



THE FIRST COVENANT: TRUTHS REVEALED

KENNETH COPELAND AND GREG STEPHENS

JUNE 29-JULY 3, 2020

DAY I – TAKE PART IN GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES

In general, the Body of Christ does not understand the concept or the importance of covenant. The covenant promises of God must be received by faith. During Jesus' ministry on earth, He was transitioning His followers into the new covenant, which was ratified by His blood.

STUDY IT

- I. Our guest is Greg Stephens, a professor at Kenneth Copeland Bible College® (KCBC) and an associate pastor at Eagle Mountain International Church.
 - Greg teaches “Old Testament Survey” and “Old Testament Truths” at KCBC.
 - Greg emphasizes that the entire Bible is based on covenants, which are promises that become a relationship that turns into an everlasting covenant.
 - When you are born again, you enter into a covenant that's tied to Abraham.
- II. There are three groups of people in the earth: Jews, gentiles and the Church.
 - God gave the sign of circumcision to the Jews, His covenant people.
 - A gentile was *not* circumcised—the sign that he wasn't in covenant with God (Ephesians 2:11-12).
 - Now that Jesus has been raised from the dead, when a person is born again, he or she becomes a part of the Church and enters into covenant with the Father and Jesus.
 - You have been made near to God by the blood covenant of Jesus (Ephesians 2:13).
- III. In general, the Body of Christ does not understand the concept or the importance of covenant.
 - As you study the Bible, any time you find the word *promise*, take time to find out what the promise is about because it relates to covenant.
 - You cannot grow spiritually without knowing God's covenant provisions.
 - People can be born again, love God, be filled with the Spirit of God and still have a hard time receiving by faith if they don't understand that God covenanted Himself to keep His WORD to them.



- God said, “My covenant I will not break” (Psalm 89:34). But if you don’t know the covenant, it’s not His fault if your prayers are not answered.
- IV. The covenant promises of God must be received by faith.
- You were given faith just like the faith of Peter. You both received faith from Jesus (2 Peter 1:1).
 - Peter calls it “like, precious faith.”
 - God’s power gave you all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:2-3).
 - God has made exceeding great and precious promises to you that must be received by faith (2 Peter 1:4).
 - Remember: It’s impossible for God to lie (Hebrews 6:18), so He *will* keep His WORD—His promises.
 - God said you are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:21).
 - *Righteousness* means “right-standing with God.”
 - People who have no covenant knowledge cannot fully walk in the truth that they are righteous.
- V. During Jesus’ ministry on the earth, He was transitioning His followers into the new covenant, which was ratified by His blood.
- Jesus said, “Except you eat My flesh and drink My blood, you have no life in you” (John 6:53).
 - At the Last Supper, the Covenant Meal, Jesus took the third cup, gave thanks, gave it to them, and said, “Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins” (Matthew 26:27-28).
- VI. Many people were beginning to follow Jesus. “Behold, the world is gone after Him” (John 12:19).
- The raising of Lazarus from the dead was a witness; he was alive and testifying of Jesus.
 - The Greeks came to worship at the feast, and they wanted to see Jesus (John 12:20-21). This was the telling point for Jesus.
 - Jesus knew His hour had come (John 12:23) because the gentiles were ready to believe.
 - The time had come to unite the covenants of promise with both groups—Jews and gentiles.
 - That’s what Jesus came to do through His death, burial and resurrection.
 - After that, it took only 10 years for the gentiles to seek salvation through Jesus, beginning at Cornelius’ house (Acts 10:30-48).
 - God is bringing the strangers, the gentiles, into the new covenant.



MAKE IT PERSONAL

Being in covenant with God offers you great benefits that you receive by faith. However, because you have a free will, you can ignore or refuse each benefit as you choose.

Pray this prayer with us to receive all that Jesus died to give you:

Father in heaven, thank You for bringing me into Your family. Thank You for opening all the benefits of being Your child to me. Help me to choose each day, to receive THE BLESSINGS of the covenant, and walk in love, peace and joy. By faith, I will experience good health, protection and prosperity every day! I choose You! I choose THE BLESSING! In Jesus' Name. Amen.



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DAY 2 – JESUS INTRODUCES THE NEW COVENANT

There's a difference between the word *Christ* and the Name of Jesus. The Name of Jesus, the Name above every name, was given to Him by the Father. We believers were not necessarily physically born the seed of Abraham, but through Jesus, we have a covenant with God. Jesus reminded His disciples that you will have what you say (Mark 11:23). That's a spiritual law in both covenants.

STUDY IT

- I. There's a difference between the word *Christ* and the Name of Jesus.
 - The word *Christ* in any language means "Messiah, the Anointed One."
 - Jesus said He was the Messiah, the Anointed One (John 4:25-26).
 - Some people and religions believe in Messiah but not in Jesus. There are Messiah types: Joseph is one, David is another.
 - The Syrophoenician woman knew who Jesus was. She cried, "Son of David, Messiah, have *chesed* on me" (Matthew 15:22). That's covenant talk.
 - Jesus marveled at her faith (Matthew 15:28). She tapped into the covenant by faith, by righteousness, not by works.
 - We are going to have to live by faith in this covenant.
- II. The Name of Jesus, the Name above every name, was given to Him by the Father.
 - Christ is not Jesus' last name.
 - Jesus was and is the Christ—the Messiah, the Anointed One and His Anointing. We are carriers of that Anointing.
 - Every time Brother Copeland saw the word *Christ* in his studies, he wrote in his Bible: translate and meditate.
 - Each time you see the word *Christ*, determine if it means Jesus, the Anointed One or His Anointing.
- III. We believers were not necessarily physically born the seed of Abraham, but through Jesus, we have a covenant with God.
 - Someone had to bring us into the covenant. That someone is Jesus.



- Jesus served the Covenant Meal, was crucified and suffered in hell. Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father. Now we can ask the Father anything in Jesus' Name, and He will give it to us (John 16:23).
 - We know this because of God's promise. That's blood-covenant-talk promise, and you can have it!
 - Jesus sent you the Holy Spirit to pray through you the perfect will of God.
 - The covenant promises will guard your mind (Philippians 4:7). Jesus promised this with His blood.
 - The early Church thought Jesus would return before John died—and He did. On the Isle of Patmos, John turned and saw Jesus.
 - In the book of the Revelation of Jesus, see how glorious Jesus looked after about 60 years on the throne. John saw Jesus as He is (Revelation 1:13-16).
 - Think of seeing Jesus after He has spent 2,000 years in the glory; what does Jesus look like now?
- IV. Jesus reminded His disciples that you will have what you say (Mark 11:23). That's a spiritual law in both covenants.
- God had a covenant relationship with the Israelites in the wilderness.
 - It was an 11-day walk from Egypt to where they were supposed to go, but it took them 40 years to get there.
 - They kept talking fear and saying, "We're going to die in the desert" (Numbers 14:2). They got what they said—that's covenant.
 - God asked Brother Copeland to live 120 years with the specific purpose of preaching and teaching the anointed message of faith (Genesis 6:3). So that's what he confesses every day.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

When you are born again, you are immediately part of the new covenant with Jesus and the Father that offers BLESSINGS and responsibilities.

Write some of THE BLESSINGS (promises) you receive in the new covenant.



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DAY 3 – WHAT JESUS DID AT THE COVENANT MEAL

At the Covenant Meal, Jesus used the Passover to instigate the new covenant. He realized His hour to fulfill His ministry and return to the Father had come. While He was eating with His disciples, Jesus described His betrayer.

STUDY IT

- I. At the Covenant Meal, Jesus used the Passover to instigate the new covenant.
 - Jesus and the disciples were not sitting in chairs, they were reclining on cushions,
 - John was probably on Jesus' right, reclining on Him.
 - Judas was probably on Jesus' left that night.
 - Brother Copeland takes Communion frequently.
 - He closes his eyes and sees himself in that setting in the upper room with Jesus and the disciples.
 - He holds the Communion elements and looks up at Jesus as if he were leaning against John who was leaning against Jesus.
- II. Jesus realized His hour to fulfill His ministry and return to the Father had come (John 12:23, 13:1).
 - Jesus took off His prayer shawl, poured water into a basin, and wiped the disciples' feet.
 - Jesus was anointing them as ministers and priests before He went to the cross. They didn't know they were the apostles of the Lamb.
 - This act was a fulfillment of the Law to anoint the disciples into their new office.
 - Moses washed Aaron and his sons as part of their consecration to the office of priest (Leviticus 8:2-6).
 - Jesus' feet were washed with a woman's tears, dried with her hair, and anointed with oil when He was eating with a discourteous man (Luke 7:38).
 - Another woman anointed Jesus' feet with precious oil. Jesus said it was for His burial.



- Jesus wanted the disciples to know they would be ordaining other ministers of this covenant (John 13:13-15).
- He said, "I am praying for you and others who will believe" (John 17:20-21).

III. Jesus described His betrayer.

- Peter said, "Wash all of me." Jesus said, "You are clean, but not all," meaning Judas, who would betray Him (John 13:10-11).
- Jesus said, "He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me" (John 13:18).
 - God told satan in the Garden of Eden that the Savior would strike his head, and satan would bruise the Savior's heel (Genesis 3:15).
 - David talked about his counselor who defected to Absalom against him. "My own familiar friend whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me" (Psalm 41:9).

MAKE IT PERSONAL

At the Covenant Meal, Jesus taught His disciples how to receive the Anointing by washing their feet. Soon, they would be imparting the Anointing to others who would be leaders in the Church.

Write what you think it means and how that pertains to you when Jesus said, "The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him" (John 13:16).



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DAY 4 – WHO WAS JUDAS?

Judas Iscariot was one of Jesus' disciples, but ultimately, he betrayed Jesus to the Jewish leaders. Even though Jesus knew what Judas would do, He never broke covenant with Judas. "Jesus is LORD" is more than just a phrase. God's merciful power raised Jesus from the dead.

STUDY IT

- I. Judas Iscariot was one of Jesus' disciples, but ultimately, he betrayed Jesus to the Jewish leaders.
 - Even though Judas walked with Jesus and saw many miracles, he was never a believer.
 - Jesus knew who would betray Him. He even said, "He that eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me" (John 13:18).
 - There was an event in David's life when his counselor turned on him and went with the rebellion (2 Samuel 15:31).
 - He ended up hanging himself, like Judas did (2 Samuel 17:23, Matthew 27:5).
- II. At the Covenant Meal, Jesus was troubled in spirit (John 13:21-26).
 - He said, "One of you shall betray Me."
 - Jesus dipped the broken piece of unleavened bread in the bitter herbs and gave it to Judas. The herbs stood for suffering and slavery.
 - Judas ate and entered into the suffering of Jesus.
 - After the sop, satan entered into Judas; Judas went out into the night (John 13:27-29).
 - On the original Passover night, you were to stay inside—to be protected from the destroying angel—and not go out.
- III. Who was Judas?
 - Judas' actual name was Judas son of Simon, from Iscariot.
 - Iscariot is a place in the tribe of Judah in the southern part of Israel.
 - Judas was the only disciple from the south. All other disciples came from the north, the region of Galilee.
 - The south was where Esau's descendants lived.



- When the twins, Jacob and Esau, were born to Isaac and Rebekah, Esau had a hold of Jacob's heel. Esau was Jacob's enemy most of their lives. Their story was a forerunner of what Judas became.
 - Joseph was another Old Testament man who foreshadows Jesus and His betrayal.
 - Joseph's family sold him for 20 pieces of silver (Genesis 37:28). Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 27:3).
 - Joseph was falsely accused (Genesis 39:19-20). The Pharisees falsely accused Jesus (John 19:7).
 - Joseph ascended to a place of authority when he was 30 years old (Genesis 41:46). Jesus began His ministry at 30 (Luke 3:23).
 - Joseph was an instrument of salvation for his family—a forerunner into safety (Genesis 50:20). Jesus came to save the whole world (John 3:16).
 - Joseph asked for his bones to be taken back to the Promised Land (Genesis 50:25). Jesus ascended back to His Father in heaven (Acts 1:9).
 - The Bible is so exact. It was written by God.
- IV. Jesus never broke covenant with Judas.
- In Hebrew, the term *Friend* was a word that meant “covenant Friend.” *Friend* is capitalized in older English versions of the Bible to mean a covenant partner.
 - In the last moments when Judas kissed Jesus, Jesus called Judas covenant Friend.
 - Judas was never a believer and had never confessed that Jesus was the Christ. He was a thief, stealing from the money bag. He never made Jesus The LORD of his life.
- V. “Jesus is LORD” is more than just a phrase we say.
- Many people say “Jesus is my Savior,” but they don't say He's their LORD. They are born again, go to church on Sunday, but do not pick up the Bible the rest of the week.
 - They are dull of hearing, and they don't grow in The LORD (Hebrews 5:11).
 - Thomas had that problem, but he switched over when he saw Jesus alive after the resurrection.
 - Judas didn't lose his salvation; he was an unbeliever who was exposed.
- VI. At the end of the Passover Seder, Jesus and the disciples sang a hymn (Matthew 26:30).
- The hymn is Psalm 136 and every stanza ends with “The LORD is good and His mercy (*chesed*) endures forever.”



- King Jehoshaphat and singers began to sing *chesed*, the covenant armor of Almighty God. The moment they said *chesed*, God defeated their enemies (2 Chronicles 20:21-22).
- The battle is The LORD'S, and the victory is yours.
- *Chesed* is the force, THE BLESSING that pulled Jesus out of hell.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Judas spent time with Jesus, heard Him preach and teach, and saw many miracles, yet he did not receive Jesus as LORD.

Take the time today to receive Jesus as your LORD and Savior. If you've never done so before, pray this prayer in faith with us.

Father in heaven, I want to receive Jesus as my Savior and my LORD. I believe that Jesus was born the Son of God, died in my place and paid for my sin, rose again, and wants to bring me into Your family. I want to be born again, a new creature. I receive You, Jesus, now. As Gloria Copeland said, I say, "Take my life and do something with it." I pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

If you prayed this prayer, please let us know! We have a free gift we'd like to share with you. Call us at 817-852-6000. We're here for you!



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DAY 5 – JESUS' PRAYER FOR YOU

Jesus prayed for the disciples and for you in John 17. All the covenant Names of God are embodied in Jesus.

STUDY IT

- I. Jesus prayed for the disciples and for you in John 17.
 - John 17 is a covenant partner prayer.
 - Everything Jesus prayed for the disciples is yours, because Jesus was praying also for those who believe in Him because of the preaching of the disciples (John 17:20).
 - In the same way, Brother Copeland had the privilege of founding Kenneth Copeland Ministries. If you are a Partner in this ministry, every heavenly reward this ministry gains is also put to your account in heaven. You are a part of the successes of this ministry.
- II. Let's go through Jesus' prayer.
 - Jesus prayed that His disciples and we might know the only true God and Jesus, the Messiah (John 17:1-3).
 - Jesus said He manifested (showed) God's Name (John 17:6).
 - All things given are from God (John 17:7-8).
 - Jesus prayed for those who belong to the Father—God's sons (and daughters) (John 17:9).
 - The prodigal son came to his father asking to be a servant. His father received him as his son (Luke 15:21-24).
 - God is not looking for servants, He's looking for sons. He sowed a Son (Jesus) to reap sons (Galatians 6:7, 4:6).
 - Jesus is glorified in you. You are the glory of God (John 17:10).
 - While He was in the world, Jesus kept the believers in His Name. Now He is asking the Father to keep them through the Father's Name (John 17:11-12).
 - Jesus asked that the disciples and we might have His joy, be kept from evil, and know His WORD is truth (John 17:13-17).



- Set yourself in agreement with what Jesus said. “Keep them from the evil of the world” (John 17:15).
 - Jesus prayed that believers would stay in harmony and be made perfect in Him (John 17:20-23).
 - God the Father loves you just as much as He loves Jesus (John 17:23).
 - When Brother Copeland realized that God loved him just as much as He loves Jesus, it changed his life. The whole Bible started opening up to him, and revelation began to come. He was in awe. God loves him, and God loves you!
 - Agree with what God has already said. We have been raised up to sit with Jesus at the right hand of the Father (Ephesians 2:6). We lean on Jesus. We’re so close to Him that it’s easy to roll our care onto Him (1 Peter 5:7).
 - To lean over on Jesus and depend on Him, you need to know the covenant and what is promised and declared in it.
 - Isaiah prophesied: By His stripes we *are* healed (Isaiah 53:5). Peter takes it to where it is a fact, saying, by His stripes we *were* healed (1 Peter 2:24).
- III. All the covenant Names of God are embodied in Jesus. All the covenants have been fulfilled in this one Man, Jesus.
- The “El” Names, such as *El Shaddai* and *Elohim*, are the Creative Names of God. The “Yah” Names, such as *Yahweh*, are the Redemptive Names of God. They come together in one Name—I AM. It means “I will be whatever I need to be.”
 - Paul understood this when he wrote that love is the greatest thing (1 Corinthians 13:13). Love brings two different groups—Jews and gentiles—together into one person, the Body of Christ.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Get the revelation that God loves you as much as He loves Jesus. He will do for you anything as long as you ask according to the covenant. Let that confidence build in you, and send us your testimonies by [clicking here to share](#), or [contact us on Facebook™](#).

Jesus prayed for His disciples and us in John 17. That is a covenant partner prayer. Won’t you join with us as Partners to preach this good news of the love of God throughout the world? Click here to go to kcm.org/partner, or call us today at 1-800-600-7395. God bless you! JESUS IS LORD!