

Cracks

The role of the enemy in this final hour is to cause the people of God to settle and fall away from the work that Christ is trying to do in His church.

But what Christ did for us is binding. The enemy CANNOT change that, but many people in the body of Christ live their lives as though they don't believe God to be as good as He promised He would be for us. He made a covenant with us that HE cannot break.

God establishes covenants with His people to act as a covering for us!

So what was the ultimate covenant established between God and His people?

2 Corinthians 3:6-18 NLT

“He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant. This is a covenant not of written laws, but of the Spirit. The old written covenant ends in death; but under the new covenant, the Spirit gives life. The old way, with laws etched in stone, led to death, though it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses’ face. For his face shone with the glory of God, even though the brightness was already fading away. Shouldn’t we expect far greater glory under the new way, now that the Holy Spirit is giving life? If the old way, which brings condemnation, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new way, which makes us right with God! In fact, that first glory was not glorious at all compared with the overwhelming glory of the new way. So if the old way, which has been replaced, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new, which remains forever! Since this new way gives us such confidence, we can be very bold. We are not like Moses, who put a veil over his face so the people of Israel would not see the glory, even though it was destined to fade away. But the people’s minds were hardened, and to this day whenever the old covenant is being read, the same veil covers their minds so they cannot understand the truth. And this veil can be removed only by believing in Christ. Yes, even today when they read Moses’ writings, their hearts are covered with that veil, and they do not understand. But whenever someone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.”

Jesus as the New Covenant represents a fundamental shift from the Old Covenant of law to a new, superior covenant of grace, established through His death and resurrection. It was a covenant by Christ's blood that offered eternal forgiveness and ACCESS to God.

The covenant serves as the foundational framework for the biblical narrative, establishing a formal, sacred relationship between God and humanity. What Moses had access to was

glorious, but it was still an outward expression of God. We have full access to Him by becoming His temple. He is IN us. That is the covenant.

But every covenant has binding agreements and requirements to ensure its validity.

The fulfillment of HIS covenant is always contingent on our obedience to Him and the fulfillment of our role in the covenant.

When buying, building, renovating homes, we have contingencies which commonly imply that a plan or agreement relies on specific conditions being met. *(Home Town)*

Covenants are binding as long as all parties do what is required of them. God cannot go back on His word and what He promises, however, His covenant can be voided if we violate our end of the agreement. So what is that role?

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20 NKJV

This is our role. To crucify the sinful nature and gain direct access by His spirit.

1 Samuel 2:12-17; 27-36 NIV (Eli’s wicked sons mishandling sacrifices and sleeping with women at the entrance of the Tent of meeting; destruction of Eli’s bloodline)

1 Samuel 2:30-31

“Therefore the Lord, the God of Israel, declares: ‘I promised that members of your family would minister before me forever.’ But now the Lord declares: ‘Far be it from me! Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained. 31 The time is coming when I will cut short your strength and the strength of your priestly house, so that no one in it will reach old age,

God’s covenant does have expectations and He absolutely can and WILL revoke it if we aren’t walking in obedience to Him.

His covenant is intended to serve as the **foundational** framework for our faith.

Imagine your life in Christ being set on a firm foundation that is the established covenant. So we can basically use those words interchangeably- covenant and foundation.

A firm foundation cannot be built where we are not willing to dig up the large stones that make it uneven in the first place. Likewise, a covenant in Christ cannot be established without the crucifixion of our flesh.

You’ve just cried off conviction but didn’t establish a covenant.

But as I was preparing this word, the Lord revealed something to me that He is trying to address in the Body of Christ.

The foundational covenants that have unaddressed cracks.

I'm talking about the small, subtle things in our lives that create cracks and nearly undetectable issues in the once strong foundation we had.

When there are cracks in the foundation of the home, it's typically due to settling over time. Outside factors that weren't initially an issue but erode away at the structural integrity of the foundation.

Our home has a crack because it was built in 1979 and over time, the rain that ran from down the hill had done damage to the foundation by slowly washing it away. A French drain was installed and gutters to move water away from the foundation but the crack remained. We had to fill the crack to ensure that nothing unwanted wormed its way in.

Every moment of every day, we should be allowing Holy Spirit to do a spiritual reset to keep our foundation firm.

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Romans 12:2 NIV

The word I'd like to draw your attention to here is renewing.

The Greek word for "renewing" in Romans 12:2 is *anakainōsis*, which means a renovation, complete change for the better, or a renewal. It signifies a continuous transformation of the mind rather than a one-time event, representing a shift from worldly thinking to a God-centered perspective.

Anakainōsis emphasizes that the mind is not just updated with new information, but completely transformed by the Holy Spirit.

Because what I've learned in the process of sanctification is that Holy Spirit can weed something out of my life but my flesh can still struggle with the residual effect from it if He hasn't renewed my mind.

You can identify and address the problem at the root, but if you don't also destroy the fruit, it leaves an opening for the enemy to worm his way in.

What am I saying?

You can be aware of the problem, go to God and fix it, but if there has been fruition of the thing that caused the crack, that MUST also be addressed.

Relationships that God has saved you from but you still struggle with a lack of trust.

God heals your body from something, but from that season, there is lasting fear of the return.

God promises you something and you hold on to that, but from that time of waiting, there is lasting disappointment and discouragement in the timing of it all. (Cohen)

God tells you He gives peace beyond understanding, but when anything unplanned comes along, you find yourself falling into the trap of anxiety.

The world will justify and endorse every one of your cracks. They take the things you struggle with and tell you they're a badge of honor for you to wear rather than viewing them as something that needs to be sealed and transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. We would rather the world pity our trauma than go to the one that could completely erase it. We like the attention that the crack brings us, more than the idea of the testimony it would create.

God has responded to the root of the thing that you're asking and that is his part, but it is also our responsibility to take care of the fleshly fruit that developed as a result of it.

When the enemy tries to convince you you're sick again, you take authority over the enemy.

"I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you." Luke 10:19

"Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NLT

When disappointment and discouragement creep in...

"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV

The cracks in our foundation covenant that aren't tended to are the very places the enemy will try to attack.

Ecclesiastes 10:8 niv

Whoever digs a pit may fall into it;

whoever breaks through a wall may be bitten by a snake.

What originated as just a thought was a place the enemy found his way in and now you deal with doubt, fear, worry, anxiety, trust issues.

The longer a crack is unattended, the greater the destruction can become.

The only role you have in tending to the cracks is to cast them down at the feet of Jesus and trust that His goodness will fill them in and secure your spirit in the attack of the enemy. To, every day, give yourself a spiritual scan and say Holy Spirit, take captive the thoughts and tendencies of my flesh and renew them!

“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.....skip to v10 In his kindness God called you to share in his eternal glory by means of Christ Jesus. So after you have suffered a little while, he will restore, support, and strengthen you, and he will place you on a firm foundation.”

1 Peter 5:7-8, 10 NLT

So what does this say to me???

The enemy is sneaky. Like a serpent and a lion. He lurks in hiding, waiting for you to make one false move. He looks for ANY open area that he can find in your life and brings destruction.

But no matter the hard, no matter the attack, no matter the struggle, when you CONTINUALLY give Him the worries, God HIMSELF will restore, support the places that feel weak and strengthen those places that have been cracked and place you back on a FIRM FOUNDATION!!! That is who He is!!!!!!

The foundation of your walk is essential to the growth of your walk. You only go from glory to glory, looking more and more like Jesus by, establishing the firm foundation and building on it by faith through grace!!

Christ didn't die so that you keep a cracked up foundation!!