

A Guide to Reformed Theology

Reformed theology is a comprehensive system of Christian belief from the 16th-century Reformation. It is God-centered, governed by Scripture, and integrates doctrine, worship, and all of life under God's sovereignty.

CORE BELIEFS



A God-Centered System of Faith

Emphasizes God's sovereignty, salvation by grace, and a covenantal view of Scripture.



A High View of God

God is sovereign and actively governs all things according to His will.

THE FIVE SOLAS (Reformation Gospel)

Sola Gratia	Grace Alone
Sola Fide	Faith Alone
Solus Christus	Christ Alone
Sola Scriptura	Scripture Alone
Soli Deo Gloria	To the Glory of God Alone



Scripture as the Final Authority

The Bible is the ultimate rule for all matters of faith and life.

KEY DOCTRINES & FRAMEWORKS

A Covenantal Framework

Understands Scripture as a unified story of God's relationship with His people through covenants.

A Creedal & Confessional Faith



Affirms historic Christian creeds and uses confessions as summaries of biblical teaching.

Law and Gospel

The Law reveals righteousness and exposes sin to drive people to Christ, while the Gospel provides grace, leading believers back to the Law as a guide for grateful living



THE DOCTRINES OF GRACE (TULIP Acrostic)

T	Total Depravity
U	Unconditional Election
L	Limited Atonement
I	Irresistible Grace
P	Perseverance of the Saints

Reformed Theology: The Covenants

Review

- Week 1: Experimental Calvinism – The Heartbeat of the Reformed Faith
- Week 2: Defining Reformed Theology 1 – Historical Foundations, Five Points
- Week 3: Defining Reformed Theology 3 – Covenant, Confessions, Catechisms
- Week 4: Defining Reformed Theology 2 – Five Solas
- Week 5: Scripture and God’s Sovereignty – Scripture and ALL Sovereign God.
- Week 6: Scripture and God’s Sovereignty – Necessity and Election.

Check on Learning/Application Questions

Application Questions:

- 1) Why is it so important for us to establish the authority of God's Word at the outset of our study of theology?
- 2) What objections are raised to the doctrine of God's sovereignty? How does the Bible address these objections?
- 3) How does the doctrine of election magnify the grace of God in salvation? How does it spotlight human depravity?
- 4) How would you address the assertion that election is simply a doctrine taught by the reformers and not in the scriptures?
- 5) Why are those who believe in election sometimes guilty of a failure to earnestly engage in personal evangelism? How does an understanding of election and God's sovereignty fuel the evangelistic enterprise?

What is a Covenant?

- “an agreement enacted between two parties in which one or both make promises under oath to perform or refrain from certain actions stipulated in advance.” - Dr. Jonathan Master
- “an agreement or contract that binds two or more parties together through **promises, conditions, and sanctions.**”
– Dr. Ryan McGraw
- “**agreement between two parties** involving specific obligations and promises.” – Jonty Rhodes

The Covenantal Framework of Scripture

“The Gospel of God is not properly viewed until it is understood in a covenantal frame.” The Word of God is not properly understood unless it is viewed in a covenantal frame. The reality of God is not properly understood until it is viewed in a covenantal frame.”

- J.I. Packer.

FROM COVER TO COVER THE BIBLE TELLS ONE COVENANT STORY OF REDEMPTION.

Covenantal Framework of Scripture

- Covenant of Redemption: Ephesians 1:3-14
- Covenant of Works: Genesis 2:16-17
- Covenant of Grace: Genesis 3:15
 - Adam: Genesis 3:15
 - Noah: Genesis 9:8-17
 - Abraham: Genesis 12, 15, 17
 - Moses: Exodus 19:4, 20:1
 - David: 2 Samuel 7:12-16
 - New Covenant Realities: Jeremiah 31:31, Luke 22:20.

Covenants of Scripture

- **Covenant of Redemption (Eph 1:3-14)** : an eternal, pre-temporal agreement within the Trinity—between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—to save the elect
- **Covenant of Works (Gen 2:16-17)**: the conditional, pre-fall agreement between God and Adam as federal head of humanity.
- **Covenant of Grace (Gen 3:15)**: the historical, post-fall arrangement wherein God sovereignly, unilaterally, and graciously promises eternal life and salvation to the elect through faith in Jesus Christ.

Covenant of Grace

Covenant of Grace

- Covenant of Grace: Genesis 3:15
 - Adam: Genesis 3:15
 - Noah: Genesis 9:8-17
 - Abraham: Genesis 12, 15, 17
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ADAM

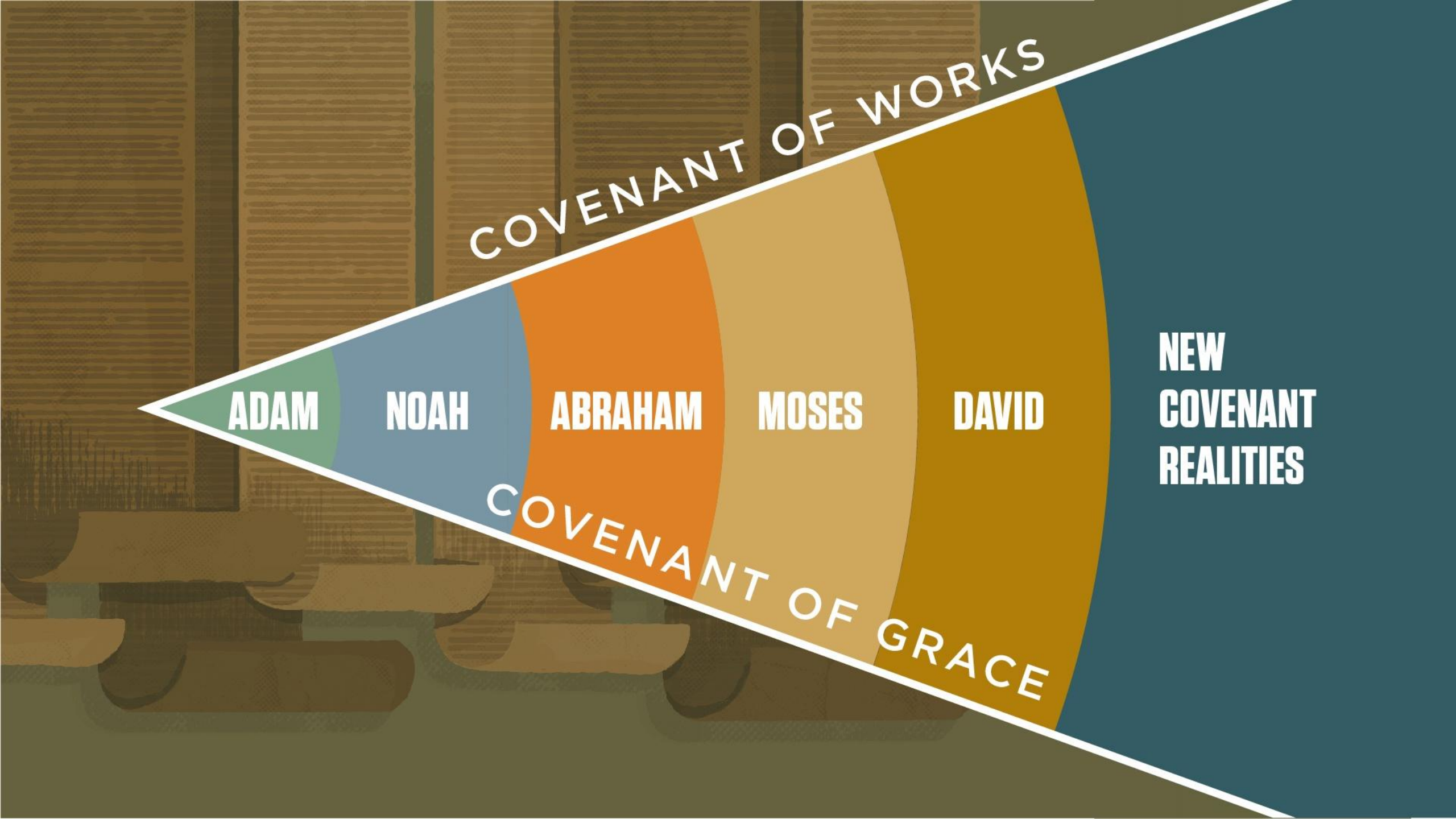
NOAH

ABRAHAM

MOSES

DAVID

**NEW
COVENANT
REALITIES**



ADAM

NOAH

ABRAHAM

MOSES

DAVID

COVENANT OF GRACE

COVENANT OF WORKS

**NEW
COVENANT
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Questions?

For Next Week: The Blessings of Reformed Theology

Pages 63-70 of Master's Book

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