



HEBREWS 8 PART 2

The Grand Blueprint of Redemptive History

If we read the Bible merely as a collection of disjointed moral fables, we will spend our entire lives exhausted, trying to emulate the "good guys" and avoid the mistakes of the "bad guys." But the Scriptures reveal a profoundly different reality. From the Garden of Eden to the empty tomb, God interacts with humanity through a series of historical, legally binding covenants. When viewed through the lens of the Gospel, a breathtaking theme emerges: Monergism.

Monergism is the theological truth that salvation, from its genesis to its completion, is exclusively the sovereign work of God. We contribute absolutely nothing to our redemption except the sin that makes it necessary. God's covenants are not negotiations between equals; they are divine rescue missions. Every single covenant serves as a massive, glowing arrow pointing directly to the finished work of Jesus Christ, proving that the glory of redemption rests entirely on God's shoulders.

Use the following three diagnostic questions to evaluate each biblical covenant.

1. In what specific way does the history or structure of this covenant expose humanity's total depravity and inability to save itself? How does this completely shatter any modern attempt we make to "earn" God's favor through our own moral performance?
2. Every covenant contains a standard, a promise, or a sign that acts as a prophetic shadow. How does this specific covenant point directly to the perfect obedience, the substitutionary death, or the conquering resurrection of Jesus Christ?
3. Monergism declares that salvation is exclusively God's sovereign work. How does the unilateral, divine action seen in this covenant free you from the exhausting treadmill of religious anxiety, scorekeeping, and legalism today?

1. The Adamic / Edenic Covenant (Adam: 4114 BC – 3184 BC) *Found in Genesis 1-3. Following the tragic rebellion of humanity, Adam and Eve attempt to cover their shame with fig leaves. God strips away their human works, sheds the blood of an animal to clothe them, and immediately promises that the Seed of the woman will crush the serpent's head.*

2. The Noahic Covenant (Noah: 3058 BC – 2108 BC) *Found in Genesis 8-9. Seeing that the imagination of man's heart is completely evil, God judges the earth but provides a wooden Ark of salvation. Afterward, He unconditionally promises to never flood the earth again, hanging His weapon of war—the bow—in the clouds, pointed upward toward heaven rather than downward at man.*

3. The Abrahamic Covenant (Abraham: 2166 BC – 1991 BC) *Found in Genesis 12, 15, and 17. God promises a pagan man land, a nation, and a blessing to all the world. To legally "cut" the covenant, God puts Abraham into a deep sleep and walks through the bloody, severed animal pieces completely alone, taking the penalty of future failure entirely upon Himself.*

4. **The Mosaic Covenant** (Moses: 1525 BC – 1405 BC) Found in Exodus 20. God issues the Ten Commandments and the Law. This was a strictly conditional covenant. It demanded absolute, flawless moral perfection—acting as a harsh diagnostic mirror to expose sin, while requiring the constant shedding of animal blood to temporarily cover the people's inevitable failures.

5. **The New Covenant** (Messiah: 5 BC – 35 AD) *Found from Romans to Philemon (The Covenant of Grace). Initiated by the tearing of Christ's flesh and the shedding of His blood. God promises to literally remove our dead heart of stone, replace it with a living heart of flesh, permanently indwell us with His Holy Spirit, and remember our lawless deeds no more.*