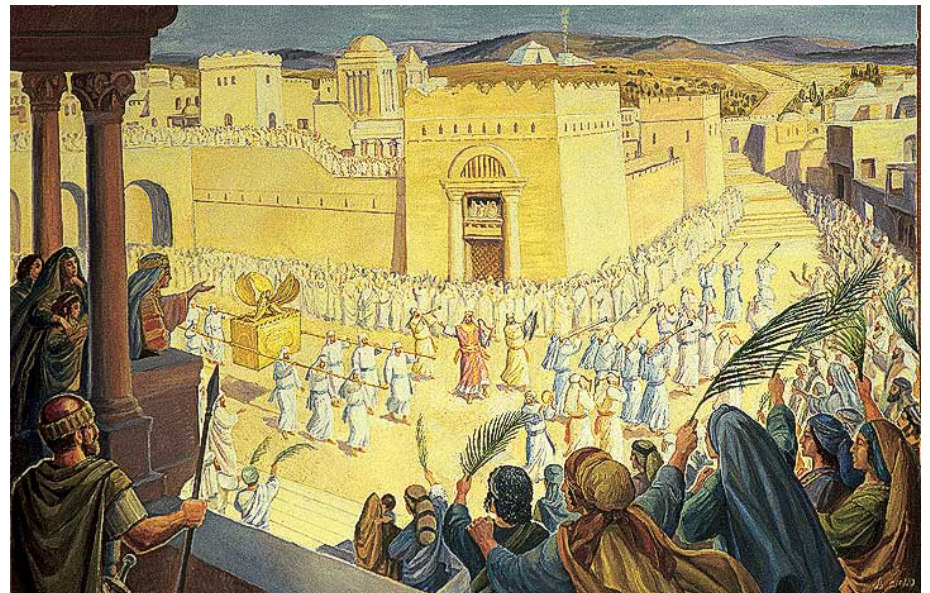
The story so far...

- Israel is in chaos at the end of the book of Judges, everyone doing what is right in their own eyes.
- Saul becomes Israel's first king but is rejected by God for his sin.
- David becomes King, moves the capital to Jerusalem and brings the ark there.



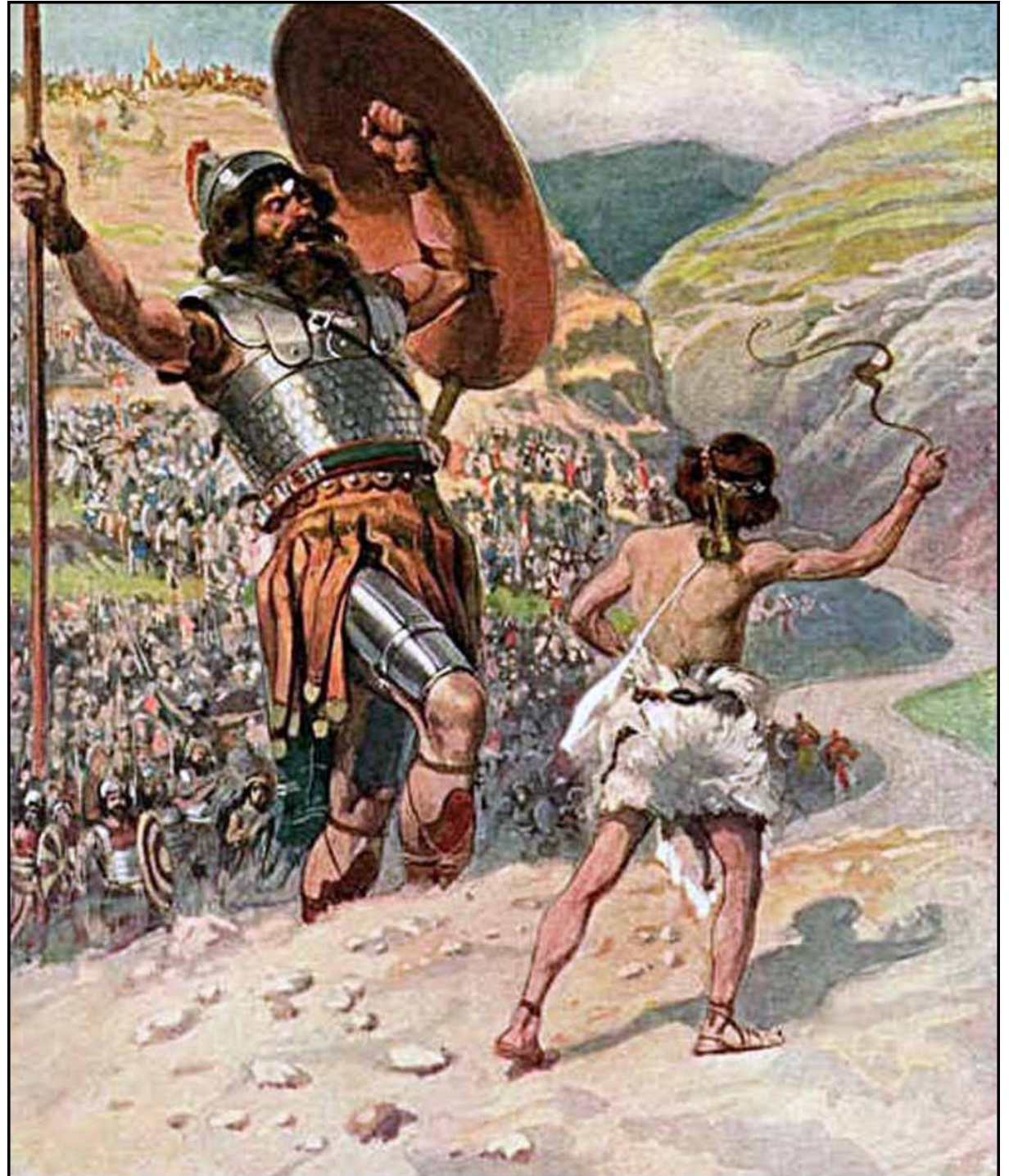
The story so far...

- It is 400 years after the days of Moses and Joshua.
- Israel had failed to drive out the foreign nations from her land.
- David seeks to follow the Lord with his whole heart.
- **God makes a major covenant promise to him & his seed.**



Primary Passages for Davidic Covenant

- 2 Samuel 7:8-17
- or 1 Chron. 17:1



God's covenantal **I WILL's** in 2 Sam 7

- A great name for David as king- 7:9
- A permanent place for Israel – 7:10
- Rest from war/enemies – 7:11
- A “house”/dynasty for David and to rule after him – 7:12
- A kingdom 7:12
- A father/son relationship with God 7:14

At its heart this covenant hints at...

- One who will **defeat evil** (requires strength)
- One who will **bring in righteousness**.
- A human to **rule on earth** as God's regent after God's own heart.
- A changed heart is the goal of the new covenant, but a defeat of evil and an **establishment of righteousness** on earth is the goal of the Davidic king.

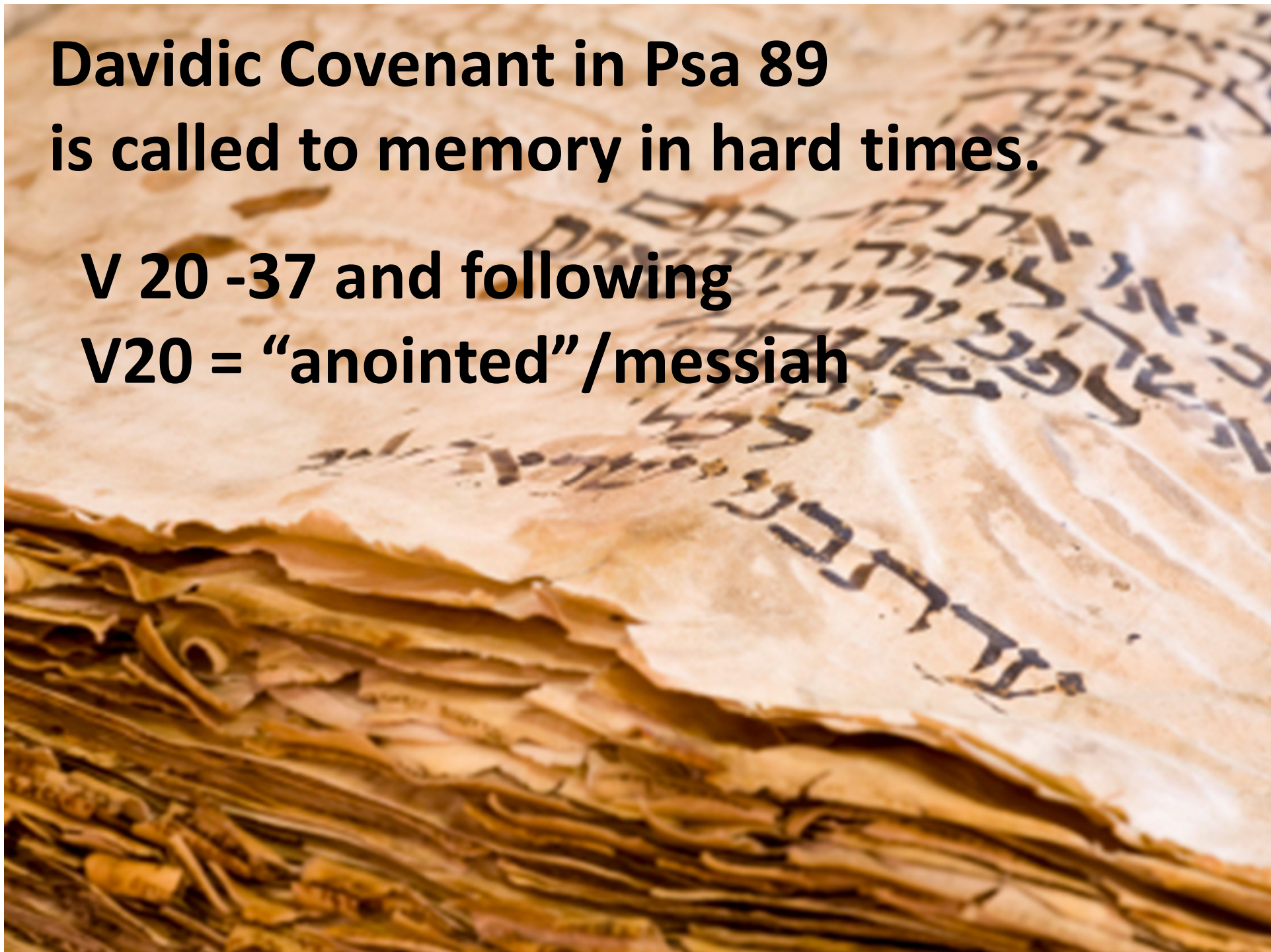
God has promised

- Kings would come from Abraham
- God had always had a leader for his people – and these leaders significantly affected the entire nation's spiritual walk
- **God gave his law to instruct his people**
- **God gave a king to shepherd his people. And do defeat evil.**

**Davidic Covenant in Psa 89
is called to memory in hard times.**

V 20 -37 and following

V20 = “anointed”/messiah



Why do we say this covenant continues forever into the millennial kingdom?

- Though there would be consequences for human descendants who disobeyed 7:14-15 God would not remove his promises of a coming king.
- **2 Sam 7:13** I will est. the throne **forever**!
- **2 Sam 23:5** an **everlasting** covenant.
- **Psa 89:28-29** I will keep him **forever**, my covenant shall stand firm (God swears by his holiness).

Cont.. Is this covenant unilateral/unconditional?

- It seems that it is unconditional, because even though God promises to punish disobedience, he also promises never to take his covenant blessing from the house of David.
- Disobedience just means judgment for that king and the promises pass to the next son. (1 Sam 7:14-15)

Davidic Covenant **Big Picture**

- Promises an everlasting **dynasty** through the lineage of King David 2 Sam. 7:16.
- Assures an eternal **kingdom** and a descendant to reign on David's throne forever 2 Sam. 7:11-17.
- Confirms the Davidic dynasty through **Solomon** 1 Chr. 17:10-15.
- Finds fulfillment in the person of **Messiah** Ps. 45:6-7 (is picked up in Hebrews 1).
- Ultimately fulfilled points to the **Messianic Shepherd** Jer. 23:5-6.

God promises a **KING** to **SHEPHERD**
his people forever.

- In passages like Jeremiah 23:5-6 the idea is that God would send a king, a seed who would **shepherd** his people Israel and **lead** them in the way of righteousness, **protect** them. Eventually they would no longer be under the influence of evil king's that so plagued the history of Israel.
- **God would send HIS king that would lead the people into righteousness.**

A Shepherd King

- Shepherding, ruling, protecting, leading are all concepts associated with the Davidic King
- In Psa 78 **David was a shepherd**
 - Jesus comes as the good shepherd to Israel (Jn 10:11; Matt 9:36)
- **David becomes king to shepherd Israel.**
 - Jesus sits on the throne of his father David.

Whenever you read these now...
think **Davidic Covenant!!**

Isaiah 9:1-7; 11:1

Jeremiah 23:5; 30:1-9

Matthew 1:1, 2:2 (Zech 9:9) Star = Numb 24:15ff
2:4 + Mic 5:2 (King's birth) 21:2-15, 22:41-46
27:11 (Are you the king?)

Luke 1:31-33, 69; (Jesus receives David's throne) see also 18:35ff
19:28ff King rides into Jerusalem
on a colt **Cf. Zech 9:9-13**

IN THE NEW
TESTAMENT
JESUS IS THE SON
OF DAVID

Davidic Covenant in the New Testament

- The New Testament interprets that the Davidic covenant as fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
- Mathew 1 traces the genealogy of the Messiah from Abraham, to David and from David to Jesus (moving from Solomon to Joseph, including the cursed line of King Jeconiah (Jer 22:30)).
- Luke traces Messiah's genealogy from Adam to Jesus. Luke starts with Nathan, Solomon's brother, and traces through Mary avoiding the curse upon Jeconiah. Mary also had a priestly descent going back to Aron the brother of Moses.

Thou art my son... I have begotten you

Psa 2, 89, - **where the king is adopted as a “son of God”**.. Cf **Hebrews** 1:1-5, **Acts** 13:26-39;

Psa 45, 110 – your throne O God is established, sit at my right hand, your scepter. Cf **Hebrews** 1:1-5

Amos 9:11 cf **Acts** 15:13-21, **Romans** 15:7-13

Revelation 3:7 (Jesus holds the key of David)

A Ruler Who Defeats Evil Finally

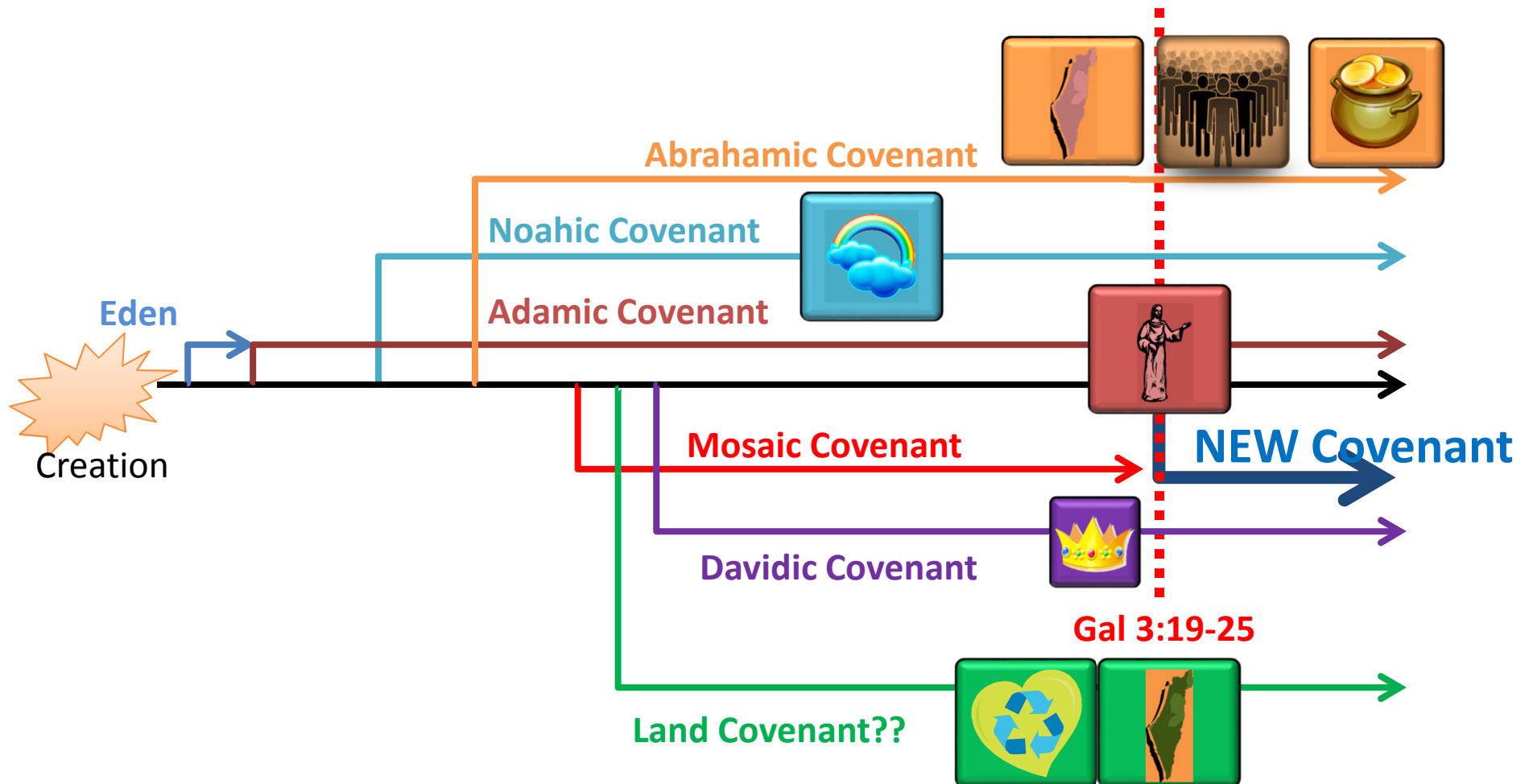
Rev 5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” ³ But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. ⁴ I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. ⁵ Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Now we have a **land** promised forever,
a **king** to bring in righteousness...

There is just one problem. All of God's blessings require obedience. None of the covenant promises can be enjoyed if the hearts of God's people remain sinful. Kings could fail and be punished. Israel could sin and be kicked from her land. The only solution to everlasting righteousness was a new heart.

How would *ALL* God's people get a new heart?

New Covenant



Why a new covenant?

- We've seen God promise a land, and covenant blessings.
- We see God give a law to guide his people.
- We've seen God raise up kings who were supposed to defeat evil and lead God's people.
- **But Israel STILL LIVED IN SIN.**
 - ISAIAH 1 / Jer 11:1-14, 25:1-11
- The OLD covenant presented the righteousness of God in commandments but did not provide the inner power to live out a righteous life.

IS THERE NO HOPE?

What will God do?

After all of this, will God cast off his people Israel and be done with the human race?

JUDGEMENT – God punishes Israel for their sin, by sending them into captivity (recall Deut 27)

BLESSING – God promises a NEW COVENANT that will deal with Israel's deepest need – the need for a new heart.

If the individuals of Israel were given
a new heart / spiritual rebirth then...

...then they would live righteously.

***And when Israel lived righteously, THEN they
could enjoy the Covenantal promises!***

So. ..when does God make this new covenant with Israel?

There seem to be **MANY** promises in the Old Testament of this covenant.

The covenant seems to show up with the coming of Jesus, but that's getting ahead. Lets look at some of the many OT references to the **NEW COV.**

Jer 31:31-40 (this the central passage)

6 Major things We will see

1. Inner transformation with a “new heart”
2. He would put his law within – on their hearts
3. God would forgive their sins and remember them no more.
4. The close relationship to God as “My People” would be restored. They would again be a kingdom of Priests.
5. The Spirit would indwell them (from Ezk not Jer)
6. As a result of their changed lives, God could again bless Israel materially as was hinted at in the Abrahamic covenant.

A working assumption.

The New Covenant is not explicitly promised in every one of the passages we will read.. **But these core promises are all hinted at in Jer 31,** once you see them, they are also apparent in many other passages that pick up the exact same words and promises.

Other verses

- Jer. 31:31–40; 32:37–40; 50:4–5
- Ezek. 11:19–20; 16:60–63; 34:25–26; 36:24–32; 37:21–28
- Zech. 9:11; 12:10–14
- Heb. 8:1–13; 10:15–18
- 2 Cor 3:6
- ***Provides for the yet future spiritual regeneration of Israel in preparation for the millennial kingdom***

Major New Covenant Promises

1. Transformation Through A New Heart

First for Israel as God's covenant people. It was impossible to enjoy the Abrahamic promises, by living righteously without a new heart. The **Mosaic covenant did not provide INNER POWER, just EXTERNAL CONDEMNATION.**

Jer. 24:4-7, 31:31-34, 32:37-41

Ezek. 11:17-21; 36:22-32

Major New Covenant Promises

2. Final Forgiveness of Sins. This is the basis of the many spiritual changes that take place under the New Covenant.

Jer. 31:34 (contrast to Heb. 10:3)

Major New Covenant Promises

3. God's Full Restoration of His Relationship With Israel

Do you remember Exodus 19:3-6

The key repeated promise phrase was “ *I will be your God and you will be my people.*” **Under the Mosaic covenant many kings were not interested in God nor were the people spiritually reborn.**

Jer 24:7, 31:33, 32:38

Ezek. 11:20, 34:30, 36:28, 37:23, 27

Major New Covenant Promises

4. Indwelling of the Spirit. As with the ultimate dealing with sin, the indwelling Spirit was the key to the major transformations promised for Israel.

Ezk 36:26-27

Jesus Baptizes in the Spirit – Jn 1:29-34

Major New Covenant Promises

5. The Law Put Inside Believers.

God promises to put the law in New Covenant believers.

Jer. 31:33, 24:7, 32:39-40

Ezek. 11:19, 36:26

New covenant believers would obey God from an inward heart desire... not force from without.

Major New Covenant Promises

6. Physical and material Blessings on Israel

- Gathering of the people to the Land – Jer 31:8-11, 15-17
- Productivity – Jer 31:12
- Expressions of Joy – Jer 31:13-14
- Increase in herds and flocks – Jer 31:23-34
- Rebuilding of Cities – Jer 31:38-40

Promised under Mosaic Cov but not enjoyed due to disobedience.

**CHRIST CAME TO ISRAEL AS KING TO
LEAD THEM INTO RIGHTEOUSNESS...
BUT THEY REJECTED CHRIST.. WHAT
THEN? ROM 3:3 WOULD THE UNBELIEF
OF OF ISRAEL MAKE THE FAITH OF GOD
OF NO EFFECT?**

**GOD USES THE REBELLION OF ISRAEL
TO EXTEND GRACE TO THE GENTILES,
BUT WILL ONE DAY RESTORE ISRAEL.**

EPH 2:11-3:6

ROMANS 11

ISAIAH 49:5FF

The Churches Relation to the New Covenant

Luk 22:14-20 and 1 Cor 11:25 – The New Covenant was inaugurated at the last supper which the Church weekly celebrates.

Compare Ex 24:8 *this is the blood of the covenant* with Luke 22:20

The Churches Relation to the New Covenant

2 Cor 3:6 Paul identifies himself and other believers as “ministers of the New Covenant”

Hebrews 8:6 “Christ **IS** the mediator of the New Covenant (v7-13)

What has happened?

- **Israel has Rejected Jesus, but God has swung the door of his Covenant promises open to all the world.**
 - We can all be Abraham's children now and enjoy the new covenant promises. Gal 3:23-29
 - We were far off from the covenants of promise but now we are near! All of Eph 1

The Churches Relation to the New Covenant

- Believers participate in **SOME of the** promises of the New Covenant
 - Forgiveness of Sins
 - Indwelling of the Holy Spirit
 - God's law written on our hearts.
 - Eph 2:12 – though we were far off from the covenants, we are made near through Christ in one new man.

Present Fulfillment?

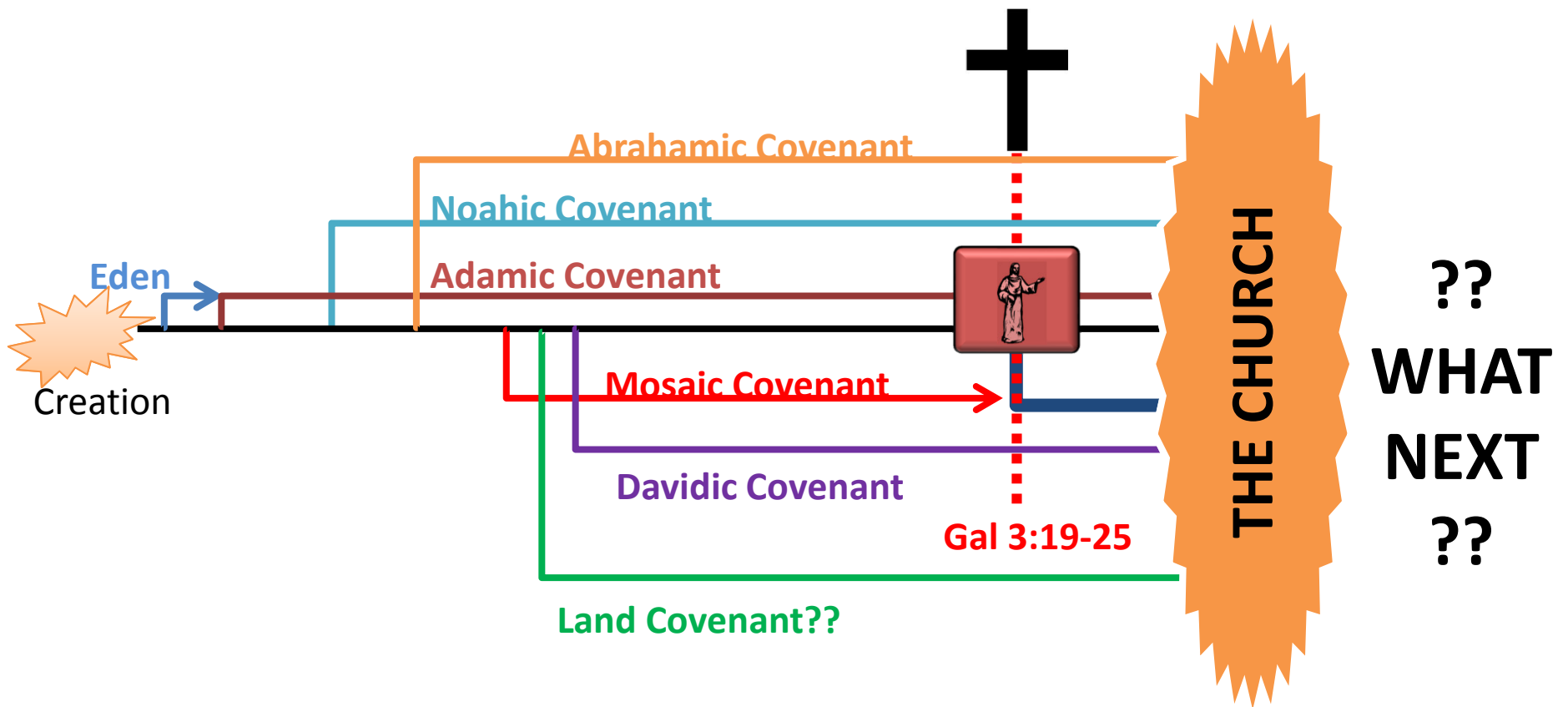
- [Gal 3:29](#) “And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to the promise.” That passage sounds like it is saying that the promises are fulfilled in the Church.
- [1 Cor 2:12](#) - The Holy Spirit is now indwelling believers so that we can know God. That sure sounds like New Covenant fulfillment. Then in 3:16 Paul says our bodies are the temple of God. Is that the temple Ezekiel promised?
- [Eph 2:11-22](#) - Jews and Gentiles now participate equally in spiritual blessings. That sure sounds like the “universal blessing” promised in all three covenants.
- Others speak of future fulfillment:
- [Acts 1:5-6](#) - The disciples ask Jesus if now is the time that Jesus is going to restore the kingdom to Israel. He doesn’t tell them they are wrong to think that the kingdom is going to be restored to Israel. He just tells them that it is not for them to know the time. Does that mean the kingdom will be restored to Israel? It sure sounds like it.

So what is Israel's Relation to the New Covenant?

The Covenant was originally made WITH Israel. It is theirs by nature.

Zech 12:10-14 and Rom 11:26 predict some day the nation will repent, turn to Christ as their Messiah and Savior and begin to enjoy the full promises of the New Covenant also.

SURPRISE!



**Spiritual. Not national. No land. Jew + Gentile.
Mystery. One Body. Substance not shadow.**

Conclusion

- It is my belief that God will fulfill His promises to the nation of Israel in the Millennial kingdom – for his name sake, not theirs.
- I believe the scripture shows that rather than most prophecies being *completely* fulfilled in the church... the NT shows that some prophecies *began* to take place at the inauguration of the New Covenant & Jesus ascension but that all major covenantal promises will ultimately fulfilled though Jesus Christ in the Millennial kingdom.

Now.. What about you?

- God extends the blessings of the New Covenant to the whole world.
 - Have you accepted his invitation?
 -
- Let's look at a few verses.

- Romans 3:23/6:23 the wages of sin is death.
- But the new cov steps in (Jer 31) remember their sins no more.
- 1 Cor 11 – new cov open to us
- John 3:16ff
- Gal 3:10-14 redeems us from the curse
- 1 Peter 2:21-ff took our sins on his body
- Titus 3:15
- Acts 16:31