**R946 Rumination for Mar. 12, 2023 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **the covenants.** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext:  *I will make My* ***covenant*** *between Me and thee*  Gen. 17:2

 The **T**hots:

Intro. There are many covenants mentioned in Scripture, but the following stand out as **U**nique because they are **U**nilateral (where God, and God alone **P**romises the other **P**arty) and **U**nconditional. Some **P**arts have been **P**artially **F**ulfilled literally in **P**resent time, but others are yet to be completely **F**ulfilled in the **F**uture. They are…

1. **The Abrahamic Covenant.**
2. The **P**arties: God and Abraham – *I will make My covenant between Me and thee…* Gen. 17:2; 15:17
3. The **P**romise: Gen. 12:2-3
4. Made **U**nilaterally and **P**ersonally by God Himself – “***I will...”***

***I will*** *make of thee a great nation, and* ***I will*** *bless thee, and make thy name great…*

*And* ***I will*** *bless them that bless thee.*

1. Made **U**nconditionally as in the **P**act below (#3c)

*and* ***thou shalt*** *be a blessing… and in thee* ***shall*** *all families of the earth be blessed*

1. The **P**act: Gen. 15:7-10, 17-21
2. The **C**ommitment: *I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur…to give thee this land to inherit it.* 15:7
3. The un**C**ertainty of Abraham: *And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?* 15:8
4. The **C**onfirmation **C**eremony: *Take Me an heifer of three years old…a she goat…, a ram…, a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he…divided them in the midst…laid each piece one against another.* 15:9, 10

*And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace,*

*and a burning lamp* [representing God]*… passed between those pieces.* 15:17

1. The **C**ovenant **C**onfirmed: *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates…* 15:18
2. The **C**hoice of the *Seed*: *Unto thy seed have I given this land…* 15:18
3. It was to be Isaac, the son of Abraham and Sarah – 17:19

*God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac:*

*and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.*

1. *My covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee* 17:21
* This Covenant has never been **F**ully **F**ulfilled in history but in **F**aith we believe it will be in the **F**uture*.*
1. **The Davidic Covenant. II Sam. 7:4-17**
2. God **F**orbade King David to build the House of God (Temple) II Sam. 7:4-11
3. God **F**oretold that David’s Son, Solomon would do so and would be given a Kingdom. II Sam. 7:12-13
4. After **D**avid’s **D**eath - *When thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers,*
5. **D**avid’s own Son would fulfil this **D**eed:

*I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.*

1. The **C**ontents of the **C**ovenant:

*He shall build an house for My name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom forever.*

*I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn unto David My servant,* Psa. 89:3

1. The **C**haracter of the **C**ovenant Psa. 89:28-37
2. *My mercy will I keep for him* ***F****orevermore, and my covenant shall stand* ***F****ast with him.* 89:28
3. *His seed also will I make to endure* ***F****orever, and his throne as the days of heaven.* 89:29
4. *My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of My lips.* 89:33-37
* It is Unilater**al** – *Once have* ***I*** *sworn by My holiness that* ***I*** *will not lie unto David.*
* It is Etern**al** *– His seed shall endure* ***F****orever, and his throne as the sun before Me.*
* It is Uncondition**al** *– It shall be established for ever as the moon, and as a* ***F****aithful witness in heaven.*
* The Davidic Kingdom is yet to be established by David’s Greater Son on His Return to earth. Zech. 14:16

*And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles*

1. **The New Covenant** – this is another **U**nique, **U**nilateral and **U**nconditional Covenant…
2. To be made with Israel and Judah in the Future: Jer. 31:31-34
3. The **P**arties: *the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make* ***a New Covenant*** *with…Israel and …Judah:*
4. Not as with **P**revious Covenants: [It will be **a New Covenant!**]

*Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My covenant they brake, …saith the LORD:*

1. The New **P**rerequisites: *This shall be the covenant that* ***I will*** *make with…Israel; After those days, saith the LORD,* ***I will******P****ut My law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and* ***will*** *be their God, and they* ***shall*** *be My people…****for I will*** ***forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.***
2. Already made with the **C**hurch of **C**hrist: Lk. 22:19-20, NKJV *And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is* ***the New Covenant*** *in My blood, which is shed for you. Cf.* Heb. 9:15, NKJV

This day as we break the bread and drink the cup, let us **R**emember the Lord for what He did for us

and **R**evere Him for Who He is, even the Mediator of the **New Covenant** and He had promised –

***And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.*** Heb. 10:17

*“This is My body, broke for sin; Receive and eat the living food:”*

 ***Then took the cup, and blessed the wine; “****’Tis the new covenant in My blood.”* Isaac Watts

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R946**

1. Today many so-called Christian groups opine that the Unique, Unilateral and Unconditional covenants that God made with Abraham, David and the New Covenant God will make with Israel have all been fulfilled and have been replaced by the New Covenant between Christ and the Church. There is therefore no more place for Israel (or the Jews as commonly referred to now) in God’s programme for today. God’s promises made in those covenants either do not apply now or they are to be spiritually applied to the Church.

Yet, today we see the Jews who were scattered all over the world and with their kingdom taken away by King Nebuchadnezzar have gone back to their land after having been scattered all over the world to form the Nation of Israel in May 14,1948. And while they are now surrounded by enemy nations yet they remain strong and united against the onslaughts of their enemies. Today Israelis are the leaders in many spheres contributing their expertise to the well-being of the world’s people. A day will come when the covenant promises made to Abraham, David and the united nation of Israel and Judah will see the establishment of God’s Promised Kingdom ruled by His Son as promised in…

**Jeremiah 31:31-34 (KJV)**
*31  Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make* ***a new covenant***

*with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:
32  Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My covenant they brake,*

*although I was an Husband unto them, saith the LORD:
33  But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel;*

*After those days, saith the LORD, I will put My law in their inward parts,*

*and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My people.
34  And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know Me,*

*from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD:*

***for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more****.*

And the proof that all these will come to pass and God’s covenants fulfilled is in the rising of the sun at dawn and its setting at dusk to bring out the moon and the stars at night, every day and every night without fail –

Or for all that counts, can anyone ever measure the depths of the deepest sea or the farthest distance of cosmic space, so will not God’s Promises to Abraham, David and Israel ever fail! Thus declares the Lord in Jeremiah 31:35-37 –

*Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is His name:*

*If those ordinances depart from before Me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.*

*Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.*

Do you believe God will ever keep His covenants with His people?

Do you believe that God will keep His New Covenant with you to *forgive your iniquity, and remember your sin no more?* **REFLECT**

1. In scripture we find that these unique, unilateral, unconditional covenants are indeed eternal – *everlasting* (Gen. 17:19), and *forever* (Psa. 89:36, 37) to cover our present time as well. Do you believe God will fulfil every tenet of His covenant as promised when the time comes?

 **Points To Ponder:** **Do not Forget:** *If the sun never* ***R****ises and the moon never* ***S****ets,*

 *then the Lord will not* ***F****orgive us and He will* ***R****emember all our* ***S****ins!!*