

COVENANT THEOLOGY

II. THE COVENANTS



Covenant Theology: *A theological framework arising from scripture that understands God's work in history by way of covenants.*

Tri-covenantal framework is composed of three primary, overarching covenants:

- The Covenant of Redemption
- The Covenant of Works
- The Covenant of Grace

The Covenant of Redemption is fulfilled when Jesus satisfies the Covenant of Works in the Covenant of Grace.

THE COVENANT OF REDEMPTION (pactum salutis)

Definition:

"The CoR is the pre-temporal, intra-trinitarian agreement among the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to plan and execute the redemption of the elect." – Fesko¹

The **Father** elects a people to be redeemed in the **Son**

The **Son** mediates the covenant by doing the work of redemption

The **Spirit** applies the redemptive work of the Son by bring the elect to saving faith

KEY TEXTS: Psalm 2:7, Psalm 110, Isaiah 42:1–7, Isaiah 50:4–9, Ephesians 1:1–14, 2 Timothy 1:9–10, Titus 1:2–3

¹ Fesko, J.V., *The Trinity and The Covenant of Redemption*, p.131

THE COVENANT OF WORKS (or creation, nature, law)

The Nature of the CoW

- Covenant between God and sinless Man
- Requirements
- Sanctions/Rewards

The Necessity of the Covenant

- Offer of eternal life
- Paradigm for understanding the work of Christ

Adam's Failure and Curse

KEY TEXTS: Genesis 1-3, Leviticus 18:5, Hosea 6:7, Romans 5:12-21, 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

THE COVENANT OF GRACE (The New Covenant)

The CoG is the fulfillment of the Covenant of Redemption in time and space. A kept Covenant of Works.

The Blessings of the Covenant

The Requirement of the Covenant

KEY TEXTS: Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 53:11, Jeremiah 31, Ezekiel 36, Romans 5:17-19, Hebrews 10:14