

The Promised One

The Covenant of Redemption (or *pactum salutis*) is an eternal, pre-temporal agreement within the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—to save the elect. The Father appoints Jesus the Son as Mediator, the Son voluntarily agrees to incarnate (come in the flesh) and die, and the Spirit consents to apply this salvation to the believer, guaranteeing the success of redemptive history.

Key Aspects of the Covenant of Redemption:

- **Participants:** The agreement is not between God and humans, but among the persons of the Trinity.
- **Purpose:** To redeem God's people (the elect) chosen before the foundation of the world.
- **The Father's Role:** The Father promises to prepare a body for the Son, uphold him, and reward him by raising him from the dead and giving him a redeemed people.
- **The Son's Role (The Mediator):** Jesus agrees to become incarnate, obey the Law, and suffer/die as a substitute for sinners.
- **The Holy Spirit's Role:** The Spirit consents to empower the Son's ministry and apply the benefits of redemption to the elect.
- **Significance:** It serves as the unbreakable foundation for the Covenant of Grace (God's relationship with believers in time) and ensures that salvation is entirely a work of the triune God.

Often referred to as the "council of peace," this doctrine emphasizes that the plan for salvation was established in eternity past, providing absolute security for the believer.

Immediately following the fall God pronounces this curse upon the serpent.

Genesis 3:15 ESV

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/gen.3.15.ESV>

Known as the protoevangelium (first gospel), it is interpreted as the initial promise of a Redeemer (Jesus) who will destroy Satan (the serpent).

Approximately 5600 years before Christ comes in the flesh and crushes the head of the enemy upon the cross of Calvary.

- The Promise: God promises that a descendant of the woman will ultimately defeat the serpent.
- The Struggle: "Enmity" (hostility) is established between the serpent/his offspring and the woman/her offspring.
- The Conflict: The serpent will strike the "heel" (causing suffering, as in Christ's crucifixion), but the Seed will crush the serpent's "head" (a fatal blow, signifying victory over sin and death).
- Significance: This is broadly viewed in Christian theology as the first announcement of the gospel and the beginning of the story of salvation.

Isaiah 46:3-11 ESV

“Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the

womb; even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save. “To whom will you liken me and make me equal, and compare me, that we may be alike? Those who lavish gold from the purse, and weigh out silver in the scales, hire a goldsmith, and he makes it into a god; then they fall down and worship! They lift it to their shoulders, they carry it, they set it in its place, and it stands there; it cannot move from its place. If one cries to it, it does not answer or save him from his trouble. “Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’ calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of my counsel from a far country. I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/isa.46.3-11.ESV>

God has a definite sovereign plan and he will bring it to pass.

Genesis 12:3 ESV

“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.””

<https://bible.com/bible/59/gen.12.3.ESV>

Genesis 15:4-6 ESV

“And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/gen.15.4-6.ESV>

Genesis 22:1-14 ESV

“After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.””

<https://bible.com/bible/59/gen.22.1-14.ESV>

Isaiah 7:14 ESV

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/isa.7.14>.ESV

Micah 5:2 ESV

“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/mic.5.2>.ESV

Isaiah 9:1-7 ESV

“But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/isa.9.1-7>.ESV

Daniel 7:13-14 ESV

““I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/dan.7.13-14>.ESV

Daniel 9:24 ESV

““Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/dan.9.24>.ESV

Isaiah 52:13-15 ESV

“Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you— his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind— so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/isa.52.13-15>.ESV

Isaiah 53:1-12 ESV

“Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and

carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/isa.53.1-12.ESV>

Matthew 27:33-35 ESV

“And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/mat.27.33-35.ESV>

Hosea 6:1-3 ESV

“Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.”

<https://bible.com/bible/59/hos.6.1-3.ESV>