

THE NEW COVENANT AND FULFILLMENT

JEREMIAH 31:31-34 “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord. 33 “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 34 No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the Lord. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

1. According to Jeremiah, what will God accomplish in the new covenant?
2. In what ways do the New Testament authors see Jesus as the fulfillment of the New Covenant?
3. How does the New Covenant fulfill the Creation Covenant?
4. How does the New Covenant fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant?
5. How does the New Covenant fulfill the Mosaic Covenant?
6. How does the New Covenant fulfill the Davidic Covenant?



We love a good story, especially the a story that draws us in. From incredible book series to television dramas and movies, we long to enter into beautiful and compelling stories.

Great stories are able to capture our hearts and minds. We end up finding ourselves caught up in the stories we love. In some way, we find ourselves becoming included in the story.

We may not always recognize it, but story is a powerful form of communication.

N.T. Wright in his book *The New Testament and the People of God* writes, “Tell someone to do something and you change their life—for a day; tell someone a story and you change their life.”

On the power of story, Eugene Peterson wrote, “The story is the most adult form of language, the most serious form into which language can be put.”

When God decided to reveal himself to us, he did so through an unfolding drama of redemption—God revealed himself through an incredible story. And it is in this true story, he communicates to us who he is, what he is like, and where we find our place in the story.

COVENANT WITH CREATION

GENESIS 1:26-28 “Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

GENESIS 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

1. What does this passage teach us about God?
2. What commands does God give to Adam and Eve?
3. What does this passage teach us about God’s creational intent regarding mankind?
4. In light of the fall, covenant curses are pronounced. But mixed in with the curses is a promise. How does this promise drive the rest of the storyline of Scripture?

THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

GENESIS 12:1-3 The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. 2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

1. Notice the amount of times God says, “I will” in this passage. What does this tell us about God and his purposes?
2. How does the Abraham covenant contribute to the story of the kingdom?
3. What are the main elements promised to Abraham in this covenant?

THE COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

EXODUS 19:3-6 Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 4 ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. 5 Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, 6 you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

1. Why did God redeem Israel out of Egypt? What is Israel called to do in response to God’s gracious act of salvation?
2. What phrases does God use to speak of the identity of Israel (v. 6)? How do these phrases relate to the covenant with creation and the Abrahamic covenant?

THE DAVIDIC COVENANT

2 SAMUEL 7:11-16 “ ‘The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: 12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’ ”

1. What is significant about God’s covenant with David? How does this contribute to the storyline of Scripture in light of the other covenants already discussed?
2. In what ways is this covenant unconditional? In what ways is this covenant conditional?