

# God's Covenant With David & The New Covenant in Christ

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**Readings:** Ps 89:3-4; Jeremiah 31: 31-34 and Hebrews 8:7-12

In Psalm 89:3-4, God says “I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations”. {see also verses 34-36}. This promise that the throne of God's people would be established forever by David's seed is precisely the promise that God made with David in 2-Samuel chapter 7, especially the verse 16. Furthermore, later in 2 Samuel 23:5, David himself makes a reference to the “ever lasting” covenant that God made with him—undoubtedly, referring back to 2Sa 7:16.

The same two principle at work in other covenants in the OT are also evident here.

(1) God alone established the promises/blessings and obligations of His covenants and  
(2) Human beings were expected to accept them in obedient faith.

We even see that in this covenant arrangement with David, God made an immediate promise to establish the kingdom of Davis's son Solomon, who would build a house for the Lord i.e., the temple (2 Sa 7:11-13).

For the next 4 centuries, the line of David remained unbroken on Judah's throne. But when the Kings of Judah, particularly Manasseh and those who reigned after King Josiah, continually rebelled against God by worshiping idols and disobeying His laws—God finally removed them from occupying the throne.

He allowed King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to invade the land of Judah, lay siege the city of Jerusalem and eventually destroy the city along with its temple.(2Ki 25 and 2Ch 36). God's people were now, for the first time since their Slavery in Egypt, under the control of foreign rulers.

## Jesus Christ & Covenant with David.

There was one aspect to God's covenant with David that was unconditional—that the kingdom of David would ultimately be established forever.

The Apex of God's promise was that from Davidic family line would come a descendant who would be the Messianic and eternal King. The King would be the ruler over the faithful of Israel and of all the nations(compare Isa 9:6-7; 11:1; Mic 5:2 and 4).

He would come out of the city of Bethlehem (Mic 5:2), and his rule would extend to the ends of the earth (Zec 9:10). He would be called “The LORD our Righteous”(Jer23:5-6) and would bring salvation from sin (Zec 13:1).

The fulfillment of the Davidic promise began with the birth of Jesus Christ, announced by the Angel Gabriel to Marry, a devout daughter from David's family. This promise was an extension of the covenant given in Genesis 3:15 and was also the continuation of the covenant given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

## THE NEW COVENANT.

Prophet Jeremiah prophesied that in the future (from his time in the history) God would establish a NEW COVENANT, a better one, with his people (Jer31:31-34 compare Heb 8:7-12). This new covenant would be far superior because:

- (1) **It would be internalized as heart reality:** It's written “I will put my law in their minds and write them on their hearts (Heb 8:10). God's holiness and righteousness are internalized in the believer by the Holy Spirit, imparting a

new heart and new nature so that he/she passionately love and joyfully obey God

- (2) **The new covenant would be personal:** It's written "They will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest"(Heb 8:11). Knowing God is both a community experience and a personal knowing by each individual member of the covenant community. Christ as our high priest, with His blood makes possible direct access into the Most Holy Place of God's presence (Heb 4:16; 7:25; 10:19-22 and compare with 12:22-24).
- (3) **The new covenant will thoroughly deal with sin:** It's written "I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more" (Heb 8:12). New covenant believers know fully the reality of God's forgiveness through a cleansed conscience (cf. Heb9:14). Whereas the blood of bulls and goats could only cover one's sins, the blood of Christ enables sin to be blotted out so that God remembers it no more.

Jesus is the one who initiates and establishes the New Covenant or New Testament. His heavenly ministry is far superior to the ministry of OT earthly priests. The New Covenant is an agreement, Promise, Last Will, Testament and a Statement of Intention to bestow divine Grace and Blessings on those who respond to God in sincere repentance and faith.

Specially, it is a covenant of promise for those who through faith accept Christ as God's Son, receive His promises and commit themselves personally to Him and the obligations of the New Covenant.

The promises and obligations of this new covenant are embodied, incorporated, spread-over and constituted in the entire NT. The purpose is to form, shape and make the believers into people **who are God's very own** ( Heb 8:10; compare Eze 11:19-20; 1-Pe 2:9).

Jesus' sacrifice of Himself is clearly a superior sacrifice to the animal sacrifice of the old covenant. Because Jesus was, as stated in Heb 7:26 "Holy"(without moral defect), "Blameless"(innocent, untouched by devil), "Pure" (undefiled) and "set-apart from sinners" (sinless). He was the perfect Substitutionary Sacrifice for sins. The just for the unjust.

The purpose of Jesus' death was to "do away with sin" (Heb 9:26 cf.1-Jn 3:5), removing it entirely-not just covering over sin as was the case with animal sacrifices. The power of Jesus' death in a true believer has the power to nullify, cancel, invalidate, quash and negate the power of sin in their lives. His death provides complete forgiveness, reconciliation with God, removal of sin's defilement and sanctification of life (Heb 10:10 and 15-17).

All who participate in the New Covenant through Jesus Christ, receive its Blessings and Salvation as they persevere in faith and obedience. Let us judge ourselves as we prepare to partake in the Holy Communion, celebrating the death of our Savior and redemption of our sins, according to His Commandment (Luke 22:19).Let us be the true New Covenant people that Jesus desires and died for.

Let us pray.