COVENANT PEOPLE

PSA 89:3 I have made a covenant with my chosen,

The Hebrew word for "covenant" is "b-riyth". It means: in the sense of cutting; a confederacy, covenant, league.

The Hebrew word for "chosen" is "bachiyr". It means: " select" or choose, chosen one, elect.

I believe that God wants to cut a covenant with His people. It is wonderful to be in covenant with God.

JN 13:18 "I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen:

JN 15:16 "Ye have not chosen me, but **I have chosen you, and ordained you**, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

The Greek word for "ordained" is "tithemi". It means "to place" properly in a passive or horizontal posture; advise, appoint, commit, give, purpose, settle.

JN 15:19 "If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you."

ACT 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles **whom he had chosen**:

The Apostles were not chosen of men, but chosen of God.

Gal 1:1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

EX 31:16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall **keep the sabbath**, to observe the sabbath throughout their generations, *for* **a perpetual covenant**.

Those who broke God's covenant, incurred a judgment of death. (Gen 31:15)

The covenant of the 10 commandments.

EX 34:27 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words **I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel.** 28And

he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And **he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.**

Any covenant breakers incurred God's judgment. (Lev 26:15,16) Our dealings with God must be absolute!

The Everlasting Covenants.

GEN 9:16 And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember **the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature** of all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

EZE 37:26 Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore.

ISA 54:10 For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but my kindness shall not depart from thee, **neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed**, saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.

When we fear God and abide in Him, it matters not what happens around us for His "peace" covenant will never be broken.

HEB 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant.

New Testament Covenants:

EPH 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from **the covenants of promise**, having no hope, and without God in the world:

GAL 4:28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise.

In Christ, we have a better covenant. He is higher than (over) all. (Rom 9:5)

ROM 9:4 Who are Israelites; to whom *pertaineth* the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service *of God*, and the promises; 5Whose *are* the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ *came*, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

New Covenant was prophesied.

JER 31:31 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:

HEB 8:13 In that he saith, **A new** *covenant*, **he hath made the first old**. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old *is* ready to vanish away.

HEB 12:24 And to **Jesus the mediator of the new covenant**, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than *that of* Abel. 25See that ye refuse not him that speaketh. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more *shall not* we *escape*, if we turn away from him that *speaketh* from heaven:

Christ, the mediator of the New Covenant has done away with the "blood of sprinkling" laws and traditions.

Jeremiah prophesied "**the Lord our righteous**". (Jer 23:6)

JER 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. 6In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

ISA 41:10 Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

- **1JOH 1:7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.**
- **1JOH 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

The Gk. Word for "fellowship" is "koinonia". It means: partnership, i.e. participation, benefaction - communicate, distribution, fellowship. True fellowship can only take place when believers "walk in His light".

JN 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **''If a man love me, he will keep my words**: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

ROM 8:3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

GAL 5:18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

The Greek word for "led" is "ago". It means: properly to lead: to bring, drive, pass time, or induce, carry, go, lead away, be open. God always directs His people to blessing. (Deut 30:5-11)

God will lead us to "covenant blessing", however, we have to possess it.

DEU 30:5 And the LORD **thy God will bring thee into the land** which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers. **6** And the LORD thy **God will circumcise thine heart**, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live. **8** And thou shalt return and **obey the voice of the LORD**, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day.

The Heb. Word for "circumcise" is "mul". To curtail: specifically- (the prepuce or foreskin) Circumcise. To blunt, destroy, cut down-in pieces.

Note the phrases; "circumcision of heart" (v.6) and God's command to "obey the voice of the Lord" (v.8).

DEU 30:16 In that I command thee this day to **love the LORD thy God**, to <u>walk</u> in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: **and the LORD thy God shall bless thee** in the land whither thou goest to possess it.

Samuel constantly encouraged God's people to serve God. Samuel's dedication was the hallmark of his life. This quality enabled him to enter prophetic ministry at a very early age. Although called as a Prophet, he was given other positions of honour that of Priest and King.

1 SAM 12:20 And Samuel said unto the people, Fear not: ye have done all this wickedness: yet turn not aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart;

HEB 11:15 And truly, <u>if they had been mindful</u> of that *country* from whence they came out, <u>they might have had opportunity to have returned</u>. **16** But now

they desire a better *country*, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

These heroes of "faith" in Hebrews chapter 11 were "covenant thinking" people. They had no regrets. They followed the Lord in a forward direction, without a thought of yesterday. If all they had was the promise of the "heavenly city", then that was enough. (**Heb 11:15**) "If they had been mindful of that country...." Joshua, a servant to Moses, now leader and spiritual mentor was able to teach his people the standard for serving the Lord. He convinced them with strong words, (v.20) "He will turn and do you hurt". Although the people agreed to serve God, Joshua wanted a covenant people. "ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the Lord, to serve Him."

JOSH 24:19 And Joshua said unto the people, **Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he** *is* **an holy God; he** *is* **a jealous God**; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. 20If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good. 21And the people said unto Joshua, **Nay; but we will serve the LORD**. 22And Joshua said unto the people, **Ye** *are* **witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him**. And they said, *We are* witnesses.

JOS 24:24 And the people said unto Joshua, **The LORD our God will we serve**, and his voice will we obey. 25So **Joshua made a covenant with the people that day**, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

Before his death Joshua recorded the covenant on stone as a reminder to the people that they had vowed a vow.

JOS 24:27..."this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God."

JOS 24:31 And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.

Having chosen to serve God (v.22) Joshua (God's mediator) made a covenant before his death (v.25), which was cut into stone (v.27). The people chose to serve God and the agreement made with God (a covenant) was cut in stone. Long after Joshua died, Israel was still serving God and obeying His voice.

DEUT 32:4 *He is* **the Rock, his work** *is* **perfect: for all his ways** *are* **judgment**: a **God of truth** and without iniquity, just and right *is* he.

We must not only confess, but meditate on the Word of God daily never allowing it to depart from our mouths. To make our way prosperous observation and obedience to His Word is absolute.

JOS 1:8 This book of **the law shall not depart out of thy mouth**; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest **observe to do according to all that is written therein**: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

DEUT 30:14 But **the word** *is* **very nigh unto thee**, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

Job was a worshipper, even in great trial. "blessed be the name of the Lord"

JOB 1:20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, **and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped** 21And said, Naked came I out of my mother' womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, **and the LORD hath taken away**; **blessed be the name of the LORD**. 22In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

HAB 3:17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and *there shall be* no herd in the stalls: 18Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

Paul's wonderful positive attitude came from fulfilling the vision of building greatness in others. Paul a "possessor" being poor he made many rich.

2 COR 6:10 As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; **as poor, yet making many rich**; as having nothing, and *yet* **possessing all things**.

Abram was <u>a covenant minded man</u>. The things of the flesh had no hold on him. Maybe this is the reason God gave Abram the covenant of circumcision. Covenant minded people don't look for inheritance, they believe for possession. (Acts 7:5)

ACT 7:5 And **he gave him none inheritance in it**, no, not *so much as* to set his foot on: **yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession**, and to his seed after him, when *as yet* he had no child. 8And **he gave him the covenant of circumcision**:

Lot accompanied Abram in the first part of his journey. He was righteous, but unlike Abram, he was not a covenant minded man. Prior to their parting due to increased numbers in flocks he would have seen the altars that Abram built, but even these visitations during worship was not enough to influence his walk with God. Later living comfortably in Sodom, Lot became unequally yoked by proximity with the unclean Sodomites. This proximity meant engaging with the Sodomites filthy conversation which vexed Lot's soul. (2 Cor 6:14) God in His mercy sent the angel to deliver Lot from God's judgment, giving Lot a chance to live in a better environment. Lot's wife did not leave Sodom willingly and God judged her when she looked back at the sinful city.

2 PET 2:7 And delivered just Lot, **vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked**: 8(For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)

PSA 25:12 That man *is* he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way *that* he shall choose. 13His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth 14**The secret of the LORD** *is* **with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant**. 15Mine eyes *are* ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

Many believers have often asked me about the secret things of the Lord. The Word of God is full of God's secrets. David shared his experience in Ps 25. The fear of the Lord opens the door to God's heavenly realm. I believe that God desires to share His secrets with all those that covenant with Him. However, God will only covenant with those that truly fear Him.

Psa 25:14 The secret of the LORD *is* with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.