舊約聖經神學之邀(一): 「約」之統一性與多元性

AN INVITATION TO OLD TESTAMENT BIBLICAL THEOLOGY, Part One: The Unity and Diversity of the Covenant

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I·上帝的約的性質 THE NATURE OF GOD'S COVENANTS

(Robertson, pp. 3-15.)

引言 INTRODUCTION

約在聖經中的重要性: Significance of the divine covenants in the Bible. 提到"上帝立約"的經文。Explicit references: God made a covenant.

創 Gen. 6:18

我卻要與你立約,你同你的妻,與兒子,兒婦,都要進入方舟.

創 Gen. 15:18

當那日, 耶和華與亞伯蘭立約, 說, 我已賜給你的後裔, 從埃及河直到伯大河之地,

出 Ex. 24:8

摩西將血灑在百姓身上,說,你看,這是立約的血,是耶和華按這一切話與你們立約的憑據.

詩 Psalm 89:3

我與我所揀選的人立了約,向我的僕人大衛起了誓.

耶 Jer. 31:31

耶和華說, 日子將到, 我要與以色列家和猶大家另立新約,

路 Luke 22:20

飯後也照樣拿起杯來,說,這杯是用我血所立的新約是為你們流出來的.

約是什麼? What is a covenant?

聖經歷史之統一性。Biblical history = a unified whole.

約是上帝單方面(主權的)執行的血盟。

A covenant is a bond in blood sovereignly administered.

1· 約是結盟。A COVENANT IS A BOND.

約是不能違背的盟約。A covenant is a bond inviolable.

字根: 意思不明朗。可是: 立約在聖經的上下文意指: 盟約,關係。

Etymology of the OT term for covenant – berith – proves inconclusive.

Yet, contextual usage of the term points consistently to "bond" or "relationship."

立約者是上帝或人。另一方是上帝或人。(少數例外。)

Always a person (either God or man) making a covenant.

It is another person who stands as the other party of the covenant, with few exceptions. 立約形式: 宣告成立盟約。上帝以祂的話立約。

The formalizing element essential for the establishing of all divine covenants = A verbal declaration of the character of the bond being established.

God speaks to establish his covenant.

上帝向人(被造物)起誓,並向他們宣告,與他們的關係的基礎(內容)。

He speaks graciously to commit himself to his creatures, and to declare the basis on which he shall relate to his creation.

起誓,記號:強調「約」=結盟。

The prominence of oaths and signs - underlines fact that covenant = a bond.

立約的起誓儀式:不同的方式。 A binding oath – takes various forms.

(a) 宣誓。Verbal oath

創 Gen. 21:23, 24, 26

- 23 我願你如今在這裡指著上帝對我起誓,不要欺負我與我的兒子,並我的子孫. 我怎樣厚待了你,你也要照樣厚待我與你所寄居這地的民.
- 24 亞伯拉罕說, 我情願起誓.
- 26 亞比米勒說,誰作這事,我不知道,你也沒有告訴我,今日我才聽見了.

創 Gen. 31:53

但願亞伯拉罕的上帝和拿鶴的上帝,就是他們父親的上帝,在你我中間判斷.雅各就指著他父親以撒所敬畏的上帝起誓,

出 Ex. 6:8

我起誓應許給亞伯拉罕,以撒,雅各的那地,我要把你們領進去,將那地賜給你們為業. 我是耶和華.

出 Ex. 19:8

百姓都同聲回答說, 凡耶和華所說的, 我們都要遵行. 摩西就將百姓的話回覆耶和華.

出 Ex. 24:3, 7

- 3 摩西下山,將耶和華的命令典章都述說與百姓聽. 眾百姓齊聲說,耶和華所吩咐的, 我們都必遵行.
- 7 又將約書念給百姓聽. 他們說, 耶和華所吩咐的, 我們都必遵行.

申 Deut. 7:8, 12

- 8 只因耶和華愛你們,又因要守他向你們列祖所起的誓,就用大能的手領你們出來,從為奴之家救贖你們脫離埃及王法老的手.
- 12 你們果然聽從這些典章, 謹守遵行, 耶和華你上帝就必照他向你列祖所起的誓守約, 施慈愛.

申 Deut. 29:13

這樣,他要照他向你所應許的話,又向你列祖亞伯拉罕,以撒雅各所起的誓,今日立你作他的子民,他作你的上帝.

結 Ezek. 16:8

我從你旁邊經過,看見你的時候正動愛情,便用衣襟搭在你身上,遮蓋你的赤體.又向你起誓,與你結盟,你就歸於我.這是主耶和華說的.

- (b) 象徵行動: 以送禮立約。Some symbolic action: Granting of a gift
- 創 Gen. 21:28-32
- 28 亞伯拉罕把七隻母羊羔另放在一處.
- 29 亞比米勒問亞伯拉罕說, 你把這七隻母羊羔另放在一處, 是甚麼意思呢?
- 30 他說, 你要從我手裡受這七隻母羊羔, 作我挖這口井的證據.
- 31 所以他給那地方起名叫別是巴(就是盟誓的井),因為他們二人在那裡起了誓.
- 32 當那日, 耶和華與亞伯蘭立約, 說, 我已賜給你的後裔, 從埃及河直到伯大河之地,
- (c.) 以共餐立約。Eating of a meal
- 創 Gen. 26:28-30
- 28 他們說, 我們明明地看見耶和華與你同在, 便說, 不如我們兩下彼此起誓彼此立約,
- 29 使你不害我們, 正如我們未曾害你, 一味地厚待你. 並且打發你平平安安地走. 你是蒙耶和華賜福的了.
- 30 以撒就為他們設擺筵席, 他們便喫了喝了.

創 Gen. 31:54

又在山上獻祭,請眾弟兄來喫飯.他們喫了飯,便在山上住宿.

出 Ex. 24:11

他的手不加害在以色列的尊者身上. 他們觀看上帝, 他們又喫又喝.

- (d) 以立柱立約。Setting up of a memorial
- 創 Gen. 31:44-45
- 44 來罷, 你我二人可以立約, 作你我中間的證據.
- 45 雅各就拿一塊石頭立作柱子,

書 Josh. 24:27

約書亞對百姓說,看哪,這石頭可以向我們作見證.因為是聽見了耶和華所吩咐我們的一切話,倘或你們背棄你們的上帝,這石頭就可以向你們作見證.(倘或云云或作所以要向你們作見證,免得你們背棄耶和華你們的上帝)

(e) 以灑血立約。Sprinkling of blood

出 Ex. 24:8

摩西將血灑在百姓身上,說,你看,這是立約的血,是耶和華按這一切話與你們立約的憑據.

(f) 以獻祭立約。Offering of sacrifice

詩 Psalm 50:5

說,招聚我的聖民到我這裡來,就是那些用祭物與我立約的人.

(g) 從杖下經過立約。The passing under the rod

結 Ezek. 20:37

我必使你們從杖下經過,使你們被約拘束.

(h) 以劈開動物立約。Dividing of animals

創 Gen. 15:10, 18

- 10 亞伯蘭就取了這些來,每樣劈開,分成兩半,一半對著一半地擺列. 只有鳥沒有劈開.
- 18 當那日, 耶和華與亞伯蘭立約, 說, 我已賜給你的後裔, 從埃及河直到伯大河之地,

起誓/立約:結構的對應。

Oath/covenant: parallelism of construction

申 Deut. 29:12

為要你順從耶和華你上帝今日與你所立的約,向你所起的誓.

王下 II Kings 11:4

第七年, 耶何耶大打發人叫迦利人(或作親兵) 和護衛兵的眾百夫長來, 領他們進了耶和華的殿, 與他們立約, 使他們在耶和華殿裡起誓, 又將王的兒子指給他們看,

代上 I Chron. 16:16

就是與亞伯拉罕所立的約, 向以撒所起的誓.

詩 Psalm 105:9

就是與亞伯拉罕所立的約, 向以撒所起的誓.

詩 Psalm 89:3, 4

- 3 我與我所揀選的人立了約, 向我的僕人大衛起了誓.
- 4 我要建立你的後裔, 直到永遠, 要建立你的寶座, 直到萬代.

結 Ezek. 17:9

你要說,主耶和華如此說,這葡萄樹豈能發旺呢?鷹豈不拔出它的根來芟除它的果子,使它枯乾,使它發的嫩葉都枯乾了麼?也不用大力和多民就拔出它的根來.

起誓,立約=同義詞。

In these cases, the oath interchanges with the covenant, and the covenant with the oath.

2. 約是以血結盟。A COVENANT IS A BOND IN BLOOD.

血盟:上帝與人立約的終極性。

Bond-in-blood: ultimacy of the commitment between God and man in covenant context. 引申「約」是生死攸關的。

Implications of bonds extend to ultimate issues of life and death.

立約的嚴肅。立約=切(劈)約。

Life-and-death intensity of divine covenants: "to make a covenant" literally reads: "to cut a covenant."

(a) 劈 / 切約: 摩西五經。References to "to cut a covenant" in the Law (Pentateuch) 創 Gen. 15:18

當那日, 耶和華與亞伯蘭立約, 說, 我已賜給你的後裔從埃及河直到伯大河之地,

創 Gen. 21:27, 32

- 27 亞伯拉罕把羊和牛給了亞比米勒,二人就彼此立約.
- 32 他們在別是巴立了約,亞比米勒就同他軍長非各起身,回非利士地去了.

創 Gen. 26:28

他們說,我們明明地看見耶和華與你同在,便說,不如我們兩下彼此起誓彼此立約,

創 Gen. 31:44

來罷,你我二人可以立約,作你我中間的證據.

出 Ex. 23:32, 34

不可和他們並他們的神立約.

出 Ex. 24:8

摩西將血灑在百姓身上,說,你看,這是立約的血,是耶和華按這一切話與你們立約的憑據.

出 Ex. 34:10, 12, 15, 17

- 10 耶和華說, 我要立約, 要在百姓面前行奇妙的事, 是在遍地萬國中所未曾行的, 在你四圍的外邦人就要看見耶和華的作為, 因我向你所行的是可畏懼的事.
- 12 你要謹慎,不可與你所去那地的居民立約,恐怕成為你們中間的網羅,
- 15 只怕你與那地的居民立約,百姓隨從他們的神,就行邪淫,祭祀他們的神有人叫你,你便喫他的祭物,
- 17 不可為自己鑄造神像.

申 Deut. 4:23

你們要謹慎,免得忘記耶和華你們上帝與你們所立的約,為自己雕刻偶像就是耶和華你上帝所禁止你作的偶像.

申 Deut. 5:2, 3

- 2 耶和華我們的上帝在何烈山與我們立約.
- 3 這約不是與我們列祖立的, 乃是與我們今日在這裡存活之人立的.

申 Deut. 7:2

耶和華你上帝將他們交給你擊殺,那時你要把他們滅絕淨盡,不可與他們立約,也不可憐恤他們.

申 Deut. 9:9

9 上了山,要領受兩塊石版,就是耶和華與你們立約的版.那時我在山上住了四十 晝夜,沒有喫飯,也沒有喝水.

申 Deut. 29 章

申 Deut. 31:16

耶和華又對摩西說,你必和你列祖同睡.這百姓要起來在他們所要去的地上,在那地的人中,隨從外邦神行邪淫,離棄我違背我與他們所立的約.

- (b) 劈 / 切約: 先知書的記載。To cut a covenant: References in the Prophets 書 Josh. 9:6, 15
- 6 他們到吉甲營中見約書亞,對他和以色列人說: 我們是從遠方來的. 現在求你與我們立約.
- 15 於是約書亞於他們講和,與他們立約,容他們活著. 會眾的首領,也向他們起誓.

書 Josh. 24:25

當日,約書亞就與百姓立約,在示劍為他們立定律例典章.

± Judg. 2:2

你們也不可與這地的居民立約,要拆毀他們的祭壇. 你們竟沒有聽從我的話. 為何這樣行呢?

撒上 I Sam. 11:1, 2

- 1 亞捫人的王拿轄上來, 對著基列雅比安營. 雅比眾人對拿轄說: 你與我們立約, 我們就服事你.
- 2 亞捫人拿轄說,你們若由我剜出你們各人的右眼,以此凌辱以色列眾人,我就與你們立約.

撒下 II Sam. 3:12-13, 20-21

- 12 押尼珥打發人去見大衛, 替他說, 這國歸誰呢. 又說, 你與我立約我必幫助你, 使以色列人都歸服你.
- 13 大衛說, 好. 我與你立約. 但有一件, 你來見我面的時候, 若不將掃羅的女兒米甲帶來, 必不得見我的面.

- 20 押尼珥帶著二十個人,來到希伯崙見大衛.大衛就為押尼珥和他帶來的人,擺設筵席。
- 21 押尼珥對大衛說: 我要起身去招聚以色列眾人來見我主我王,與你立約。你就可以照著心願作王。於是大衛送押尼珥去,押尼珥就平平安安的去了。

王上 I Kings 5:12

12 耶和華照著所應許的賜智慧給所羅門. 希蘭與所羅門和好, 彼此立約.

賽 Isa. 28:15

你們曾說,我們與死亡立約,與陰間結盟.敵軍(原文作鞭子)如水漲漫經過的時候,必不臨到我們.因我們以謊言為避所,在虛假以下藏身.

賽 Isa. 55:3

你們就當近我來. 側耳而聽, 就必得活. 我必與你們立永約, 就是應許大衛那可靠的 恩典.

耶 Jer. 11:10

他們轉去效法他們的先祖,不肯聽我的話,犯罪作孽,又隨從別神事奉它.以色列家和 猶大家背了我與他們列祖所立的約.

耶 Jer. 31:31-33

- 31 耶和華說, 日子將到, 我要與以色列家和猶大家另立新約,
- 32 不像我拉著他們祖宗的手, 領他們出埃及地的時候, 與他們所立的約. 我雖作他們的丈夫, 他們卻背了我的約. 這是耶和華說的.
- 33 耶和華說, 那些日子以後, 我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣: 我要將我的律法放在他們裡面, 寫在他們心上. 我要作他們的上帝, 他們要作我的子民.

結 Ezek. 17:13

從以色列的宗室中取一人與他立約,使他發誓,並將國中有勢力的人擴去,

何 Hos. 2:18

當那日,我必為我的民,與田野的走獸,和空中的飛鳥,並地上的昆蟲立約.又必在國中折斷弓刀,止息爭戰,使他們安然躺臥.

該 Hag. 2:5

這是 照著你們出埃及我與你們立約的話. 那時, 我的靈住在你們中間, 你們不要懼怕.

亞 Zech. 11:10

我折斷那稱為榮美的杖,表明我廢棄與萬民所立的約.

(c.) 劈 / 切約: 書卷(經書)之記載。To cut a covenant: References in the "Writings" 伯 Job 31:1

我與眼睛立約,怎能戀戀瞻望處女呢?

詩 Ps. 50:5

招聚我的聖民到我這裡來,就是那些用祭物與我立約的人.

代上 I Chron. 11:3

於是以色列的長老都來到希伯崙,見大衛王大衛在希伯崙耶和華面前與他們立約,他們就膏大衛作以色列的王,是照耶和華藉撒母耳所說的話.

代下 II Chron. 6:11

我將約櫃安置在其中,櫃內有耶和華的約,就是祂與以色列人所立的約.

拉 Ezra 10:3

現在當與我們的上帝立約,休這一切的妻,離絕她們所生的,照著我主那因上帝命令戰兢之人所議定的,按律法而行.

尼 Neh. 9:8

你見他在你面前心裡誠實,就與他立約.應許把迦南人,赫人,亞摩利人比利洗人,耶布斯人,革迦撒人之地賜給他的後裔.且應驗了你的話因為你是公義的.

劈/切約:用在三種約上。

The phrase "to cut a covenant" is related to all three of the basic covenant types.

- (a) 人與人立約: 劈 / 切約。To cut a covenant: inaugurated by man with man 創 Gen. 21:27, 32
- 27 亞伯拉罕把羊和牛給了亞比米勒,二人就彼此立約.
- 32 他們在別是巴立了約,亞比米勒就同他軍長非各起身,回非利士地去了.

撒下 II Sam. 3:12, 13

- 12 押尼珥打發人去見大衛, 替他說, 這國歸誰呢. 又說, 你與我立約我必幫助你, 使以色列人都歸服你.
- 13 大衛說, 好. 我與你立約. 但有一件, 你來見我面的時候, 若不將掃羅的女兒米甲帶來, 必不得見我的面.
- (b)上帝與人立約: 劈 / 切約。 To cut a covenant: inaugurated by God with man 創 Gen. 15:18 (上帝與亞伯拉罕立約 with Abraham)

當那日,耶和華與亞伯蘭立約,說,我已賜給你的後裔從埃及河直到伯大河之地,

Ex. 24:8 (上帝與摩西立約 with Moses)

摩西將血灑在百姓身上,說,你看,這是立約的血,是耶和華按這一切話與你們立約的憑據.

申 Deut. 5:2 (上帝與摩西立約 with Moses)

耶和華我們的上帝在何烈山與我們立約.

代下 II Chron. 21:7 (上帝與大衛立約 with David)

耶和華卻因自己與大衛所立的約,不肯滅大衛的家,照祂所應許的永遠賜燈光與大衛和他的子孫.

詩 Psalm 89:3 (上帝與大衛立約 with David)

我與我所揀選的人立了約,向我的僕人大衛起了誓.

耶 Jer. 31:31, 33 (新的約 new covenant)

- 31 耶和華說, 日子將到, 我要與以色列家和猶大家另立新約,
- 33 耶和華說,那些日子以後,我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣:我要將我的律法放在他們裡面,寫在他們心上.我要作他們的上帝,他們要作我的子民.

結 Ezek. 37:26 (新的約 new covenant)

並且我要與他們立平安的約,作為永約.我也要將他們安置在本地,使他們的人數增多,又在他們中間設立我的聖所,直到永遠.

(c.) 人與上帝立約(約的更新): 劈/切約。

To cut a covenant: inaugurated by man with God (covenant renewal)

王下 Cf. II Kings 11:17

耶何耶大使王和民與耶和華立約,作耶和華的民.又使王與民立約.

王下 II Kings 23:3

王站在柱旁,在耶和華面前立約,要盡心盡性地順從耶和華,遵守祂的誡命,法度,律例,成就這書上所記的約言.眾民都服從這約.

代上 I Chron. 29:10

所以,大衛在會眾面前稱頌耶和華說,耶和華我們的父以色列的上帝是應當稱頌,直到永永遠遠的.

劈/切(單獨使用)=切約(立約)。

The verb "to cut" may stand by itself, and still clearly mean "to cut a covenant." 撒上 I Samuel 11:1, 2

- 1 亞捫人的王拿轄上來,對著基列雅比安營。雅比眾人對拿轄說;你與我們立約, 我們就服事你。
- 2 亞捫人拿轄說: 你們若由我剜出你們各人的右眼,以此凌辱以色列眾人,我就與你們立約。

撒上 I Samuel 20:16

於是約拿單與大衛結盟,說: 願耶和華藉大衛的仇敵追討背約的罪.

撒上 I Samuel 22:8

你們竟都結黨害我。我的兒子挑唆我的臣子謀害我,就如今日的光景,也無人告訴我,為我憂慮。

王上 I Kings 8:9

約櫃裏惟有兩塊石版,就是以色列人出埃及地後耶和華與他們立約地時候,摩西在 河烈山所放的。除此以外,並無別物。

代下 II Chron. 7:17-18

- 17 你若在我面前效法你父大衛所行的, 遵行我一切所吩咐你的, 謹守我的律例典章,
- 18 我就必堅固你的國位,正如我與你父大衛所立的約,說:你的子孫必不斷人作以色列的王.

詩 Ps. 105:9

就是與亞伯拉罕所立的約,向以撒所起的誓。

哈 Haggai 2:5

這是照著你們出埃我與你們立約的話. 那時, 我的靈住在你們中間. 你們不要懼怕.

結論: 劈/切這觀念,已成為立約內容的一部份。

Conclusion: The concept of "cutting" = part of the essence of the covenant idea.

在中東其他遠古的語言與文化中,劈/切=與立約有關。

Relating of a "cutting" process to the establishment of a covenant: throughout ancient languages and cultures of the Middle East.

不只是用詞方面: 立約儀式也反映出一種切(劈)的過程。

Not only terminology: The rituals commonly associated with the establishment of the covenants reflect quite dramatically a "cutting" process.

切的意義: 切開動物立約,是象徵以自己的性命發誓。

Meaning of "cutting":

Animal-division symbolizes a "pledge to the death" at the point of covenant commitment. 動物被切開:立約者若背約,願他像動物被劈一樣,乃是一種咒詛。

Dismembered animals represent the curse that the covenant-maker calls down on himself, if he should violate the commitment which he has made.

耶利米: 提醒以色列背了約。

Jeremiah: recalls Israel's disloyalty to their commitments.

提醒他們曾從劈開的動物中經過。

Reminds them of the ritual by which they passed between the parts of the calf.

耶 Jer. 34:18

猶大的首領, 耶路撒冷的首領, 太監, 祭司, 和國中的眾民, 曾將牛犢劈開, 分成兩半, 從其中經過, 在我面前立約. 後來又違背我的約, 不遵行這約上的話.

耶 Jer. 34:20

我必將他們交在仇敵和尋索其命的人手中. 他們的屍首必給空中的飛鳥, 和地上的野獸作食物.

劈/切約:是立約的意思。以性命擔保。

To cut a covenant: to be understood in the context of covenant inauguration.

Pledge to life and death.

流血獻祭的原則。

Blood-sacrifice principle.

血的重要性:代表生命。生命在血裏。

Blood is of significance because it represents life. The life is in the blood.

希 Heb. 9:22

按著律法,凡物差不多都是用血潔淨的,若不流血,罪就不得赦免了.

利 Lev. 17:11

因為活物的生命是在血中. 我把這血賜給你們, 可以在壇上為你們的生命贖罪, 因血裡有生命, 所以能贖罪.

聖經中獻血祭的主題:強調生命與血有著密切的關係。

The biblical imagery of blood-sacrifice: emphasizes the interrelation of life and blood. 流血,乃是從背約的咒詛中被救出來的唯一方法。

The pouring out of life-blood signifies the only way of relief from covenant-obligations once incurred.

含意: 「約」與遺囑 = 不同。IMPLICATION: Covenant / Testament = different.

*因此:「約」不是指遺屬。

*We reject the concept of covenant as a "last will and testament." 用遺屬觀念來解釋聖經中的約,並不正確。

们思想能心不胜学主然中以为,业个证证

Simply impossible to do justice to the biblical concept of "covenant" and at the same time to introduce an idea of "last will and testament."

「約」與遺囑,都與死亡有關。死亡,在遺囑的有效性,和立約上,都是必需的。 Both "covenant" and "last will and testament" relate to death.

Death is essential both to activate a last will and testament, and to inaugurate a covenant. 可是: 死對約,和死對遺囑的關係並不一樣。

However: Death stands in relationship to each of these concepts in two different ways.

約: 死是在立約時的咒詛因素(在起初立約時)。

"Covenant": Death stands at the beginning of a relationship between two parties, symbolizing the potential curse-factor in the covenant.

遺囑: 死是在兩者關係結束時,表示遺產可以轉移。

"Testament": Death stands at the end of a relationship between the two parties, actualizing an inheritance.

約: 立約者的死,有兩步驟。首先: 是咒詛的象徵。然後: 背約者必死。

"Covenant": The death of the covenant-maker appears in two distinct stages. First: form of a symbolic representation of the curse. Later: the party who violates the covenant actually experiences death.

遺囑:立遺囑者的死,並沒有兩步驟。立遺囑時,並沒有死的象徵(咒詛)。

"Testament": The death of the testator does not come in two stages. No symbolic representation of death accompanies the making of a will.

立遺囑者的死,不是因為他背約。

The testator does not die as a consequence of the violation of his last will and testament.

遺囑假設: 死是必然的。約: 有生或死兩種可能性。

The provisions of the "last will and testament" inherently presume death to be inevitable. But: the provisions of a covenant offer the options of life or death.

立約必須有死的象徵。祭物必須被宰。可是立約者不需死;只有背約時才死。 The representation of death is essential to covenant inauguration. The consecrating animal must be slain. But it is not necessary that a party to the covenant actually die. Only in the event of covenant violation, does actual death of the covenant-maker occur.

因此: 耶穌基督的死,是約的死,不是立遺囑者的死。

It is in the context of covenantal death, not testamentary death, that the death of Jesus Christ is to be understood.

基督的死,乃是代罪的犧牲。基督代替背約者死。

Christ's death was a substitutionary sacrifice: a substitute for the covenant-breaker. 要了解耶穌基督的死,代罪的觀念是必需的。

Substitution is essential for the understanding of the death of Jesus Christ.

可是:在立遺囑的事上,並沒有代罪的死。立遺囑者是代表自己死的。

Yet: death in substitution for another has no place whatsoever in the making of a last will and testament. The testator dies in his own place.

沒有人可以代表(代替)立遺囑者死。

No other death may substitute for the detah of the testator.

可是:基督為罪人死。基督的死是立約式的死,不是立遺屬式的死。

But Christ died in the place of the sinner. His death was covenantal, not testamentary.

當然: 基督徒是上帝的後嗣。這是真的。

Certainly it is true: the Christian is the heir of God.

可是: 基督徒是後嗣,是因為他被收養到上帝的家裏,不是因為遺囑。

But he is heir by the process of adoption in the family of the never-dying God, not by the process of testamentary disposition.

另外一個普遍的誤解:最後晚餐是耶穌基督立遺囑的時候。

Popular misconception: The Lord's Supper was the occasion of Christ's making his last will and testament.

可是: 最後晚餐與約有關。

But: it was a covenantal meal.

在逾越節的晚餐,耶穌基督訂下新約晚餐的條例。

In the context of the covenantal meal of the Passover, Jesus introduced the provisions of the new covenant meal.

耶穌宣告自己是逾越節的羔羊,擔當約的咒詛。

Jesus' intention was to proclaim himself as the Passover Lamb, who was taking on himself the curses of the covenant.

耶穌的話不是遺囑的話,乃是應驗舊"約",立新"約"的話。

His words were not those of testamentary disposition, but those of covenant fulfillment and inauguration.

結論:舊約中"約"的觀念,不能化為遺囑。整本舊約裏,上帝的子民是與上帝立約的子民。

Conclusion: The Old Testament concept of covenant must not be re-interpreted in terms of a "last will and testament." The total perspective of the Old Testament people of God = consistently covenantal.

中東盟約條文中,的確有關乎繼承的條文。這並不暗示,聖經中"約"的觀念,就有了遺囑的含義。[沒有證據證明:摩西在申命記 33 章對以色列 12 族的祝福,需要摩西死後才生效。死前的祝福,和遺囑,是兩碼事。]

The presence of provisions in the ancient Near Eastern treaty forms relating to succession arrangements does not provide adequate basis for imposing a "testamentary" idea on the biblical concept of covenant. [No evidence suggest that the tribal blessing of

Deuteronomy 33 depended on the death of Moses for enactment. A blessing uttered before death is not the same thing as a testamentary disposition.]

立約,可以包括關於後代的條文。直到一千代。

A covenant may well include aspects which insure continuation of its provisions beyond those people then living – extending to "a thousand generations."

申 Deut. 7:9

所以,你要知道耶和華你的上帝,祂是上帝,是信實的上帝.向愛祂守祂誡命的人守約,施慈愛,直到千代.

詩 Psalm 105:8

祂記念祂的約,直到永遠,祂所吩咐的話,直到千代.

可是, 這些條文的出現, 並不使盟約變成遺屬。

But these provisions do not transform the covenant into a last will and testament.

約,不是遺囑。A covenant is not a testament.

II·上帝的約:從什麼時候開始? THE EXTENT OF GOD'S COVENANTS

(Robertson, pp. 17-25.)

引言。Introduction.

有足夠證據證明:從挪亞到基督時代,上帝立約,在祂與人的關係上非常重要。 There is ample evidence that: God's covenants played a vital role in God's dealings with man from Noah to Jesus Christ.

問題: 挪亞世代之前,神人關係又怎樣?這段早期歷史應否從約的角度理解?

Question: What about God's relationship with man before Noah?

Can this early period of biblical history be understood, from a covenant perspective? 聖經裏,第一次提到約,是上帝與挪亞立約的時候。

The term "covenant" appears for the first time in the Bible, in connection with God's establishing of his bond with Noah.

可是:上帝與挪亞提到約之前,人類的確與上帝有著某一種的關係。

It is also true that: man sustained a relationship with God his Creator prior to God spoke to Noah about a "covenant."

為什麼創世記 6: 18 之前,可以用"約" 這觀念來理解神人關係?

Several considerations: encourage the usage of the designation of "covenant" before Genesis 6:18.

1. 聖經有先例:討論"約"的關係時,並不一定用"約"這詞。

Some scriptural precedent exists for the omission of the term (word) "covenant" when discussing a relationship which is unquestionably covenantal.

上帝向大衛賜應許的時候:

The original account of the establishment of God's promise to David:

撒下 II Samuel 7:4-16

- 4 當夜, 耶和華的話臨到拿單說,
- 5 你去告訴我僕人大衛,說耶和華如此說,你豈可建造殿宇給我居住呢.
- 6 自從我領以色列人出埃及直到今日,我未曾住過殿宇,常在會幕和帳幕中行走.
- 7 凡我同以色列人所走的地方,我何曾向以色列一支派的士師,就是我吩咐牧養我民以色列的說,你們為何不給我建造香柏木的殿宇呢.
- 8 現在,你要告訴我僕人大衛,說,萬軍之耶和華如此說:我從羊圈中將你召來,叫你不再跟從羊群,立你作我民以色列的君.
- 9 你無論往哪裡去,我常與你同在,剪除你的一切仇敵.我必使你得大,名好像世上大大有名的人一樣.
- 10 我必為我民以色列選定一個地方,栽培他們,使他們住自己的地方不再遷移. 凶惡之子也不像從前擾害他們,
- 11 並不像我命士師治理我民以色列的時候一樣. 我必使你安靖, 不被一切仇敵擾亂, 並且我耶和華應許你, 必為你建立家室.
- 12 你壽數滿足, 與你列祖同睡的時候, 我必使你的後裔接續你的位, 我也必堅定他的

國.

- 13 他必為我的名建造殿宇. 我必堅定他的國位, 直到永遠.
- 14 我要作他的父, 他要作我的子. 他若犯了罪, 我必用人的杖責打他, 用人的鞭責罰他.
- 15 但我的慈愛仍不離開他,像離開在你面前所廢棄的掃羅一樣.
- 16 你的家和你的國必在我(原文作你)面前永遠堅立. 你的國位也必堅定直到永遠.

代上 I Chron. 17:4-27

- 4 你去告訴我僕人大衛,說耶和華如此說,你不可建造殿宇給我居住.
- 5 自從我領以色列人出埃及,直到今日,我未曾住過殿宇,乃從這會幕到那會幕,從這帳幕到那帳幕.
- 6 凡我同以色列人所走的地方,我何曾向以色列的一個士師,就是我吩咐牧養我民的說,你為何不給我建造香柏木的殿宇呢.
- 7 現在你要告訴我僕人大衛,說萬軍之耶和華如此說,我從羊圈中將你召來,叫你不再跟從羊群,立你作我民以色列的君.
- 8 你無論往哪裡去,我常與你同在,剪除你的一切仇敵.我必使你得大,名好像世上大大有名的人一樣.
- 9 我必為我民以色列選定一個地方,栽培他們,使他們住自己的地方不再遷移.兇惡之子也不像從前擾害他們,
- 10 並不像我命士師治理我民以色列的時候一樣. 我必治服你的一切仇敵, 並且我耶和華應許你, 必為你建立家室.
- 11 你壽數滿足歸你列祖的時候,我必使你的後裔接續你的位.我也必堅定他的國.
- 12 他必為我建造殿宇. 我必堅定他的國位直到永遠.
- 13 我要作他的父, 他要作我的子. 並不使我的慈愛離開他, 像離開在你以前的掃羅一樣.
- 14 我卻要將他永遠堅立在我家裡和我國裡. 他的國位也必堅定, 直到永遠.
- 15 拿單就按這一切話, 照這默示告訴大衛.
- 16 於是大衛王進去,坐在耶和華面前,說,耶和華上帝啊,我是誰,我的家算甚麼,你竟使我到這地步呢.
- 17上帝啊, 這在你眼中還看為小, 又應許你僕人的家至於久遠. 耶和華上帝啊, 你看顧我, 好像看顧高貴的人.
- 18 你加於僕人的尊榮, 我還有何言可說呢. 因為你知道你的僕人.
- 19 耶和華啊, 你行了這大事, 並且顯明出來, 是因你僕人的緣故. 也是照你的心意.
- 20 耶和華啊, 照我們耳中聽見, 沒有可比你的, 除你以外再無神.
- 21世上有何民能比你的民以色列呢. 你上帝從埃及救贖他們作自己的子民,又在你贖出來的民面前行大而可畏的事,驅逐列邦人,顯出你的大名.
- 22 你使以色列人作你的子民,直到永遠. 你耶和華也作他們的上帝.
- 23 耶和華啊, 你所應許僕人和僕人家的話, 求你堅定, 直到永遠照你所說的而行.
- 24 願你的名永遠堅立, 被尊為大, 說, 萬軍之耶和華是以色列的上帝, 是治理以色列的 上帝. 這樣, 你僕人大衛的家必在你面前堅立.
- 25 我的上帝啊, 因你啟示僕人說, 我必為你建立家室, 所以僕人大膽在你面前祈禱.
- 26 耶和華啊,惟有你是上帝,你也應許將這福氣賜給僕人.

27 現在你喜悅賜福與僕人的家,可以永存在你面前. 耶和華啊, 你已經賜福還要賜福 到永遠.

很明顯的,上帝與大衛的關係,是約的關係。

It is clear that the relationship was a covenantal relationship.

後來的經文: 說到上帝與大衛立約。

Subsequent Scripture: speaks of God's "covenant" with David.

撒下 Cf. II Samuel 23:5

我家在上帝面前並非如此.上帝卻與我立永遠的約.這約凡事堅穩,關乎我的一切救恩和我一切所想望的,祂豈不為我成就麼.

詩 Psalm 89:3

我與我所揀選的人立了約,向我的僕人大衛起了誓.

2. 兩段經文,說明創造的秩序是約的秩序。

Two passages in Scripture appear to designate the order established by creation as covenantal.

1. 第一段經文: First passage:

耶 Jeremiah 33:20, 21, 25, 26

- 20 耶和華如此說, 你們若能廢棄我所立白日黑夜的約, 使白日黑夜不按時輪轉,
- 21 就能廢棄我與我僕人大衛所立的約,使他沒有兒子在他的寶座上為王,並能廢棄我與事奉我的祭司,利未人所立的約.
- 25 耶和華如此說, 若是我立白日黑夜的約不能存住. 若是我未曾安排天地的定例,
- 26 我就棄絕雅各的後裔和我僕人大衛的後裔,不使大衛的後裔治理亞伯拉罕以撒,雅各的後裔. 因為我必使他們被擄的人歸回,也必憐憫他們.

耶和華立白目的約,和黑夜的約。

The word of the Lord: speaks of "my covenant of the day and my covenant of the night." 上帝什麼時候與白日與黑夜立約?

When did God establish a "covenant" with "day and night"?

兩個可能: 上帝創造時所定的秩序,或與挪亞所立的約。日夜不停息。

2 options: God's ordinances of creation. Or covenant with Noah.

In either case: regularity of day and night was prominent.

上帝與挪亞所立的約的條文:

Stipulations of God's covenant with Noah:

創 Gen. 8:22

地還存留的時候,稼穡,寒暑,冬夏,晝夜就永不停息了.

"Seedtime and havest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." (Genesis 8:22).

可是: 與日夜立約,也可能指上帝在第三天創造時所訂下的典章:

Equally possible: "covenant of day and night" refers to the ordinance of the 3rd day.

創 Gen. 1:14

上帝說,天上要有光體,可以分晝夜,作記號,定節令,日子,年歲.

God said: "Let there be lights in the expanse of heaven, to divide between the day and the night." (Genesis 1:14)

另外一段經文: 耶 31: 35-36:

A second passage from Jeremiah: Jer. 31:35-36:

- 35 那使太陽白日發光,使星月有定例,黑夜發亮,又攪動大海,使海中波浪匉訇的,萬軍之耶和華是祂的名,祂如此說:
- 36 這些定例,若能在我面前廢掉,以色列的後裔也就在我面前斷絕,永遠不再成國。這是耶和華說的。
- 35 Thus says the Lord,

Who gives the sun for light by day,

And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,

36 If this fixed order departs from before me, declares the Lord,

Then the offspring of Israel also shall cease

From being a nation before me forever

這段經文沒有用"約"這詞。可是用了"定例"等詞。

This passage does not use the term "covenant."

But it employs the equivalent expression, "statute" or "fixed-order."

約與定例(律例),在聖經中往往是同義詞。

The two terms "covenant" and "statute" = parallel expressions in Scripture

王上 Cf. I Kings 11:11

所以耶和華對他說,你既行了這事,不遵守我所吩咐你守的約和律例,我必將你的國奪回,賜給你的臣子.

王下 II Kings 17:15

厭棄祂的律例和祂與他們列祖所立的約,並勸戒他們的話隨從虛無的神,自己成為虛妄,效法周圍的外邦人,就是耶和華囑咐他們不可效法的.

詩 Psalm 50:16

但上帝神對惡人說, 你怎敢傳說我的律例, 口中題到我的約呢?

詩 Psalm 105:10

他又將這約向雅各定為律例, 向以色列定為永遠的約。

耶 31 章,與耶 33 章結構很相像。

The closeness of parallel in argumentation with Jeremiah 33 is quite apparent.

正如日夜不止息,照樣以色列永遠是上帝的子民。

As certainly as the sun's rule over the day and the moon's rule over the night will not cease, so Israel will never cease from being God's people.

可是: 耶 31 章有一些細節,能幫助我們解決: 耶 33 章是指創造?或挪亞之約? But the additional particulars of Jeremiah 31 may help to answer the question: Does Jeremiah 33 refer to the ordinance of creation? Or the covenant with Noah? 耶 31: 35 說: 耶和華設立太陽在白日發光,與星和月的定例在黑夜發光。 According to Jer. 31:35, God gives the sun for light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and the stars for light by night.

耶 Jeremiah 31:35

那使太陽白日發光,使星月有定例,黑夜發亮,又攪動大海,使海中波浪匉訇的,萬軍之耶和華是祂的名. 祂如此說,

日月在日夜發光,在創造的記載有提到,但在上帝與挪亞立約時卻沒提到。 Interestingly, the reference to the sun and moon as light-bearers for day and night is found in Genesis 1, but not in God's covenant with Noah.

再者:上帝第三天創造的記載,提到星(不只是月亮):如耶 31:35 一樣。 Further: the narrative of the creation-activity of the 3rd day refers to the stars as well as to the moon, as does Jer. 31:35.

創 Genesis 1:16

於是神造了兩個大光,大的管畫,小的管夜.又造眾星.

上帝與挪亞立約的記載,沒有提到星宿。

The record of God's covenant with Noah makes no mention of stars.

結論: CONCLUSION:

耶 31 章指的是上帝創造的記載,上帝創造的"律例"。

Jeremiah 31 alludes to the Genesis narrative, the "statutes" of God's creation ordinances. "約" 這詞並沒有在耶 31 章出現。可是在耶 33 章出現。上帝立日夜的"約"。

The term "covenant" does not occur in Jeremiah 31. But it does occur in Jeremiah 33. Jer. 33 refers to God's "covenant" of day and night.

因為兩段(31,33章)的論調相似,我們可以下結論:

Because of the similarlity of argumentation in the two passages, we may conclude: 日夜之 "約"(33 章)和日夜的 "定例" 是 同一回事。

The covenant of day and night (Jer. 33)=the "statute" concerning day and night (Jer. 31). 耶 33 章 (有用 "約" 一詞) 是指創世記 1 章創造的秩序。

Jer. 33 (which uses the term "covenant") refers to the creational orderings of Gen. 1. Some say: Gen. 6:18 "I will maintain" my covenant (rather than "establish"). God's word to Noah presumes a covenant already to be in existence through the "divine guarantee which is embodied in creation." (L. DeQueker, "Noah and Israel. The Everlasting Divine Covenant iwht Mankind." Questions disputees d'Ancien Testament: Methode et Theologie (Gembloux, 1974), 128-129.)

2. 第二段經文: Second passage: 何 Hosea 6:7

他們卻如亞當背約,在境內向我行事詭詐.

以色列民好像亞當一樣背約。

The people of Israel, "like Adam," have transgressed the covenant.

第一種解釋: First interpretation - 亞當是指一個地方。

Adam = a place. "At Adam" Isreal broke the covenant.

可是很難支持這說法。亞當:在約但河邊,離耶利哥12哩。

This is difficult to support. "Adam" = on the Jordan, 12 miles north of Jericho.

約但河的水在亞當城斷絕:沒有提到以色列人整體犯罪。

Rolling back of Jordan at Adam: makes no mention of a national sin by Israel.

書 Josh. 3:16

那從上往下流的水便在極遠之地,撒拉但旁的亞當城那裡停住,立起成壘. 那往亞拉巴的海,就是鹽海,下流的水全然斷絕. 於是百姓在耶利哥的對面過去了. 還有,這個解釋需要修改經文。

This interpretation requires emandation of massoretic text. "As Adam", not "atAdam".

第二種解釋: Second interpretation – 好像亞當一樣: 指人類祖宗亞當的罪。 "Like Adam" = explicit reference to the sin of the first man. 這是最簡單的解釋。This is most straightforward, and presents fewest difficulties.

第三種解釋: Third interpretation – 以色列好像人類(常人)一般背了約。 Israel has broken the covenant "like man," or "like mankind."

不論是第二或第三種解釋: Whether we accept interpretation #2 or #3: 外邦人(非以色列人)與創造宇宙的上帝之間,有著某一種關係。 Non-Israelite man sustains some relationship to his Creator-God.

這段經文隱含一種比較:以色列人與上帝的關係,與非以色列人與上帝的關係。 A comparison in this passage: Israelite man's, and non-Israelite man's relation to God. 以色列人背了約。

Israel has transgressed the covenant.

在這方面,以色列人(普遍性)好像人類,或(特殊性)好像亞當。

In this respect, Israel is "like man" in general, or "like Adam" in particular.

不論如何,上帝與非以色列人之間有著約的關係。

In either case: a covenant existed between God and non-Israelite man.

正如非以色列人背了約,以色列人也背了約。

As non-Israelite man has broken the covenant, so Israelite man has broken the covenant. 那麼: 非以色列人與上帝立了怎樣的約?(即: 他們後來違背的約?)

In what sense can we affirm that: non-Israelite man stands in a covenantal relationship with God that may be broken?

先知何西亞很明顯的指出;上帝藉著創造,與非以色列人立了約。

Apparently Hosea intends to suggest: God has established a covenant relationship wit

man outside Israel through creation.

小結: SUMMARY:

- 1. 上帝與大衛的關係顯然是約,可是起初沒有用約這詞。
 The relation of God to David was not designated "covenantal" originally, but nonetheless was covenantal in substance.
- 2. 耶 33: 20-21,和何 6: 7 顯然指上帝在創造時與人的關係為約。 Jeremiah 33:20ff and Hosea 6:7 apparently refer to God's original creational relationship in covenantal terms.

耶 Jeremiah 33:20-21

- 20 耶和華如此說,你們若能廢棄我所立白日黑夜的約,使白日黑夜不按時輪轉,
- 21 就能廢棄我與我僕人大衛所立的約,使他沒有兒子在他的寶座上為王,並能廢棄 我與事奉我的祭司,利未人所立的約.

何 Hosea 6:7

他們卻如亞當背約,在境內向我行事詭詐.

3. 約的要素,在上帝在挪亞之前與人的關係,已經存在。 Elements essential to a covenant were present in God's relationship to man prior to Noah.

上帝重新創造人時,與人建立了關乎生死的關係。

A bond of life and death is present between God and man newly created.

創 Genesis 2:15-17

- 15 耶和華上帝那人安置在伊甸園, 使他修理看守.
- 16 耶和華上帝吩咐他說, 園中各樣樹上的果子, 你可以隨意喫.
- 17 只是分別善惡樹上的果子, 你不可喫, 因為你喫的日子必定死.

神人之間的關係是由上帝主權(單方面)的訂定。

This relationship between God and man is administered sovereigntly.

人類犯罪墮落之後,上帝與人也有著關乎生死的關係。

A bond of life and death was established, subsequently, after man fell into sin.

創 Genesis 3:15

我又要叫你和女人彼此為仇. 你的後裔和女人的後裔也彼此為仇. 女人的後裔要傷你的頭, 你要傷他的腳跟.

上帝的誓約,開始了人類歷史中的生死之戰。上帝與墮落的人立約,要女人的後裔得生命,撒但的後裔滅亡。

This divine commitment set the stage for a life-and-death struggle. God's bond with fallen man resulted in life for the seed of the woman, and death for the seed of Satan.

III·上帝的約的統一性 THE UNITY OF GOD'S COVENANTS

(Robertson, pp. 27-52)

上帝與挪亞,亞伯拉罕,摩西,大衛立了約。上帝立了新約。祂起初在創造時立了約...。這些約之間有著怎樣的關係?

God's covenants with Noah, Abraham, Moses, David and the new covenant ... and the creation covenant ... How do these covenants relate to one another? 上帝所立的不同的約,其實是一個約。

God's multiple covenants with his people unite into a single relationship.

- I. 上帝的約結構的統一性 Unity in the Structure of God's Covenants
- 1. 上帝與亞伯拉罕,摩西,大衛所立的約的統一性 Unity of the Covenants with Abraham, Moses and David

後來的約都建立在先前的約的基礎上。每一個約繼續前面的約的主旨。 Each successive covenant builds on the previous relationship. Each continues the basic emphasis established earlier.

A. 上帝子民歷史經歷的統一性。A unity in historical experience. 不同時代的約的歷史,都強調約的統一和持續性。 The history surrounding the various covenants emphasizes covenantal unity.

a. 立約事件(儀式)強調統一性。

The points of covenantal inauguration demonstrate unity.
上帝與摩西,大衛立約時,祂將先前應許的救贖發展到新的地步。
As God establishes his covenant with Moses and David, he intended to bring to a further stage of development the same redempotion promised earlier.
每一次上帝與亞伯拉罕的後裔立約,祂原來的計劃達到更高一步的應驗。Each successive covenant with Abraham's descendants advanced the original purposes of God to a higher level of realization.

出 Ex. 2:24

神聽見他們的哀聲,就記念他與亞伯拉罕,以撒,雅各所立的約.

慕理:上帝救以色列人出埃及,帶他們進所應許之地,就是為應驗祂向亞伯拉 罕所賜的,關於地的應許。

"The only interpretation of this is that: the deliverance of Israel from Egypt and the bringing of them into the land of promise is in fulfillment of the covenant promise to Abraham respecting the possession of the land of Canaan (Exod. 3:16, 27; 6:4-8; Ps. 105:8-12, 42-45; 106:45)." (John Murray, *The Covenant of Grace*, p. 20.)

出 Ex. 3:16, 17

- 16 你去招聚以色列的長老,對他們說,耶和華你們祖宗的上帝,就是亞伯拉罕的上帝,以撒的上帝,雅各的上帝,向我顯現說,我實在眷顧了你們,我也看見埃及人怎樣待你們.
- 17 我也說,要將你們從埃及的困苦中領出來,往迦南人,赫人,亞摩利人比利洗人,希未人,耶布斯人的地去,就是到流奶與蜜之地.

出 Ex. 6:4-8

- 4 我與他們堅定所立的約,要把他們寄居的迦南地賜給他們.
- 5 我也聽見以色列人被埃及人苦待的哀聲, 我也記念我的約.
- 6 所以你要對以色列人說,我是耶和華. 我要用伸出來的膀臂重重地刑罰埃及人, 救贖你們脫離他們的重擔不作他們的苦工.
- 7 我要以你們為我的百姓,我也要作你們的上帝.你們要知道我是耶和華你們的上帝,是救你們脫離埃及人之重擔的.
- 8 我起誓應許給亞伯拉罕,以撒,雅各的那地,我要把你們領進去將那地賜給你們為業.我是耶和華.

詩 Psalm 105:8-12, 42-45

- 8 祂記念祂的約,直到永遠,祂所吩咐的話,直到千代.
- 9 就是與亞伯拉罕所立的約, 向以撒所起的誓.
- 10 祂又將這約向雅各定為律例, 向以色列定為永遠的約,
- 11說,我必將迦南地賜給你,作你產業的分.
- 12 當時, 他們人丁有限, 數目稀少, 並且在那地為寄居的.
- 42 這都因祂記念祂的聖言,和祂的僕人亞伯拉罕.
- 43 祂帶領百姓歡樂而出,帶領選民歡呼前往.
- 44 祂將列國的地賜給他們, 他們便承受眾民勞碌得來的.
- 45 好使他們遵祂的律例, 守祂的律法. 你們要讚美耶和華.

Psalm 106:45

為他們記念祂的約,照祂豐盛的慈愛後悔.

出 6: 4-8 明顯地將上帝與亞伯拉罕立的約,和與摩西立的約連起來: Exodus 6:4-8 particularly unites God's covenant with Abraham and Moses:

出 Ex. 6:4-8

- 4 我與他們堅定所立的約,要把他們寄居的迦南地賜給他們.
- 5 我也聽見以色列人被埃及人苦待的哀聲, 我也記念我的約.
- 6 所以你要對以色列人說,我是耶和華,我要用伸出來的膀臂重重地刑罰埃及人,救贖你們脫離他們的重擔不作他們的苦工.
- 7 我要以你們為我的百姓,我也要作你們的上帝.你們要知道我是耶和華你們的上帝,是救你們脫離埃及人之重擔的.

8 我起誓應許給亞伯拉罕,以撒,雅各的那地,我要把你們領進去將那地賜給你們為業. 我是耶和華.

上帝因為在約裏應許了先祖,因此主權地救以色列人出埃及。

Because of God's covenant commitments (promises) to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, God acted acted sovereignly to deliver Israel from Egypt.

注: 這裏說到上帝與亞伯拉罕所立的約,是在上帝與摩西立約之前。

Note: This reference to the Abrahamic covenant precedes the formal inauguration of the Mosaic covenant.

可是,聖經裏有不少例子,先有期待立約的記載,然後才有正式的立約儀式。

But: the sequence of historical anticipation of a covenant, followed by a formal ceremony of covenant inauguration, can be found repeatedly in the Bible.

上帝先呼照亞伯拉罕離開吾珥, 賜他約裏的應許:

God first called Abraham out of Ur, and declared to him all covenant promises:

創 Gen. 12:1-3

- 1 耶和華對亞伯蘭說, 你要離開本地, 本族, 父家, 往我所要指示你的地去.
- 2 我必叫你成為大國, 我必賜福給你, 叫你的名為大, 你也要叫別人得福.
- 3 為你祝福的,我必賜福與他那咒詛你的,我必咒詛他,地上的萬族都要因你得福.

後來上帝才正式與亞伯拉罕立約。

Subsequently, God formally institute his covenant with Abraham.

創 Gen. 15:18

當那日,耶和華與亞伯蘭立約,說:我已賜給你的後裔從埃及河,直到伯大河之地。

上帝先指定大衛為被膏者,以色列的君王:

God first designated David as the anointed king of Israel.

撒 | I Samuel 16:12

耶西就打發人去叫了他來. 他面色光紅, 雙目清秀, 容貌俊美. 耶和華說: 這就是他, 你起來膏他.

然後,上帝才正式與他立約:

Then God inaugurated the official sanctions of a covenant.

參: 撒下 Cf. II Sam. 7:1-16.

基督道成肉身,公開的講道與工作=應驗了舊約關於新約的應許。

Christ's incarnation and public ministry = a vital part of the fulfillment of the promise concerning the new covenant.

約的國度已經來臨。可是,天國(新的約)的成立,是在後來:

The covenantal kingdom had come.

But the formal inauguration of the new covenant era occurred after this period:

路 Luke 22:20

飯後也照樣拿起杯來,說,這杯是用我血所立的新約,是為你們流出來的.

這些模式告訴我們:以色列人在埃及時上帝所作的,是摩西之約的"前奏"。

With this pattern in mind: we can regard God's dealings with Israel in Egypt prior to Sinai, as historical anticipation of the Mosaic covenant.

立約的逾越節晚餐,是在出埃及那晚,而不是在西乃山上!

The covenant meal of the Passover wa instituted in association with the Exodus rather than with the events of Sinai.

更明顯的是:

Even more explicitly:

在西乃山立約的事,與上帝救以色列人出埃及直接有關。

The events associated with covenant inauguration at Sinai, clearly connect to the deliverance from Egypt.

因為上帝向亞伯拉罕所給的應許,祂救贖了以色列人出埃及。

Because of God's promises to Abraham, he delivered Israel from Egypt.

而上帝救以色列人出埃及的事,成為十誡的基礎。

This fact of deliverance became the basis for the Ten Commandments.

摩西在西乃山所立的增,也說明摩西的約,和亞伯拉罕的約是息息相關的。

The altar Moses built at Sinai also provides evidence that: the Mosaic covenant was bound inseparably to the Abrahamic covenant. Moses constructs the altar "with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel." (Ex. 24:4).

出24:4

摩西將耶和華的命令都寫上,清早起來,在山下築了一座壇,按以色列十二支派,立十二根柱子。

在上帝與大衛立約時,上帝給大衛的應許,和大衛的回應,都反映上帝昔日救以色列人出埃及的事。

At the inauguration of the Davidic covenant: the promises to David, and David's response, both reflect on the past experience of God's delivering Israel out of Egypt. 與大衛立約的上帝,就是令以色列出埃及的上帝。

The God who institutes his covenant with David, is the same God who "brought up the sons of Israel from Egypt."

撒下 II Samuel 7:6

自從我領以色列人出埃及直到今日,我未曾住過殿宇,常在會幕和帳幕中行走.

撒下 Cf. II Samuel 7:23

世上有何民能比你的民以色列呢?你從埃及救贖他們作自己的子民,又在你贖來的民面前行大而可為的事,驅逐列邦人何他們的神,顯出你的大名。

大衛臨終囑咐所羅門: "遵守耶和華你上帝所吩咐的,照著摩西律法上所寫的行主的道,謹守祂的律例,誡命,典章,法度,這樣,你無論作什麼事,不拘往何處去,盡都亨通。"(王上2:3;參4節。)

David in his deathbed charge to Solomon gives recognition to the Mosaic foundation of his covenant. He directs Solomon to keep God's laws, "according to what is written in the law of Moses ... so that the Lord may carry out His promise which He spoke concerning me" (I Kings 2:3-4).

小結: SUMMARY:

上帝與摩西,大衛立約的要點都反映出與先前的約的連續性。

The crucial points of covenantal inauguration under Moses and David reflect the continuity of the covenants.

b. 約中生活反映出約的統一性。

The history of life under the covenants demonstrates unity.
摩西的約訂定之後,以色列人的生活繼續反映上帝向亞伯拉罕的應許。
Once the Mosaic covenant was inaugurated, the history after Sinai continues to center on the old original promises to Abraham.

(i) 摩西求上帝的憐憫 Moses' plea for mercy

摩西為著金牛犢事件向上帝的祈求,是基於上帝向亞伯拉罕立約的應許: In reaction to the golden calf, Moses bases his plea for the mercy of God on the promises of the Abrahamic covenant.

出 Ex. 32:13, 14

- 13 求你記念你的僕人亞伯拉罕,以撒,以色列. 你曾指著自己起誓說,我必使你們的後裔像天上的星那樣多,並且我所應許的這全地,必給你們的後裔,他們要永遠承受為業.
- 14 於是耶和華後悔, 不把所說的禍降與祂的百姓.

雖然摩西的約已經出現,可是亞伯拉罕的約還是重要的。

Even though the Mosaic covenant has emerged, the Abrahamic covenant continues to be significant.

(ii) 約書亞和以色列人佔領迦南地。Joshua and the people possess the land.

以色列人領取迦南地,為要應驗上帝向摩西,和向伯亞伯拉罕的應許。 Possession of the land fulfills promise to Abraham, and promise to Moses.

創 Gen. 15:18

當那日, 耶和華與亞伯蘭立約, 說, 我已賜給你的後裔從埃及河直到伯大河之地,

出 Ex. 23:31

我要定你的境界,從紅海直到非利士海,又從曠野直到大河. 我要將那地的居民交在你手中,你要將他們從你面前攆出去.

書 Josh. 1:3

凡你們腳掌所踏之地,我都照著我所應許摩西的話賜給你們了.

上帝向亞伯拉罕立約:後裔得到地,是祂與摩西立約之後:400 年後。 Abrahamic covenant: a prophetic anticipation of the course of history. Land possession after Mosaic covenant has been introduced: 400 years later.

創 Gen. 15:13, 14

- 13 耶和華對亞伯蘭說, 你要的確知道, 你的後裔必寄居別人的地又服事那地的人. 那地的人要苦待他們四百年.
- 14 並且他們所要服事的那國, 我要懲罰後來他們必帶著許多財物從那裡出來.

這事實支持保羅的判斷: 400 年後的律法,不能廢除應許,叫應許虛空。 This fact supports Paul's judgment: the law, coming 400 years later, could not annul the promise.

∄∏ Galatians 3:17

我是這麼說,上帝豫先所立的約,不能被那四百三十年以後的律法廢掉,叫應許歸於虛空.

因此,以色列人的歷史,支持亞伯拉罕的約,和摩西的約之統一性。

Thus, the history of Israel supports the unity of Abrahamic and Mosaic covenants. 摩西之約,並沒有廢除,也沒有中斷亞伯拉罕之約。

The Mosaic covenant did not annul or interrupt the Abrahamic coveannt. 亞伯拉罕之約繼續生效:而且在摩西之約的歷史中,前約的應許被應驗。

The Abrahamic covenant continued to function actively – and found a basic fulfillment in the history of the Mosaic covenant.

(iii) 大衛之約既沒有廢除,也沒有中斷摩西之約。

David's covenant did not annul or interrupt the Mosaic covenant.

大衛與他的後代的得勝與失敗 = 實現摩西之約的規定。

Each of the triumphs and tragedies of David and his sons = outworking of the stipulations of the Mosaic coveannt.

首先: 以色列的王朝: 將敬拜與統治中央化。

First, Israel's monarchy moves toward localization of worhsip and rule. 敬拜中央化 = 摩西律法規定,要一個中央的聖所。

The movgement toward localization represents a consequence of the Mosaic legislation concerning a centralized sanctuary.

申 Deut. 12:5, 11, 14, 18

- 5 但耶和華你們的上帝從你們各支派中選擇何處為立他名的居所,你們就當往那裡去求問,
- 11 那時要將我所吩咐你們的燔祭,平安祭,十分取一之物和手中的舉祭,並向耶和華許願獻的一切美祭,都奉到耶和華你們上帝所選擇要立為祂名的居所.
- 14 惟獨耶和華從你那一支派中所選擇的地方, 你就要在那裡獻燔祭, 行我一切所吩咐你的.
- 18 但要在耶和華你的上帝面前喫,在耶和華你上帝所要選擇的地方你和兒女, 僕婢,並住在你城裡的利未人,都可以喫. 也要因你手所辦的在耶和華你上帝 的面前歡樂.

這在大衛之約時期的發展,其基礎乃在摩西之約的律法裏。

This significant development under the auspices of the Davidic covenant, actually roots in the previous legislation of the Mosaic covenant.

(iv) 大衛帶約櫃進耶路撒冷的歌詞指出: 這事應驗上帝給亞伯拉罕的應許。 David's song when bringing the ark into Jerusalem – identifies this event as a fulfillment of god's covenant promises to Abraham.

代上I Chron. 16:15-18

- 15 你們要記念祂的約,直到永遠. 祂所吩咐的話,直到千代,
- 16 就是與亞伯拉罕所立的約, 向以撒所起的誓.
- 17 祂又將這約向雅各定為律例, 向以色列定為永遠的約,
- 18說,我必將迦南地賜給你,作你產業的分.
- (v) 上帝在錫安山被冠為王:上帝的寶座設立在應許之地:應驗了上帝向亞伯拉罕地應許(關於地的應許)。

Coronation of God as king in Zion – God's throne is established in the land of promise – fulfills God's covenant promises to Abraham concerning land.

(vi) 以色列亡國:為什麼?

雖然大衛之約仍然生效,可是以色列違背了摩西之約,因此被擴是必然的。 Israel's monarchy moves toward devastation at the hands of the nations. Why? Davidic covenant was still in effect. But it was Israel's violation of the stipulations of the Mosaic covenant, that finally determined the inevitability of their captivity.

王下 II Kings 17:13-14

- 13 但耶和華藉眾先知, 先見勸戒以色列人和猶大人說, 當離開你們的惡行謹守我的誡命律例, 遵行我吩咐你們列祖, 並藉我僕人眾先知所傳給你們的律法.
- 14 他們卻不聽從, 竟硬著頸項, 效法他們列祖, 不信服耶和華他們的上帝,

結論: 亞伯拉罕,摩西,與大衛指約不是相互取代,而是相輔相成。 CONCLUSION: The Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Davidic coveannts do not supplant one another; they supplement one another.

B. 約的代代相傳。

A unity in genealogical administration: this underscores the connection of each successive covenant with previous administrations.

後裔(種子)的觀念:上帝與祂的子民立約時,祂對後裔有所安排。

"Seed"-concept: When God determined to make a covenant with his people, he made his arrangements a genealogical one.

在亞伯拉罕,摩西,和大衛之約都是如此。特別在後裔(種子)觀念。

This genealogical aspect of the covenant is present in the Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Davidic covenants. It is manifested specifically in the reference to the "seed."

創 Gen. 15:18

當那日,耶和華與亞伯蘭立約,說,我已賜給你的後裔,從埃及河直到伯大河之地,

出 Ex. 20:5, 6

- 5 不可跪拜那些像,也不可事奉它,因為我耶和華你的上帝是忌邪的上帝,恨我的,我必追討他的罪,自父及子,直到三四代,
- 6 愛我, 守我誡命的, 我必向他們發慈愛, 直到千代

申 Deut. 7:9

所以,你要知道耶和華你的上帝,祂是上帝,是信實的上帝.向愛祂守祂誡命的人守約,施慈愛,直到千代.

撒下 II Sam. 7:12

你壽數滿足,與你列祖同睡的時候,我必使你的後裔接續你的位.我也必堅定他的國.

大衛的兒子不只是上帝向大衛的應許的後嗣。

David's son is not simply heir of the covenant promise made to David. 他也是上帝給亞伯拉罕,和給摩西的應許的後嗣。

He is heir also of the covenant promises made to Abraham and Moses.

因此,後裔得到亞伯拉罕之約,摩西之約,和大衛之約的福分。

The genealogical promises of God's coveannts assure his participation in the blessings of the Abrahamic and the Mosaic as well as the Davidic coveannt.

- a. 重新立約的記載。The dramatic account of covenant renewal.
- 申 Deut. 5:2, 3
- 2 耶和華我們的上帝在何烈山與我們立約.
- 3 這約不是與我們列祖立的, 乃是與我們今日在這裡存活之人立的.

上帝是與在曠野飄流 40 年之後的百姓立西乃山上的約!

It was the people standing in the plains of Moab at the end of the 40 years in the desert, who were involved in the covenant-making ceremony at Sinai (Horeb).

記得: 所有在西乃山的一代,到目前都已死了。

Remember: All the generation of those present at Sinai had dieed in the wilderness.

申 Deut. 2:14, 15

- 14 自從離開加低斯巴尼亞,到過了撒烈溪的時候,共有三十八年,等那世代的兵丁都從營中滅盡,正如耶和華向他們所起的誓.
- 15 耶和華的手也攻擊他們,將他們從營中除滅,直到滅盡.

民 Cf. Numbers 14:28-35

- 28 你們告訴他們, 耶和華說, 我指著我的永生起誓. 我必要照你們達到我耳中的話待你們.
- 29 你們的屍首必倒在這曠野,並且你們中間凡被數點,從二十歲以外向我發怨言的,
- 30 必不得進我起誓應許叫你們住的那地. 惟有耶孚尼的兒子迦勒和嫩的兒子約書亞才能進去.
- 31 但你們的婦人孩子, 就是你們所說, 要被擴掠的, 我必把他們領進去. 他們就得知你們所厭棄的那地.
- 32 至於你們,你們的屍首必倒在這曠野.
- 33 你們的兒女必在曠野飄流四十年,擔當你們淫行的罪,直到你們的屍首在曠野消滅.
- 34 按你們窺探那地的四十日,一年頂一日,你們要擔當罪孽四十年,就知道我與你們疏遠了,
- 35 我耶和華說過, 我總要這樣待這一切聚集敵我的惡會眾. 他們必在這曠野消滅, 在這裡死亡.

Numbers 26:63-65

- 63 這些就是被摩西和祭司以利亞撒所數的.他們在摩押平原與耶利哥相對的約旦河邊數點以色列人.
- 64 但被數的人中,沒有一個是摩西和祭司亞倫從前在西乃的曠野所數的以色列人,
- 65 因為耶和華論到他們說,他們必要死在曠野.所以除了耶孚尼的兒子迦勒和嫩的兒子約書亞以外,連一個人也沒有存留.

在摩押平原聚集的以色列人,有些在西乃山立約時在場。

Some of those assembled in the plains of Moab had been present when the covenant was originally made at Sinai.

可是,絕大部份還沒有出生。

But the great majority were not even born.

可是摩西說;他們都在西乃山前。

Yet: Moses affirms: all of them indeed were "present" at Sinai.

因為他們與他們的祖先的聯合 (solidarity),他們參與了西乃山上的立約。

Because of their solidarity with their forefathers by genealogical continuity, they were involved in the covenant-making ceremony at Sinai.

因此: BY EXTENSION:

從那時以後的每一代信徒,都參與了西乃山的立約。

Every subsequent generation of believers was present at the time of the making of the ancient coveannt by the genealogical principle.

上帝為救贖祂子民所立的約,是統一的整體。

The covenant of God to redeem a people of himself is indeed a unified whole.

b. 申 Deut. 29:14-15

- 14 我不但與你們立這約, 起這誓,
- 15 凡與我們一同站在耶和華我們上帝面前的,並今日不在我們這裡的人,我也與他們立這約,起這誓.

當時所有活著的以色列人,包括婦女與兒童,都聚集在摩押平原。

All Israel then living had been assembled by Moses in the plains of Moab, including women and children.

申 Deut. 29:11

今日你們的首領,族長(原文作支派),長老,官長,以色列的男丁你們的妻子,兒女和營中寄居的,以及為你們劈柴挑水的人,都站在耶和華你們的上帝面前,

只有還沒有出生的,才不可能在這次重新立約的儀式。可是摩西把這些還沒有 出生的人都包括在約裏。

Only those not yet born could not be present for the covenant renewal ceremony. But Moses extends the provisions of Deuteronomy to include peoples yet to be born.

c. 這"世世代代"的原則,可以延伸到幾代?

How far can this "generation principle" be extended? Psalm 105:8-10 replies: 詩 Psalm 105:8-10

- 8 祂記念祂的約,直到永遠,祂所吩咐的話,直到千代.
- 9 就是與亞伯拉罕所立的約,向以撒所起的誓.
- 10 祂又將這約向雅各定為律例, 向以色列定為永遠的約,

一千代:表示永遠之約。世世代代,上帝會保衛祂的約民。

A thousand generations – imply an eternal covenant. Eternal succession – in every generation, the line of God's coveannt people shall be maintained.

d.申 Deut. 7:9

所以,你要知道耶和華你的上帝,祂是上帝,是信實的上帝.向愛祂守祂誡命的人守約,施慈愛,直到千代.

這段經文告訴我們,十誡在摩西之約裏的重要性。

This passage: the decalogue's role as summation of the Mosaic covenant.

出 Ex. 20:5, 6

- 5 不可跪拜那些像,也不可事奉它,因為我耶和華你的上帝是忌邪的上帝,恨我的,我必追討他的罪,自父及子,直到三四代,
- 6 愛我, 守我誡命的, 我必向他們發慈愛, 直到千代.

出埃及記 20: 6 (加上申 7: 9) 說到千代: 意思是,永遠之約。

As enlightened by Deut. 7:9, Ex. 20:6 refers to thousands of generations.

God will show lovingdkindness to a thousand generations. Reference to a "thousand generations" intends to depict th concept of an etenal covenant.

從「世世代代」的原則了解彼得的話:

你們是先知的子孫,也承受上帝與你們祖宗所立的約,就是對亞伯拉罕說地上萬族,都要因你的後裔得福.

亞伯拉罕,摩西,大衛之約的福分,延伸到新約裏的人。

The genealogical provisions of the covenants with Abraham, Moses, and David extend into the new covenant.

約不只關乎外在的事。約,包括上帝賜祂的靈給祂的子民:

Covenant relates not only to external matters; it includes the gift of the Spirit to God's people.

賽 Isaiah 59:21

耶和華說,至於我與他們所立的約,乃是這樣.我加給你的靈,傳給你的話必不離你的口,也不離你後裔與你後裔之後裔的口,從今直到永遠,這是耶和華說的.

亞伯拉罕的福分,包括領受聖靈。

The blessing of Abraham is related to the receiving of the Holy Spirit. 新約的信徒領受聖靈,是應驗上帝在約裏對亞伯拉罕的應許。

The gift of the Spirit to new covenant believers comes in fulfillment of the covenant promises to Abraham.

л⊓ Galatians 3:13-14

- 13 基督既為我們受了咒詛,就贖出我們脫離律法的咒詛,因為經上記著: "凡掛在木頭上都是被咒詛的."
- 14 這便叫亞伯拉罕的福, 因基督耶穌可以臨到外邦人, 使我們因信得著所應 許的聖靈.

"Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law ... in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." (Gal. 3;13, 14)

兩個附帶的原則: TWO COROLLARY PRINCIPLES:

(a) "插進 (接枝)" 的原則: "Grafting" principle

從先祖時期,沒有以色列血統的,也可能包括在約的群體裏:

From the earliest time, the "ingrafting" of those not of natural Israelite birth was made a possibility:

創 Gen. 17:12, 13

- 12 你們世世代代的男子, 無論是家裡生的, 是在你後裔之外用銀子從外人買的, 生下來第八日, 都要受割禮.
- 13 你家裡生的和你用銀子買的,都必須受割禮,這樣,我的約就立在你們肉體上作永遠的約.

羅 Romans 11:17, 19

- 17 若有幾根枝子被折下來, 你這野橄欖得接在其中, 一同得著橄欖根的肥汁.
- 19 你若說, 那枝子被折下來, 是特為叫我接上.

加 Galatians 3:29

你們既屬乎基督,就是亞伯拉罕的後裔,是照著應許承受產業的了。

(b) "剪除"的原則 "Pruning" principle

有亞伯拉罕血統的後裔,也可能從他的特權地位上被剪除。

It is also possible for a natural seed of Abraham to be removed from its position of privilege.

這原則從上帝賜下應許的最早時期,就很明顯了。

This principle may be traced back to the earliest experience of the line of promise.

羅 Romans 9:13

正如經上所記,「雅各是我所愛的,以掃是我所惡的.]

瑪 Cf. Malachi 1:2, 3

- 2 耶和華說, 我曾愛你們. 你們卻說, 你在何事上愛我們呢. 耶和華說以掃不是雅各的哥哥麼. 我卻愛雅各,
- 3 惡以掃, 使他的山嶺荒涼, 把他的地業交給曠野的野狗.

創 Genesis 25:23

耶和華對她說,兩國在你腹內.兩族要從你身上出來.這族必強於那族.將來大的要服事小的.

這個"剪除"的觀念,必須應用在"誰是以色列人"的定義上。

This concept of pruning must be given full weight in the definition of "Israel." 真正作以色列人,不只是在血統上是亞伯拉罕的後裔而已。

"Israel" cannot be identified merely as ethnic descendants of Abraham.

羅 Romans 9:6

這不是說上帝的話落了空.因為從以色列生的,不都是以色列人.

上帝眼中的真以色列包括:以色列人—不只是亞伯拉罕的後裔,而是有亞伯拉 罕的信心的以色列人;加上因有信心而被插進來的外邦人。

Those who, in adidtion to being related to Abraham by natural descendancy, also relate to him by faith, plus those Gentiles who are ingrafted by faith, constitute the true Israel of God.

這"剪除"的原則,並不廢除自然血統的原則。

This "pruning" principle does not have the effect of nullifying the genealogical principle of natural descendency.

"剪除"原則對不信不順服的人是警告;但並不是說:上帝不再世世代代的賜 下約中之福了。

The "pruning" principle may threaten any who would be presumptuous, but it does not suggest that God's grace works against the natural order of creation.

上帝救贖的恩典並不違背祂自己創造的秩序(家庭);乃是敵對人的罪。

The grace of God in salvation is not against creation's order; it is against sin. 基督徒考慮上帝救贖大工的時候,不要依循一種"自然/恩典"的二分法。

The Christian must avoid a nature/grace dichotomy as he considers the working of God in salvation.

上帝的救贖工作要恢復祂創造的秩序。而家庭,是創造秩序重要的一部份。

Redemption has the effect of restoring the order of creation, and the solidarity of the family is one of the greatest of creation's ordinances.

上帝的救贖工作是世世代代傳下去的。上帝依循祂創造秩序來救贖祂的子民。

The genealogical character of redemption's activity underscores the intention of God to work in accord with, rather than in discord with, this creational ordering.

因此:上帝世世代代守祂的約;這點指出約的統一性,連續性。

Therefore: The genealogical principle of God's covenantal activity stresses the unity of the covenants.

上帝是信實的,必守祂約中的應許,直到一千代。

"Unto a thousand generations" God abides faithful to his covenant promises.

上帝世世代代的信實,使所有的後代連接起來成為一體(上帝的子民)。

This faithfulness across generations binds all successive covenants to one another. 亞伯拉罕之約,摩西之約,和大衛之約,是一個約的不同世代。

The covenants of Abraham, Moses, and Dvid actually are successive stages of a single covenant.

2. 上帝的約的統一性,包括新約 Unity Includes (Incorporates) God's New Covenant

以色列先知所預言的新約,在上帝計劃中並沒有與先前的約分割。相反地:上 帝向以色列所應許的新約,是先前的約的完全成就(應驗)。

The new covenant, promised by Israel's prophets, does not appear as a distinctive covenantal unit unrelated to God's previous administrations. The new covenant promised to Israel represents the consummate fulfillment of the earlier covenants. 新約與亞伯拉罕之約,摩西之約,和大衛之約有著有機(生命)的關連。這一點,從舊約先知關於新約的預言,和新約應驗這"成全之約"都可以清楚看出。 This organic relation of the new covenant to the covenants of Abraham, Moses, and David, finds explicit development in the Old Testament prophecies concerning the covenant, and also in the New Testament realization of this consummating covenant. 不論從舊約或新約角度看,新約就是亞伯拉罕,摩西和大衛約裏預言的應驗。 From either perspective, the new covenant may be understood in no other way than as a realization of the prophetic projections found in the Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Davidic covenants.

耶利米先知的預言是難忘的;他清楚地將新約和摩西之約連接起來: Jeremiah's classic prophecy clearly relates the new covenant to the Mosaic covenant. 耶 Jeremiah 31:31-33

- 31 耶和華說, 日子將到, 我要與以色列家和猶大家另立新約,
- 32 不像我拉著他們祖宗的手, 領他們出埃及地的時候, 與他們所立的約。我雖作他們的丈夫, 他們卻背了我的約. 這是耶和華說的.
- 33 耶和華說, 那些日子以後, 我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣. 我要將我的律法放在他們裡面, 寫在他們心上. 我要作他們的上帝, 他們要作我的子民.

上帝將來與色列家和猶大家立的新約,在外表形式上不像摩西之約。

This "new covenant" with the "house of Israel and with the house of Judah" will not be like the Mosaic covenant in its externalistic features.

可是,上帝要將祂的律法刻在他們的心版上。

But the law of God as revealed ot Moses shall be written on the heart.

律法的内涵沒有更改。不過,上帝在新約時期執行律法的方式卻不同。

The substance of the law will be the same; the mode of its administration is different. 形式雖改變,但耶利米所預言的新約,與西乃山的約在本質上是直接有關的。

The form may change, but the essence of the new covenant of Jeremiah's prophecy relates directly to the law-coveannt made at Sinai.

在耶利米書 32 章,他將新約的預言,和亞伯拉罕之約連接起來。

In the following chapter (32), Jeremiah combines a reference to the new covenant with alusion to the ancient covenant made with Abraham.

上帝要在此地,信實地栽種他的子民(41節)。

God will "faithfully plant" his people "in this land" (verse 41).

上帝也使他們有同一顆心,走同一道路,要他們永遠敬畏祂(39,40節)。

He will "give them one heart and one way" that they may fear him always (vv. 39-40).

耶 Jeremiah 32:39-41

- 39 我要使他們彼此同心同道,好叫他們永遠敬畏我,使他們和他們後世的子孫得福樂,
- 40 又要與他們立永遠的約,必隨著他們施恩,並不離開他們,且使他們有敬畏我的心,不離開我.
- 41 我必歡喜施恩與他們,要盡心盡意,誠誠實實將他們栽於此地.

先知將這些重點連接起來,就把亞伯拉罕之約和新約連接起來了。

By combining these themes, Ezekiel joins the Abrahamic with the new covenant. 兩約成為一個整體,乃是上帝子民所期望的實體(約)。

These two covenants unite to form a single expectation for God's people.

先知以西結也將新約和上帝先前所給的期望連接起來。

The prophet Ezekiel also relates the new covenant to God's previous dispensations.

結 34: 20-25 提到上帝將來要與以色列設立一個"平安之約"。

Ezekiel 34:20ff. refers to a "covenant of peace" which God will establish with Israel.

結 Ezek. 34:20-25

- 20 所以, 主耶和華如此說, 我必在肥羊和瘦羊中間施行判斷.
- 21 因為你們用脅用肩擁擠一切瘦弱的,又用角牴觸,以致使牠們四散.
- 22 所以, 我必拯救我的群羊不再作掠物. 我也必在羊和羊中間施行判斷.
- 23 我必立一牧人照管他們, 牧養他們, 就是我的僕人大衛. 他必牧養他們, 作他們的牧人.
- 24 我耶和華必作他們的上帝, 我的僕人大衛必在他們中間作王.這是耶和華說的.
- 25 我必與他們立平安的約, 使惡獸從境斷絕, 他們就必安居在曠野, 躺臥在林中.

上帝要在他們中間設立牧人,就是祂的僕人大衛,在他們中間作王。 因此,新約和舊約的大衛之約是連接的。

God will set over them one shepherd, his "servant David," who will be prince over them. (verses 23-24). Thus the new covenant merges with the Davidic covenant. 先知以西結在另外一段驚人的經文裏,將亞伯拉罕之約,摩西之約,大衛之約和上帝將來與以色列立約的期望連在一起。

In a second, most remarkable passage, the prophet Ezekiel combines allusions to the Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Davidic covenants with a word of prophecy concerning Israel's future covenantal expectations.

他在聖靈默示下,這樣寫出將來一天的盼望 (結 37: 24-26):

He anticipates by divine inspiration the day in which:

結 Ezek. 37:24-26

- 24 我的僕人大衛必作他們的王. 眾民必歸一個牧人. 他們必順從我的典章,謹守遵行我的律例.
- 25 他們必住在我賜給我僕人雅各的地上,就是你們列祖所住之地. 他們和他們的子孫,並子孫的子孫,都永遠住在那裡. 我的僕人大衛必作他們的王,直到永遠.
- 26 並且我要與他們立平安的約, 作為永約. 我也要將他們安置在本地. 使他們的

人數增多,又在他們中間設立我的聖所,直到永遠.

在這段經文裏,三個舊約時期的約,都連接在同一個上帝的計劃裏。

Now all three ancient covenants combine into a single divine ordering.

上帝所有的應許,都在新約中成就,達到高潮。先知們的預言,連接了亞伯拉 罕之約,摩西之約,大衛之約,和將來上帝與以色列人立約的期望。

By the new covenant, all the promises of God find their consummation. These prophetic passages relate the Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Davidic covenants to Israel's future covenant expectation.

在舊約的應許裏,新約對上帝的子民來說,並不是新穎、神奇的。新約就是舊約所有的應許和期望的結合和應驗。

The new covenant does not appear in the promises of the Old Testament as some novelty previously unknown to God's people. Instead, the new covenant represents the collation of all the old covenant promises in terms of a future expectation. 在舊約時期,上帝的子民並沒有經歷到關於新約的預言的應驗。

So far as the history of the Old Testament people of God is concerned, the provisions and expectations of the new covenant never found realization.

關於聖地復原的預言,在被擄之後有一個"迷你"(小型的)應驗。

Prophecies concerning restoration to promised land received a "mini-realization" at the point of return after exile.

先知所預言的70年被擄之後,以色列民的確歸回到猶大地。

Israel did return to the land after the 70 years of prophesied captivity had transpired. 可是這次的小型歸回,雖然很重要,不可能是先知偉大預言的應驗。

Yet this small-scale restoration, significant though it may have been, hardly could be understood as fulfilling the magnificent expectations described by Israel's prophets.

加爾文對耶利米書 32 章的注釋:

Calvin explains the prophecy of Jeremiah 32:

"When Christians explain this passage and the like, they leave out the liberation of the people rm Babylonian exile, as though these prophecies did not belong at all to the time; in this they are mistaken. And the Jews who reject Christ, stop in that eartnly deliverance. But the Prophets, as I have said, begin with the return of the people, but they set Christ also in the middle, that the faithful might know that the return was but a slight taste of the full grace, which was alone to be expected from Christ; for it was then, indeed, that God really planted his people." (John Calvin, *Commentaries on the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah and the Lamentations*, Grand Rapids, 1950, 4:220-221.)

直到新約時期,新的約被設立,才看見預言應驗的榮耀。

In the glories of the New Testament era, the new covenant is formally inaugurated. 上帝的兒子道成肉身,在地上工作的時候,新約才應驗了舊約的應許。

By the ministries of the incarnate son of God the new covenant finally brought to fruition the promises of the Abrahamic, the Mosiac, and the Davidic coveannts. 耶穌基督設立新約,是在主餐(立約的晚餐)的時候。

Jesus Christ indicates the point of formal inauguration of the new covenant, at the institution of the covenantal meal of the Lord's Supper.

主拿起杯來說:這杯是用我血所立的新約,是為你們流出來的(路 22: 20)。 Having taken the cup, he declares: "This cup wwhich is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood" (Luke 22:20). 在那時刻,基督藉著祂的話和祂的分杯(代表祂的流血)說明:新約成立了。

At that crucial moment, Jesus communicates by word and deed that the distribution of the cup representing his blood is the inauguration ceremony of the new covenant. 約的應許,不再是上帝子民的期待;是可以經歷,享受的事實了。

No longer is the covenant a promise to be anticipated. It is a reality to be enjoyed. 基督徒每次守聖餐,就記念,慶祝這個新的約的事實,新的約的關係。

The Christian celebrates the reality of this new covenant relationship, each time he participates in the Lord's Supper.

使徒保羅也認為主餐是約的儀式。他重申主耶穌的話:

Paul the apostle recognizes this supper to be a covenantal feast in that he echoes the words of the Lord Jesus concerning the "new covenant":

林前 I Cor. 11:25

飯後,也照樣拿起杯來,說,這杯是用我的血所立的新約.你們每逢喝的時候,要如此行,為的是記念我.

希伯來書的作者承認,新約的應許,關乎這世代的,已經應驗了。從兩點他引用耶利米的預言:

The writer to the Hebrews also recognizes the fulfillment of these new covenant promises for the present age by citing Jeremiah's prophecy at two points:

來 Heb. 8:6-13

- 6 如今耶穌所得的職任是更美的,正如祂作更美之約的中保. 這約原是憑更美之應許立的.
- 7 那前約若沒有瑕疵,就無處尋求後約了.
- 8 所以主指責祂的百姓說,(或作所以主指前約的缺欠說)[日子將到,我要與以色列家,和猶大家,另立新約.
- 9 不像我拉著他們祖宗的手, 領他們出埃及的時候, 與他們所立的約. 因為他們不恆心守我的約, 我也不理他們. 這是主說的.]
- 10 主又說,[那些日子以後,我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣.我要將我的律放在他們裡面,寫在他們心上,我要作他們的上帝,他們要作我的子民.
- 11 他們不用各人教導自己的鄉鄰,和自己的弟兄,說,你該認識主因為他們從最小的到至大的,都必認識我.
- 12 我要寬恕他們的不義,不再記念他們的罪愆.]
- 13 既說新約, 就以前約為舊了. 但那漸舊漸衰的, 就必快歸無有了.

來 Heb. 10:15-18

- 15 聖靈也對我們作見證. 因為祂既已說過,
- 16 [主說, 那些日子以後, 我與他們所立的約乃是這樣我要將我的律法寫在他們心上, 又要放在他們的裡面.]
- 17以後就說,[我不再記念他們的罪愆,和他們的過犯.]
- 18 這些罪過既已赦免,就不用再為罪獻祭了.

希伯來書的作者提到更美的約時,也提起耶利米書預言的新的約(來 8: 6,比較 9: 15)。

In these contextual comments, the writer relates the "better" covenant of the present age to the "new" covenant prophesied by Jeremiah (cf. Heb. 8:6 with 9:15).

來 Heb. 9:15

為此祂作了新約的中保. 既然受死贖了人在前約之時所犯的罪過,便叫蒙召之人 得著所應許永遠的產業.

他清楚的提出,耶利米說到的"新"的約,就是聖靈對我們作的見證。 In a most pointed fashion, he indicates that Jeremiah's word concerning the "new" coveannt is the Holy Spirit bearing witness to "us" (Heb. 10:15).

來 Heb. 10:15

聖靈也對我們作見證. 因為祂既已說過,

因此我們這樣作結論:

亞伯拉罕,摩西,和大衛的約,在今世的新約已經應驗(成全)了。上帝的約,在每一個世代都是一樣的。

Thus it may be concluded that:

The covenants of Abraham, Moses, and David find fulfillment in the reality of the new covenant of the present day. God's covenants throughout the ages are one.

新約是至終的 (consummating);從這點我們可以看出約的統一性。

This oneness finds splended testimony in the consummating character of the new covenant.

3. 約的統一性,包括上帝與亞當和挪亞立的約

Unity Extending to the Covenants made with Noah and Adam

亞伯拉罕之前的約,與後來的約,有關係嗎?約的統一性包括先前的約嗎? How do the covenantal administrations prior to Abraham relate to later covenants? Does the unity of God's covenant include these earlier administrations?

A. 上帝與挪亞立的約,建立了保存人類的結構,叫上帝實現祂的計劃,為自己的名救贖祂的子民。

The covenant with Noah provides the preservative structure by which God's purpose to redeem a people for himself may be realized.

創 Gen. 8:22

地還存留的時候,稼穡,寒暑,冬夏,書夜就永不停息了.

甚至直到今天,四季輪流不息,是上帝訂的定例,都因祂與挪亞所立的約。 Even today, the regularity of seasons remains established, because of God's covenanting word with Noah.

B. 人類墮落之後上帝所宣告的咒詛,同時表明了全能上帝定意(立約)要為自己救贖祂的子民。

The curse pronounced soon after the fall of man was, at the same time, a commitment by the Almighty to redeem a people to himself.

保羅在羅馬書提到上帝約中的定意,要保證(女人的)後裔勝過撒但: In Romans, Paul alludes to the covenantal commitment of God to guarantee the triumph of the seed of the redeemed over Satan:

羅 Rom. 16:20

賜平安的上帝, 快要將撒但踐踏在你們腳下. 願我主耶穌基督的恩常和你們同在.

創 Gen. 3:15

我又要叫你和女人彼此為仇. 你的後裔和女人的後裔也彼此為仇. 女人的後裔要傷你的頭, 你要傷祂的腳跟.

因此:上帝立約的宣稱,就是先向蛇說的話,是有永久意義的:

Thus – God's word of commitment spoken first to the serpent has abiding significance today.

C. 不過,上帝與墮落前的人立的約,其中部份在罪進入人間後就終止了。 Certain aspects of God's bond with pre-fallen man ended with the entrance of sin. 人類再沒有亞當起初的選擇,要吃還是不吃分辨善惡樹的果子。

Man no longer faces Adam's option to choose whether to eat the forbidden fruit. 不過在墮落後歷史的進程,人仍然是上帝按祂形象造的,仍須對創造主負責。 Nevertheless, man continues to exist throughout the ages as a being made in God's image with certain obligations to the Creator.

人仍有責任生養眾多,治理全地;人手所作的工,理當把果子獻上給創造和救 贖的主,使祂得到榮耀。

He still has the responsibility to multiply, to subdue the earth, and to offer the work of his hands to the glory of the Creator/Redeemer.

因為被造的人和造物主仍然有著這<u>重</u>關係,因此上帝與人原來立的約,仍然有效,還是有意義的。

Because of this continuing relationship of creature to Creator, the original bond of God to man continues to have abiding significance.

結論 CONCLUSION

很奇妙的,聖經中約的結構是前後一致的。上帝立約,要祂的子民屬祂; 祂是 永不改變的。

The covenant structure of Scripture manifests a marvelous unity. God, in binding a people to himself, never changes.

因此,從亞當到耶穌基督,上帝對待祂子民的歷史中,祂的約的安排 (covenant administration) 都是前後一致的。

Therefore: from Adam to Christ, a unity of covenantal administration characterizes the history of God's dealing with his people.

II. 上帝的約: 內容的統一性 Unity of Theme in All of God's Covenants

聖經裏上帝所立的,在內容(主題)上也是前後一致的。內容上的一致,是指上帝 與祂的子民的約的核心。

The divine covenants of Scripture show a thematic unity. This unity of theme is the heart of the covenant as it relates God to his people.

上帝與祂子民立的約的總結就是:我要作你們的上帝,你們要作我的子民。

A single phrase recurs as the summation of the covenant relationship:

"I shall be your God, you shall be my people."

這句話可被稱為約的"以馬內利原則",即:上帝與我們同在。

This phrase can be designated the "Immanuel principle" of the covenant: "God with us." 這句話是約的核心思想。

This declaration is the heart of the covenant.

1. 這個主題,出現在上帝與亞伯拉罕,摩西,大衛所立的約,和新約裏。

This theme appears explicitly in connection with the covenants with Abraham, Moses, David, and the New Covenant.

這句話頭一次出現於創 17:7。

The first occurrence of the phrase: Gen. 17:7.

創 Gen. 17:7

我要與你並你世世代代的後裔堅立我的約,作永遠的約,是要作你和你後裔的上帝.

上帝設立割禮,作與亞伯拉罕立的約的印記 (seal)。

God establishes circumcision as the seal of the Abrahamic covenant.

上帝向亞伯拉罕保證,祂的約是不變的。

God reassures Abraham, his covenant commitment is settled.

上帝再次肯定,祂「要作你和你後裔的上帝。」這個關係有持續意義。

The Lord affirms his intention "to be God to you and to your seed after you."

The abiding significance of this relationship.

這句話在摩西的約裏常常出現,常被強調。

Under the Mosaic covenant, the phrase appears frequently, with pointed emphasis.

約的核心意義是,上帝搭救以色列民脫離埃及為奴之地,作上帝的屬民。

The essence of the covenant has to do with the deliverance of Israel from the bondage of Egypt, in order to become the Lord's people.

出 Ex. 6:6, 7

- 6 所以你要對以色列人說,我是耶和華.我要用伸出來的膀臂重重地刑罰埃及人,救贖你們脫離他們的重擔不作他們的苦工.
- 7 我要以你們為我的百姓,我也要作你們的上帝.你們要知道我是耶和華你們的上帝,是救你們脫離埃及人之重擔的.

西乃山上設定約時,上帝提醒以色列人,祂救他們脫離埃及,帶他們到自己面前, 是要他們作祂的屬民。他們若繼續遵行上帝的話,就作屬上帝的子民。

At the covenantal inauguration at Sinai, God reminds Israel that he delivered them from Egypt and brough them to himself. If they continue in obedience, they will be his own treasure.

出 Ex. 19:4, 5

- 4 我向埃及人所行的事,你們都看見了,且看見我如鷹將你們背在翅膀上,帶來歸我.
- 5 如今你們若實在聽從我的話,遵守我的約,就要在萬民中作屬我的子民。因為全地都是我的.

在摩西五經幾處我們看見:約的真義和上帝救以色列民出埃及的關連。

Elsewhere in the Pentateuch, we find the same connection between (a) the essence of the covenant, and (b) deliverance from Egypt.

Lev. 11:45

我是把你們從埃及地領出來的耶和華,要作你們的上帝.所以你們要聖潔,因為我是聖潔的.

又有一次摩西提醒以色列民: At another point Moses reminds the people:

申 Deut. 4:20

耶和華將你們從埃及領出來, 脫離鐵爐, 要特作自己產業的子民,像今日一樣.

以色列民在摩押平原站在上帝面前重新立約時,摩西宣告他們聚集的目的: As Israel stands before God in the plains of Moab to renew the bonds of the covenant, Moses indicates the express purpose of their gathering.

申 Deut. 29:13

這樣, 祂要照祂向你所應許的話, 又向你列祖亞伯拉罕, 以撒雅各所起的誓, 今日立你作祂的子民, 祂作你的上帝.

上帝立約的目的,是要呼召一群人作屬祂的子民。

The very purpose of the covenant isGod's intention to make a people to be his own.

所以: THEREFORE:

在亞伯拉罕之約和摩西之約裏,都有約的核心意義的宣稱。

Same summary of the essence of the covenant is in the Mosaic and Abrahamic covenants.

在大衛之約裏,也有約的核心意義的宣稱:

The same formula of covenantal summation appears in the Davidic covenant.

一次關鍵時刻,大祭司耶和耶大立七歲的約阿施為王,為持續上帝對大衛和他後裔的應許。列王記下指出事件的重要性:上帝與大衛立的約,和約的意義連起來:

At one crucial point, the high priest Jehoiada replaces the corrupted Queen Athaliah with seven-year-old Jehoash, in order to maintain the line of David. II Kings indicates the significance of the event. The covenant with David is related to the essence of God's covenant commitment.

王下 II Kings 11:17

耶何耶大使王和民與耶和華立約,作耶和華的民.又使王與民立約.

And Jehoida cut the covenant between Yahveh and between the king, and between the people to be a people for Yahveh; and between the king and the people.

歷史代志下這樣記載: Parallel account:

代下 II Chron. 23:16

耶何耶大與眾民和王立約,都要作耶和華的民.

And Jehoida cut a covenant between him(self) and between all the people, and between the king, to be a people for Yahveh.

耶和耶大究竟設立了幾個約?兩個?三個?四個?這些約彼此的關係是什麼? Did Jehoiada institute two, three, or four covenantal relations? How do these various covenant relate to one another? Interesting questions.

上帝約的核心意義,在大衛之約清楚述出。

The essence of the divine covenant finds explicit expression in the Davidic covenant. 上帝維持大衛的家族為自己的約民,與以色列民作上帝的屬民,是息息相關的。 The maintenance of the Davidic line in covenantal relation with Yahveh is related specifically with Israel's being "a people for Yahveh."

以西結也以約的核心意義論到上帝對大衛的應許。

Ezekiel also discusses God's commitment to David in terms of the essential theme of the covenant.

以西結修改了這公式。一般的說法是: 我作你們的上帝,你們要作我的子民。 Ezekiel modifies the normal formula. As the full phrase generally occurs, it contains: (1) I shall be your God, and (2) you shall be my people. 以西結強調約的公式,與大衛之約之間的關係:

But Ezekiel dramatizes the relation of the covenantal formula to the Davidic covenant. The prophet declares:

結 Ezek. 34:24

我耶和華必作他們的上帝,我的僕人大衛必在他們中間作王。這是耶和華說的。

大衛是約民的代表;代替全以色列民。

As covenantal representative, David substitutes for the whole of the people.

因為他是屬耶和華的,因此全以色列民都屬耶和華。

Because he belongs to the Lord, all the people belong to the Lord.

約的核心意義的應驗,在上帝與大衛的後裔的親密關係。

The essence of the covenant finds its fulfillment through God's intimate relation with the heir to the Davidic throne.

這新的約的意義,也是一樣:作上帝的子民。

The new covenant is also interpreted in its essence, by the use of this phrase, "to be a people for the Lord":

耶 Jeremiah 24:7

我要賜給他們認識我的心,知道我是耶和華。他們要作我的子民,我要作他們的上帝,因為他們要一心歸向我。

耶 Jeremiah 31:33

耶和華說:那些日子以後,我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣:我要將我的律法放在 他們裏面,寫在他們心上。我要作他們的上帝,他們要作我的子民。

耶 Jeremiah 32:37-38

- 37 我在怒氣、忿怒和大惱恨中,將以色列人趕到各國。日後,我必從那裏將他們 召聚出來,領他們回到此地,使他們安然居住。
- 38 他們要作我地子民,我要作他們的上帝。

撒迦利亞書:上帝子民將來的境況:有一天,萬國都與耶和華建立關係。

Zechariah: dimension of the future covenantal expectations for God's people.

Zechariah anticipates the day, in which many nations will be joined to Yahweh.

亞 Zechariah 2:11

那時,必有許多國歸附耶和華,作池(原文作我)的子民.(原文是我)要住在你中間

約的真義被延伸,包含了外邦人!

The essence of the covenantal relationship is clearly extended to include the Gentiles.

Zechariah 8:8: The ethical significance of the essence of the covenantal bond. In the day of the full restoration of the people of God, they will be God's people in truth and righteousness.

亞 Zechariah 8:8

我要領他們來,使他們住在耶路撒冷中.他們要作我的子民.我要作他們的上帝,都憑誠實和公義.

因此上帝的子民應該彼此說誠實話(真理)。

Therefore, the people are to speak the truth to one another:

亞 Zechariah 8:16

你們所當行的是這樣,各人與鄰舍說話誠實,在城門口按至理判斷使人和睦.

這節經文應用在新約的上帝子民身上。(上下文:他們在基督裏是一體。) This verse finds explicit application to God's new covenant people as they enjoy the unity of the body of Christ.

弗 Eph. 4:25

所以你們要棄絕謊言,各人與鄰舍說實話.因為我們是互相為肢體.

新約聖經裏,約的核心意義清楚應用在上帝的子民身上:來 8:10,林後 6:16。 Explicit application of the essence of the new covenant to God's people in the present (New Testament) age is found in Hebrews 8:10, and II Corinthians 6:16.

來 Hebrews 8:10

主又說,[那些日子以後,我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣.我要將我的律放在他們裡面,寫在他們心上,我要作他們的上帝,他們要作我的子民.

林後 II Corin. 6:16

上帝的殿和偶像有甚麼相同呢. 因為我們是永生上帝的殿. 就如上帝曾說, [我要他們中間居住, 在他們中間來往. 我要作他們的上帝, 他們要作我的子民.]

上帝呼召祂的子民要聖潔,要分別出來;就是摩西的約中約的核心意義。上帝將以色列民從埃及分別出來。

This call to a separated holiness represents a most appropriate application of the covenant formula, since Moses originally related the phrase to Israel's separation from the uncleanness of Egypt.

Cf. Leviticus 11:44-47, esp. 44-45:

- 44 我是耶和華你們的上帝,所以你們要成為聖潔,因為我是聖潔的。你們也不可在地上的爬物污穢自己。
- 45 我是把你們從埃及地領出來的耶和華,要作你們的上帝,所以你們要聖潔,因 為我是聖潔的。
 - 2. 這個主題,特別在上帝實在住在祂子民當中,發揮出來。

The theme "I shall be your God and you shall be my people" is developed particularly in association with God's actually dwelling in the midst of his people.

聖經裏越來越強調一項重要的事實,就是:上帝住在祂的子民當中。

The reality of God's residing among his people displays an ever-increasing significance throughout Scripture.

上帝的居所,從會幕到聖殿到上帝之城,包括道成肉身的基督,基督的教會,和上帝子民至終的榮耀。

It moves from the figure of the tabernacle to the figure of the temple to the figure of the city of God. It involves the incarnate Christ, the church of Christ, and the final glorification of God's people.

在每一個階段,上帝住在祂子民當中的事實,都與約的核心有關:我要作你們的上帝,你們要作我的子民。

In each case, God's dwelling among his people is related directly to the heart of the covenant concept: "I shall be your God and you shall be my people."

上帝在祂子民當中居住,是祂的保證,保證祂是他們的上帝,他們是祂的子民。 By dwelling in their midst, God seals the reality of the fact that he indeed is their God

會幕: 約的核心意義初期的應驗。

and they indeed are his people.

Tabernacle = the initial fulfillment of the essence of the covenantal relation.

上帝吩咐以色列建造會幕,好叫祂住在他們當中。

God commanded Israel to construct the Tabernacle that he might dwell among them.

出 Ex. 25:8

又當為我造聖所,使我可以住在他們中間.

會幕是上帝與祂子民會面的地方:

The tabernacle was to be the place of God's meeting with his people.

出 Ex. 29:42-44

- 42 這要在耶和華面前, 會幕門口, 作你們世世代代常獻的燔祭. 我要在那裡與你們相會, 和你們說話.
- 43 我要在那裡與以色列人相會, 會幕就要因我的榮耀成為聖.
- 44 我要使會幕和增成聖, 也要使亞倫和他的兒子成聖, 給我供祭司的職分.

會幕分別出來的結果是:上帝住在以色列眾子當中,作他們的上帝。

The effect of the consecration of the tent of meeting was that: God would dwell among the sons of Israel, and would be their God.

出 Ex. 29:45

我要住在以色列人中間, 作他們的上帝.

利 Lev. 26:9-13

9 我要眷顧你們,使你們生養眾多,也要與你們堅定所立的約.

- 10 你們要喫陳糧,又因新糧挪開陳糧.
- 11 我要在你們中間立我的帳幕,我的心也不厭惡你們.
- 12 我要在你們中間行走, 我要作你們的上帝, 你們要作我的子民.
- 13 我是耶和華你們的上帝,曾將你們從埃及地領出來,使你們不作埃及人的奴僕,我也折斷你們所負的軛,叫你們挺身而走.

申命記多次強調耶和華選擇祂的名在祂子民當中的居所;預表上帝要選擇一個中央 地點:錫安山,居住在祂子民當中。

The emphasis in Deuteronomy on "the place" where the Lord was to "choose for his name to dwell" anticipates the centralization of God's dwelling in Zion among his people.

申 Deut. 12:5, 11, 14

- 5 但耶和華你們的上帝從你們各支派中選擇何處為立祂名的居所,你們就當往那裡去求問,
- 11 那時要將我所吩咐你們的燔祭,平安祭,十分取一之物和手中的舉祭,並向耶和華許願獻的一切美祭,都奉到耶和華你們上帝所選擇要立為祂名的居所.
- 14 惟獨耶和華從你那一支派中所選擇的地方, 你就要在那裡獻燔祭, 行我一切所吩咐你的.

申 Deut. 14:22

你要把你撒種所產的,就是你田地每年所出的,十分取一分.

申 Deut. 16:2, 6, 7, 11

- 2 你當在耶和華所選擇要立為祂名的居所,從牛群羊群中將逾越節的祭牲獻給耶和華你的上帝.
- 6只當在耶和華你上帝所選擇要立為祂名的居所,晚上日落的時候,乃是你出埃及的時候,獻逾越節的祭.
- 7 當在耶和華你上帝所選擇的地方把肉烤了喫 (烤或作煮), 次日早晨就回到你的帳棚去.
- 11 你和你兒女, 僕婢, 並住在你城裡的利未人,以及在你們中間寄居的與孤兒寡婦, 都要在耶和華你上帝所選擇立為祂名的居所, 在耶和華你的上帝面前歡樂.

上帝的神權統治祂的子民,其核心意義就是:上帝與祂的子民同在。

At the heart of the theocracy is the principle of God's being with his people.

舊約裏對將來的預言,也將上帝在祂子民中居住,和約的成全連接起來。

Projections concerning the future also relate God's dwelling in the midst of his people to covenant fulfillment.

以西結書: 上帝的會幕 Ezekiel expands on the figure of God's tabernacle:

結 Ezek. 37:26-28

26 並且我要與他們立平安的約,作為永約. 我也要將他們安置在本地,使他們的人數增多,又在他們中間設立我的聖所,直到永遠.

- 27 我的居所必在他們中間. 我要作他們的上帝, 他們要作我的子民.
- 28 我的聖所在以色列人中間直到永遠,外邦人就必知道,我是叫以色列成為聖的耶和華.

約的公式:上帝作祂子民的上帝,與聖殿將來的境況,直接有關。上帝與祂子民的 同在,在聖殿中應驗。

The summarizing formula of the covenant is related directly to future expectations concerning the sanctuary: it will be realized in the form of the temple.

在新約時期約的完全應驗,以馬內利是中心思想,就是約的核心。

In terms of the consummate experience of the new covenant, the theme of Immanuel as the sum of the covenant also plays a central role.

上帝的會幕道成肉身,住在人間。

God tabernacles in human flesh by the presence of the Incarnate Son.

約 John 1:14

道成了肉身,住在我們中間,充充滿滿地有恩典,有真理。我們也見過祂的容光, 正是父獨生子的容光。

上帝的子民就是上帝的聖殿。

God's people = temple of the Lord, "being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." (Eph. 2:21-22)

弗 Eph. 2:21-22

- 21 各 (或作全)房靠祂聯絡得合式,漸漸成為主的聖殿.
- 22 你們也靠祂同被建造,成為上帝藉著聖靈居住的所在.

被上帝救贖的子民成千上萬;上帝的會幕覆庇他們:

The great multitude of the redeemed which no one can number serve the Lord day and night in his temple, having God's tabernacle spread over them (Rev. 17:5).

啟 Rev. 7:15

所以他們在上帝寶座前, 晝夜在祂殿中事奉祂. 坐寶座的要用帳幕覆庇他們.

約的公式最後出現在聖經裏,記載在啟示錄 21: 3:

The final echo of the covenantal formula in Scripture is found in Revelation 21:3

啟 Rev. 21:3

我聽見有大聲音從寶座出來說,看哪,上帝帳幕在人間. 祂要與人同住,他們要作祂 的子民,上帝要親自與他們同在,作他們的上帝.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behond, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them."

這節的上下文,論到上帝的創造結構:新天新地預備上帝在祂子民中的最終居所。

The context relates closely to the creation-ordering of things. A "new heaven and new earth" prepare the way for the consummate dwelling of God among his people.

啟 Rev. 21:1

我又看見一個新天新地. 因為先前的天地已經過去了. 海也不再有了.

創造與約的主題的連接,告訴我們:以馬內利原則,是連接整本聖經的主題。

This echo of creation in relation to the theme of the covenant supports the suggestion that: The Immanuel principle binds the whole of Scripture together.

約的中心內容,連接了上帝與祂子民居住的漫長歷史。

At the heart of the covenant may be found the substance that unifies the long history of God's dwelling with his people.

3. 上帝與祂子民的關係,到道成肉身時,在基督一個人身上達到高潮。

The theme "I shall be your God and you shall be my people" reaches its climax through its embodiment in a single person.

在基督裏、約到了最完全的應驗(成全)。

In Christ, the covenant theme finds consummate fulfillment.

約的核心意義,就是以色列對彌賽亞的期望的連接點。

The essence of the covenant concept unites with Israel's messianic expectations.

舊約對將來的期望集中在一個人身上;祂就是約的核心意義,祂也是主,彌賽亞。

The anticipation of the future focuses on a single individual who shall embody in himself the essence of the covenant, while at the same time functioning as messianic head.

彌賽亞藉受苦成全,應驗約。祂是耶和華的僕人,是王,可是定意要受苦。

The Messiah embodies the covenant through suffering in behalf of others.

His is the servant of the Lord, he is King, but destined to suffer.

祂是上帝特別選召的器皿,要作上帝子民的約(的中保),要作萬國的光。

He is God's instrument appointed "a covenant to the people and light to the nations."

賽 Isaiah 42:6

我耶和華憑公義召你, 必攙扶你的手, 保守你, 使你作眾民的中保 (中保: 約), 作外邦人的光,

賽 Cf. Isaiah 49:8

耶和華如此說,在悅納的時候我應允了你,在拯救的日子我濟助了你.我要保護你,使你作眾民的中保,(中保原文作約)復興遍地使人承受荒涼之地為業.

賽 Isaiah 55:3, 4

- 3 你們就當近我來. 側耳而聽, 就必得活. 我必與你們立永約,就是應許大衛那可靠的恩典.
- 4 我已立他作萬民的見證, 為萬民的君王和司令.

上帝所有的計劃,都在這一個人身上成全,達到高峰。

In this single person, all God's purposes find climactic fulfillment.

他是上帝國度的元首, 祂自己本身代表了上帝的約。

He is the head of God's kingdom, and the embodiment of God's covenant.

在祂身上,"我作你們的上帝,你們作我的子民"達到了道成肉身的實體。

In him "I shall be your God and you shall be my people" achieves incarnated reality.

彌賽亞是整本聖經的中心,因為上帝救贖的所有期望,都指向祂。

Because the various strands of hope for redemption converge on this single person, He becomes the unifying focus of all Scripture.

國度,和約,都在以馬內利成為一體。

Both "kingdom" and "covenant" unite under "Immanuel."

祂不施行約的血(好像摩西所作的):

It is not "the" blood of the covenant that he administers, as does Moses:

出 Ex. 24:8

摩西將血灑在百姓身上,說,你看,這是立約的血,是耶和華按這一切話與你們立約的憑據.

祂宣稱:"這是我立約的血。"

Instead he solemnly declares "this is my blood of the covenant..."

太 Matt. 26:28

因為這是我立約的血,為多人流出來,使罪得赦.

路 Cf. Luke 22:20

飯後也照樣拿起杯來,說,這杯是用我血所立的新約。是為你們流出來的。

他是王,也是約的中保。他不僅施行國度的律法;他將*自己*賜給祂的子民。

As kingly covenant-mediator, he does not administer merely the laws of the kingdom. It is himself that he administers to the people.

上帝的約是一個。約的核心意義每次的重覆,告訴我們約是一個,先後一致的。

The covenants of God are one. The recurring summation of the essence of the covenant testifies to this fact.

在主耶穌基督裏,上帝的約合而為一。

In the person of Jesus Christ, the covenants of God achieve incarnational unity.

因為耶穌基督,上帝的兒子,約的中保,是不能分割的;因此約也不能分割。

Because Jesus, the covenant mediator, is not divided, the covenants cannot be divided.

主耶穌自己保證約的一致性,因為耶穌就是每一階段約的核心意義。

He himself guarantees the unity of the covenants, because he himself is the heart of each of the various covenantal administrations.

IV·上帝約的多元性 DIVERSITY IN GOD'S COVENANTS

(Robertson, pp. 53-63.)

上帝的約,不論在結構或主題上,都是一個,是先後一致的。
Both structurally and thematically, the covenants of God are one.
可是上帝在歷史上施行約的方式,是多姿多彩的。約的多元性,基本上有三方面。
But a rich diversity of covenantal administration appears in history.
Three basic structural distinctions have been suggested with respect to the covenants.

1· 創造之前,創造之後 Pre-Creation/Post-Creation Covenants

宗教改革以來,有人分辨創造以前三位一體之間的約,和上帝在歷史與人立的約。 Since the Reformation, distinctions have ben made between a pre-creation covenantal bond among the persons of the Trinity, and a historical covenant between God and men. 創造前父與子立的約稱"救贖之約","永恆之約","和平之會",或"救贖之會"。 Pre-creation covenant between the Father and the Son: "covenant of redemption," the "eternal covenant," the "counsel of peace," or "counsel of redemption." 這個約並沒有出現在 16,17世紀的信條內。不過,不少神學家承認"救贖之約"。 This particular "covenant" did not appear in 16th and 17th century Reformed creeds. But it has been recognized broadly among covenant theologians since that time. 當然,我們肯定上帝從永恆就定意要為自己的緣故救贖一群屬祂的子民。上帝在創造世界以前,就以立約的愛專愛祂的子民。

We certainly affirm that God intended from eternity to redeem a people to himself. Before the foundation of the world, God set his covenantal love on his people. 可是,肯定上帝在祂永恆的計劃中計劃了救贖是一回事;宣稱聖父與聖子在永恆裏立了一個約,卻是另一回事。聖經並沒有仔細描述上帝在創造以前的永恆計劃。 But affirming the role of redemption in the eternal counsel of God is not the same as proposing the existence of a pre-creation covenant between the Father and the Son. Scripture simply does not say much of the pre-creation shape of the decrees of God. 說有永恆之約:似乎超過聖經所清楚講述的。

"Covenant": to extend the bounds of scripture evidence beyond propriety. 再者: 救贖之約,常被說成兩位平等者所立的合同,而不是單方面主權地訂下的盟約。近年來對約新的理解,叫我們很難接受三位一體之間曾立過永恆的約。Further: most of the discussion assumes that a covenant was a mutual contract, not as a sovereignly administered bond. In view of more recent light on the character of biblical covenants, a "covenant" among members of the Trinity appears even less likely.

2.行為之約, 恩典之約 Covenant of Works/Covenant of Grace

行為之約和恩典之約:有更多經文的支持。16,17世紀聖約神學的說法。 This distinction is generally recognized; it has greater scriptural support. Covenant theology has spoken of a "covenant of works" and a "covenant of grace."

威敏斯特信仰告白,第七章: 論神與人所立的約

Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 7

- 一、上帝與受造者之間的距離是如此遙遠,雖然有理性的人都當順服上帝為其創造者,然而若非藉著在神那方面的自動遷就,他們絕不能從上帝有所獲得,作為他們的祝福與賞賜,上帝願意用立約的方法來表明祂這種俯就。
- 1. The distance between God and the creature is so great that, even though rational creatures are responsible to obey him as their Creator, yet they could never experience any enjoyment of him as their blessing and reward except by way of some voluntary condescension on his part, which he has been pleased to express by way of covenant(a).

(a) 賽 Isa. 40: 13-17;

- 13 誰曾測度耶和華的心(或作誰曾指示耶和華的靈),或作祂的謀士指教祂呢?
- 14 祂與誰商議,誰教導他,誰將公平的路指示他,又將知識教訓他將通達的道指教他呢?
- 15 看哪, 萬民都像水桶的一滴, 又算如天平上的微塵. 祂舉起眾海島好像極微之物.
- 16 利巴嫩 (的樹林) 不彀當柴燒, 其中的走獸也不彀作燔祭.
- 17 萬民在他面前好像虛無,被他看為不及虛無,乃為虛空.

伯 Job 9: 32-33;

祂本不像我是人,使我可以回答祂,又使我們可以同聽審判. 我們中間沒有聽訟的人,可以向我們兩造按手.

詩 Ps. 113: 5-6;

誰像耶和華我們的上帝呢? 祂坐在至高之處, 自己謙卑, 觀看天上地下的事.

人豈能使上帝有益呢? 智慧人但能有益於己.

你為人公義, 豈叫全能者喜悅呢? 你行為完全, 豈能使祂得利呢?

伯 Job 35: 7-8;

伯 Job 22: 2-3;

你若是公義, 還能加增他甚麼呢? 祂從你手裡還接受甚麼呢?你的過惡, 或能害你這類的人. 你的公義, 或能叫世人得益處.

路 Luke 17: 10;

這樣,你們作完了一切所吩咐的,只當說,我們是無用的僕人,所作的本是我們應分作的.

徒 Acts 17: 24-25。

創造宇宙和其中萬物的上帝,既是天地的主,就不住人手所造的殿.也不用人手服事,好像缺少甚麼,自己倒將生命氣息,萬物,賜給萬人.

- 二、上帝與人所立的初約乃是行為(工作)之約,以完全的和個人的順服為條件,上帝在此約中將生命應許給亞當;並在他裡面應許給他的後裔。
- 2. The first covenant made with man was a covenant of works (b) in which life was promised to Adam and, in him, to his posterity(c), upon condition of perfect and personal obedience (d).

(b) 創 Gen. 2: 16-17;

耶和華上帝吩咐他說,園中各樣樹上的果子,你可以隨意喫. 只是分別善惡樹上的果子,你不可喫,因為你喫的日子必定死.

何 Hosea 6: 7;

他們卻如亞當背約,在境內向我行事詭詐.

加 Gal. 3: 12。

律法原不本乎信, 只說, [行這些事的, 就必因此活著.]

(c) 創 Gen. 3: 22;

耶和華上帝說, 那人已經與我們相似, 能知道善惡; 現在恐怕他伸手又摘生命樹的果子喫, 就永遠活著.

羅 Rom. 10:5;

摩西寫著說,[人若行那出於律法的義, 就必因此活著.]

羅 Rom. 5: 12-14;

- 12 這就如罪是從一人人了世界, 死又是從罪來的, 於是死就臨到眾人, 因為眾人都犯了罪
- 13 沒有律法之先, 罪已經在世上. 但沒有律法, 罪也不算罪.
- 14 然而從亞當到摩西, 死就作了王, 連那些不與亞當犯一樣罪過的也在他的權下. 亞 當乃是那以後要來之人的豫像.

參 cf.: 羅 Rom. 5: 15-20。

- 15 只是過犯不如恩賜. 若因一人的過犯, 眾人都死了, 何況上帝的恩典與那因耶穌基督一人恩典中的賞賜, 豈不更加倍的臨到眾人麼?
- 16 因一人犯罪就定罪, 也不如恩賜. 原來審判是由一人而定罪. 恩賜乃是由許多過犯而稱義.
- 17 若因一人的過犯, 死就因這一人作了王, 何況那些受洪恩又蒙所賜之義的, 豈不更要因耶穌基督一人在生命中作王麼?
- 18 如此說來,因一次的過犯,眾人都被定罪,照樣,因一次的義行眾人也就被稱義得 生命了.
- 19因一人的悖逆, 眾人成為罪人, 照樣, 因一人的順從, 眾人也成為義了.
- 20 律法本是外添的, 叫過犯顯多. 只是罪在那裡顯多, 恩典就更顯多了.

(d) 創 Gen. 2: 17;

只是分別善惡樹上的果子,你不可喫,因為你喫的日子必定死.

加 Gal. 3: 10.

凡以行律法為本的,都是被咒詛的.因為(經上)記著:[凡不常照律法書上所記一切之事去行的,就被咒詛.]

- 三、人既因墮落使自己不可能藉此約得生命,主就願意立第二約,普通稱為恩典之約。祂憑此約將生命與救恩 藉耶穌基督白白賜給罪人,要他們信耶穌基督而得救;並應許將聖靈賜給一切預定得生命的人,使他們願意並 能相信。
- 3. Since man, by his fall, made himself incapable of life by that covenant, the Lord was then pleased to make a second covenant(e), commonly called the covenant of grace. In it God freely offers life and salvation by Jesus Christ to sinners, requiring of them faith in him, that they may be saved(f), and promising to give his Holy Spirit to all those who are ordained to eternal life, to make them willing and able to believe(g).

(e) 加 Gal. 3: 21;

這樣,律法是與上帝的應許反對麼?斷乎不是!若曾傳一個能叫人得生命的律法,義就誠然本乎律法了.

羅 Rom. 3: 20-21;

- 20 所以凡有血氣的沒有一個,因行律法,能在上帝面前稱義.因為律法本是叫人知罪.
- 21 但如今上帝的義在律法以外已經顯明出來,有律法和先知為證.

羅 Rom. 8: 3;

律法既因肉體軟弱,有所不能行的,上帝就差遣自己的兒子,成為罪身的形狀作了贖罪祭,在肉體中定了罪案,

創 Gen. 3: 15;

我又要叫你和女人彼此為仇. 你的後裔和女人的後裔也彼此為仇. 女人的後裔要傷你的頭, 你要傷他的腳跟.

參 cf.: 賽 Isa. 42: 6。

我耶和華憑公義召你,必攙扶你的手,保守你,使你作眾民的中保(中保原文作約)作外邦人的光,

(f) 約 John 3: 16;

上帝愛世人, 甚至將他的獨生子賜給他們, 叫一切信他的, 不至滅亡反得永生.

羅 Rom. 10: 6,9;

- 6惟有出於信心的義如此說,[你不要心裡說,誰要升到天上去呢就是要領下基督來.
- 9 你若口裡認耶穌為主,心裡信上帝叫他從死裡復活,就必得救.

啟 Rev. 22: 17。

聖靈和新婦都說:來. 聽見的人也該說:來. 口渴的人也當來. 願意的都可以白白取生命的水喝.

(g) 徒 Acts 13: 48;

外邦人聽見這話,就歡喜了,讚美上帝的道,凡豫定得永生的人都信了.

結 Ezek. 36: 26-27;

我也要賜給你們一個新心,將新靈放在你們裡面.又從你們的肉體中除掉石心,賜給你們肉心.我必將我的靈放在你們裡面,使你們順從我的律例,謹守遵行我的典章.

約 John 6: 37, 44-45;

- 37 凡父所賜給我的人,必到我這裡來. 到我這裡來的,我總不丟棄他.
- 44 若不是差我來的父吸引人, 就沒有能到我這裡來的. (到我這裡來的), 末日我要叫他復活.
- 45 在先知書上寫著說, [他們都要蒙 神的教訓.] 凡聽見父之教訓.又學習的, 就到我這裡來.

林前 I Cor. 12: 3。

所以我告訴你們,被上帝的靈感動的,沒有說耶穌是可咒詛的.若不是被(聖)靈感動的,也沒有能說耶穌是主的.

- 四、此恩典之約在聖經中往往以遺命的名稱說明,乃指立遺命者耶穌基督之死,並指出由遺命所留下的永遠產業及其所屬的一切事。
- 4. This covenant of grace is sometimes presented in the Scriptures by the name of a will or testament, with reference to the death of Jesus Christ (the testator) and to the everlasting inheritance with all that belongs to it bequeathed in it(h).
- (h) 來 Heb. 9: 15-17。
- 15 為此他作了新約的中保. 既然受死贖了人在前約之時所犯的罪, 便叫蒙召之人得著所應許永遠的產業.
- 16 凡有遺命,必須等到留遺命的人死了.(遺命原文與約字同)
- 17 因為人死了, 遺命才有效力, 若留遺命的尚在, 那遺命還有用處麼.
- 五、此約在律法時代與福音時代的實施各有不同。在律法時恩約之實施乃藉應許,預言,獻祭,割禮,逾越節的羔羊,以及傳給猶太人的其他預表和禮儀,都是預指那要來的基督,而且這些在當時是夠用而有效的;藉著聖靈的活動,來教誨並建立選民對所應許的彌賽亞有信心,藉著祂才能得著完全的赦罪,與永遠的救恩。 此約稱為舊約。
- 5. In the time of the law, this covenant was administered differently than in the time of the gospel(i). Undedr the law, it was administered by promises, prophecies, sacrifices, circumcision, the Passover lamb, and other types and ordinances given to the Jewish people, all of which foreshadowed Christ to come(k). These were, for that time, sufficient and efficacious, through the work of the Holy Spirit, to instruct and build up the elect in their faith in the promised Messiah(l), by whom they received complete forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation. This covenant administration is called the old testament(m).
- (i) 林後 II Cor. 3: 6-9。
- 6 祂叫我們能承當這新約的執事. 不是憑著字句, 乃是憑著精意. 因為那字句是叫人死, 精意是叫人活. (精意或作聖靈).
- 7 那用字刻在石頭上屬死的職事,尚且有榮光,甚至以色列人因摩西面上榮光,不能 定睛看他的臉. 這榮光原是漸漸退去的.
- 8 何況那屬靈的職事, 豈不更有榮光麼?
- 9 若是定罪的職事有榮光, 那稱義的職事, 榮光就越發大了.

(k) 來 Hebrews chapters 8-10 章 (從略)

羅 Rom. 4: 11

並且他受了割禮的記號,作他未受割禮的時候因信稱義的印證. 叫他作一切未受割禮而信之人的父,使他們也算為義.

西 Col. 2: 11-12;

你們在他裡面,也受了不是人手所行的割禮,乃是基督使你們脫去肉體(情慾)的割禮. 你們既受洗與祂一同埋葬,也就在此與祂一同復活,都因信那叫他從死裡復活上帝的功用.

林前 I Cor. 5:7。

你們既是無酵的麵,應當把舊酵除淨,好使你們成為新團.因為我們逾越節的(羔羊)基督已經被殺獻祭了.

(l) 林前 I Cor. 10: 1-4;

- 1 弟兄們, 我不願意你們不曉得, 我們的祖宗從前都在雲下, 都從海中經過.
- 2都在雲裡海裡受洗歸了摩西.
- 3 並且都吃了一樣的靈食.
- 4 也都喝了一樣的靈水. 所喝的是出於隨著他們的靈磐石. 那磐石就是基督.

來 Heb. 11: 13;

這些人都是存著信心死的,並沒有得著所應許的,卻從遠處望見且歡喜迎接,又承認自己在世上是客旅,是寄居的.

約 John 8: 56。

你們的祖宗亞伯拉罕歡歡喜喜的仰望我的日子. 既看見了, 就快樂.

(m) 加 Gal. 3: 7-9, 14;

- 7 所以你們要知道那以信為本的人,就是亞伯拉罕的子孫.
- 8 並且聖經既然豫先看明,上帝要叫外邦人因信稱義,就早已傳福音給亞伯拉罕說, [萬國都必因你得福.]
- 9 可見那以信為本的人,和有信心的亞伯拉罕一同得福.
- 14 這便叫亞伯拉罕的福, 因基督耶穌可以臨到外邦人使我們因信得著所應許的(聖) 靈.

詩 Ps. 32: 1, 2, 5。

- 1(衛的訓誨詩)得赦免其過,遮蓋其罪的,這人是有福的.
- 2 凡心裡沒有詭詐, 耶和華不算為有罪的, 這人是有福的.
- 5 我向你陳明我的罪,不隱瞞我的惡. 我說,我要向耶和華承認我的過犯你就赦免我的罪. (細拉)

六、在福音時代,當實體基督彰顯的時候,實施此約的條例乃是聖道的傳揚,洗禮和主餐之聖禮的執行;這些條例為數雖少,而且在實施上更為單純,較少有外表的光榮,然而在這些條例中對萬國,連猶太人帶外邦人,更充分地明瞭證據與屬靈的效力。此約稱為新約。所以是有兩個在本質上不同的恩典之約,乃是在不同的時代只是一個而又相同的約。

6. Under the gospel, Christ (the reality(n)) having been revealed, the ordinances by which this covenant is dispensed are the preaching of the Word and the administration of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper(o). Although these are fewer in number and are administered with more simplicity and less outward glory, yet in them the covenant is set forth in greater fullness, clarity, and spiritual efficacy(p) to all nations, both Jews and Gentiles(q), and is called the new testament(r). Therefore, there are not two covenants of grace differing in substance, but only one, under various administrations(s).

(n) 西 Col. 2: 17。

這些原是後事的影兒. 那形體卻是基督.

(o) 林前 I Cor. 1: 21;

世人憑自己的智慧,既不認識上帝,上帝就樂意用(人所當作)愚拙的道理拯救那些信的人. 這就是上帝的智慧了.

太 Matt. 28: 19-20;

- 19 所以你們要去, 使萬民作我的門徒, 奉父子聖靈的名, 給他們施洗 (或作給他們施 洗歸於父子聖靈的名)
- 20 凡我所吩咐你們的,都教訓他們遵守,我就常與你們同在,直到世界的末了.

林前 I Cor. 11: 23-25。

- 23 我當日傳給你們的, 原是從主領受的, 就是主耶穌被賣的那一夜, 拿起餅來,
- 24 祝謝了, 就擘開, 說, 這是我的身體, 為你們捨的 (捨有古卷作擘開)你們應當如此行, 為的是記念我.
- 25 飯後, 也照樣拿起杯來, 說, 這杯是用我的血所立的新約. 你們每逢喝的時候, 要如此行, 為的是記念我.

(p) 來 Heb. 12: 22-24;

- 22 你們乃是來到錫安山,永生上帝的城邑,就是天上的耶路撒冷. 那裡有千萬的天使,
- 23 有名錄在天上諸長子之會所共聚的總會,有審判眾人的神和被成全之義人的靈魂.
- 24 並新約的中保耶穌,以及所灑的血. 這血所說的比亞伯的血所說的更美.

林後 II Cor. 3: 9-11;

- 9 若是定罪的職事有榮光,那稱義的職事,榮光就越發大了.
- 10 那從前有榮光的, 因這極大的榮光, 就算不得有榮光了.
- 11 若那廢掉的有榮光, 這長存的就有榮光了.

耶 Jer. 31: 33-34。

耶和華說, 那些日子以後, 我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣: 我要將我的律法放在他們裡面, 寫在他們心上. 我要作他們的上帝, 他們要作我的子民.

他們各人不再教導自己的鄰舍和自己的弟兄說, 你該認識耶和華. 因為他們從最小的到至大的都必認識我. 我要赦免他們的罪孽, 不再記念他們的罪惡. 這是耶和華說的.

(q) 路 Luke 2: 32;

是照亮外邦人的光,又是你民以色列的榮耀.

徒 Acts 10: 34;

彼得就開口說,我真看出上帝是不偏待人.

弗 Eph. 2: 15-19。

- 15 而且以自己的身體, 廢掉冤仇, 就是那(.記.)在律法上的規條為要將兩下, 藉著自己造成一個新人, (如此)便成就了和睦.
- 16 既在十字架上滅了冤仇,便藉這十字架,使兩下歸為一體,與上帝和好了.
- 17 並且來傳和平的福音給你們遠處的人,也給那近處的人.
- 18 因為我們兩下藉著他被一個(聖)靈所感,得以進到父面前.
- 19 這樣,你們不再作外人,和客旅,是與聖徒同國,是上帝家裡的人了.

(r) 路 Luke 22: 20。

飯後也照樣拿起杯來,說,這杯是用我血所立的新約,是為你們流出來的.

(s) 加 Gal. 3: 8-9, 14, 16;

- 8 並且聖經既然豫先看明,上帝要叫外邦人因信稱義,就早已傳福音給亞伯拉罕說, [萬國都必因你得福.]
- 9 可見那以信為本的人,和有信心的亞伯拉罕一同得福.
- 14 這便叫亞伯拉罕的福,因基督耶穌可以臨到外邦人,使我們因信得著所應許的(聖) 靈.
- 16 所應許的原是向亞伯拉罕和他子孫說的. 上帝並不是說眾子孫, 指著許多人. 乃是說: 你那一個子孫, 指著一個人, 就是基督.

羅 Rom. 3: 21-22, 30;

21 但如今上帝的義在律法以外已經顯明出來,有律法和先知為證.

- 22 就是上帝的義, 因信耶穌基督, 加給一切相信的人, 並沒有分別.
- 30 上帝既是一位, 祂就要因信稱那受割禮的為義, 也要因信稱那未受割禮的為義.

羅 Rom. 4:3,6-8;

- 3 經上說甚麼呢. 說,[亞伯拉罕信上帝,這就算為他的義.]
- 6 正如大衛稱那在行為以外, 蒙神算為義的人是有福的.
- 7 (他說), [得赦免其過, 遮蓋其罪的, 這人是有福的.
- 8 主不算為有罪的, 這人是有福的.]

參 cf.: 創 Gen. 15: 6;

亞伯蘭信耶和華, 耶和華就以此為他的義.

詩 Ps. 32: 1-2。

得赦免其過,遮蓋其罪的,這人是有福的.

凡心裡沒有詭詐, 耶和華不算為有罪的, 這人是有福的.

羅 Rom. 4: 16-17, 23-24;

- 16 所以(人得為後嗣)是本乎信. 因此就屬乎恩. 叫應許定然歸給一切後裔. 不但歸給那屬乎律法的, 也歸給那效法亞伯拉罕之信的.
- 17 亞伯拉罕所信的,是那叫死人復活使無變為有的上帝,他在主面前作我世人的父.如(經上)所記,[我已經立你作多國的父.]
- 23 算為他義的這句話,不是單為他寫的,
- 24 也是為我們將來得算為義之人寫的. 就是我們這信上帝使我們的主耶穌從死裡復活的人.

來 Heb. 4: 2;

因為有福音傳給我們,像傳給他們一樣. 只是所聽見的道與他們無益,因為他們沒有信心與所聽見的道調和.

參 cf.: 羅 Rom. 10: 6-10;

- 6惟有出於信心的義如此說,「你不要心裡說,誰要升到天上去呢就是要領下基督來.
- 7 誰要下到陰間去呢. 就是要領基督從死裡上來.]
- 8 他到底怎麽說呢. 他說,[這道離你不遠,正在你口裡,在你心裡.就是我們所傳信(主)的道.
- 9 你若口裡認耶穌為主,心裡信上帝叫他從死裡復活,就必得救.
- 10 因為人心裡相信, 就可以稱義. 口裡承認, 就可以得救.

林前 I Cor. 10: 3-4。

- 3 並且都吃了一樣的靈食.
- 4 也都喝了一樣的靈水. 所喝的是出於隨著他們的靈磐石. 那磐石就是基督.

行為之約 = 上帝與人(墮落前)的關係。這種稱謂,強調上帝試驗亞當的時期。 "Covenant of works" = God's relation to pre-fall man. Emphasizes the testing period. 亞當行為若正確(順服),就能得到上帝應許的福分。

If Adam should "work" properly, he would recive the blessings promised by God. 恩典之約:上帝與人(墮落後)的關係。人無能藉行為賺救恩;上帝恩典=必要。 "Covenant of grace" = relationship of God to his people after man's fall into sin. Man became incapable of works which merits salvation; grace of God becomes primary. 行為之約和恩典之約之區別:有很多優點。

This division into "covenant of works" and a "covenant of grace": much to commend it. 行為之約強調:上帝在人墮落之前與人建立了關係;要求人完全順服,以賺得功勞,福分。亞當是歷史上的人物,不是神話中的人物。

行為之約和恩典之約,也為上帝為墮落後的人安排的計劃提供統一性。

It emphasizes the absolute necessity of regonizing a pre-fall relationship between God and man, which required perfect obedience as the meritorious ground of blessing. Adam cannot be regarded purely as a mythical figure.

This also provides an overarching structure to unite all of God's relation to fallen man. 強調上帝救贖計劃的統一性,能提醒我們:不要分割舊約和新約。

Emphasizing the unity of God's redemptioon avoids strong dichotomy between OT & NT. 這些名稱的用詞可能有它的限制;可是這兩個約的區分,基本上是正確的。

The terminology may have limitations. But this distinction is basically sound.

我們必須承認上帝與人的關係基本上分: 墮落前,墮落後兩個時期。

Two basic epochs of God's dealing with man must be recognized: pre-fall and post-fall. 而上帝在人墮落後的作為,是統一的。

All the dealings of God with man since the fall must be seen as possessing a basic unity. 可是:名稱的用詞不夠精確。

Yet, the terms used to designate these two epochs lacks preciseness.

把行為之約和恩典之約對立起來,好像暗示: 行為之約裏,沒有恩典的運作。

To speak of a covenant of "works" in contast with a covenant of "grace" appears to suggest that grace was not operative in the covenant of works.

事實上,上帝與人的關係,從來都是恩典的關係。

As a matter of fact, the totality of God's relationship with man is a matter of grace.

不錯,人墮落之前上帝沒有施行恩典(即:雖然人犯罪,可是上帝還是憐憫這種恩典);可是,上帝創造人時與人所立的約,是滿有恩典的。

Although "grace" may not have been operative in the sense of a merciful relationship despite sin, the creational bond between God and man indeed was gracious.

再者,這些名稱(行為,恩典)似乎暗示,恩典之約裏沒有行為的因素。

These terms further suggest: works have no place in the covenant of grace.

可是聖經教導:在恩典之約裏,行為是非常重要的。

But the Bible teaches that: works play a most essential role in the covenant of grace. 基督的行為(順服),為祂的子民成就了救贖。

Christ works for the salvation of his people.

基督藉順服,為罪人成就了義: 這是救贖的核心意義的一部份。

He accomplished righteousness for sinners: this is essential to redemption.

再者,在基督裏被贖的人必須有好行為,他們被贖的目的就是為此。

Those redeemed in Christ are "created in Christ Jesus unto good works." (Eph. 2:10)

弗 Eph. 2:10

我們原是祂的工作,在基督耶穌裡造成的,為要叫我們行善,就是上帝所豫備叫我們行的.

聖經從頭到尾教導: 上帝在末日必按人的行為審判人類。

Scripture consistently teaches that the final judgment of man shall be according to works. 不錯,救恩是憑恩典;可是審判是憑行為。

While salvation is by fath, judgment is by works.

再者,行為這名詞,只強調創造之約的一方面(一個層面)而已。

Further, the term "works" focuses on only one element of the creational bond.

不吃禁果=被造的人必須作出的行為。

Non-eating of the forbidden fruit = one "work" which man as created had to perform. 行為之約叫我們注意亞當的試驗,而沒有看到人對上帝廣義上的責任。
Rather than seeing the broader implications of man's responsibility to his Creator, attention has been directed more exclusively toward Adam's probation-test.

[Note.] The contrast between giving full expression to the broader responsibilities of man at creation and concentrating more particularly on the probation-test may be illustrated by a comparison of question 20 of *The Westminster Larger Catechism* and the corresponding statement (question 12) of *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*.

The Larger Catechism delineates rather fully God's providence toward man at creation:

Q.20. What was the providence of God toward man in the estate in which he was created?

A. The providence of God toward man in the estate in which he was created was, the placing him in paradse, appointing him to dress it, giving him liberty to eat of the fruit of the earth, putting the creatures under his dominion, ordaining marriage for his help, and instituting the Sabbath; entering into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of person, perfect, and perpetual obedience, of which the tree of life was a pledge; and forbidding to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon pain of death."

The Shorter Catechism directs attention in question and answer to the "special" act of providence toward man at creation:

Q.12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man, in the estate wherein he was created? A. When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon pain of death."

The catechisms clearly indicate self-consciosness in treating either the more general "providence of God toward man" at creation (*The Larger Catechism*) or Gd's "special act of providence": concerning the test of probation (*The Shorter Catechism*). Concentration on the probation-test certainly is justified in the light of the pivotal role of this test in God's original relationship to man. Yet the inherent possibility of failing ot remember the broader context of creational obligations ought to be noted.

因此,"創造之約"和"救贖之約",應比"行為之約"和"恩典之約"更恰當。 Because of these limitations in the terminology "covenant of works" and "covenant of grace", the terms "covenant of creation: and "covenant of redemption" may serve much more appropriately as categoriztions of God's bond with man before and after the fall. (Meredith G. Kline, *By Oath onsigned*, Grand Rapids, 1968, p. 37.)

創造之約:上帝藉著創造與人立的約。救贖之約:包括人墮落後歷史上所有的約。 The "covenant of creation" = the bond which God established with man by creation. The "covenant of redemption" encompasses the various administrations by which God has bound himself to man since the fall.

3· 舊約,新約 Old Covenant/New Covenant

人類墮落之後,基督道成肉身,是上帝對人的計劃的轉捩點。基督之前,神人之約稱為"舊約";基督之後,神人之約稱為"新約"。

In God's dealings with fallen man, the incarnation of Christ represents the most basic differentiation-point. The bond of God with man before Christ may be called "old covenant," and the bond of God with man after Christ may be called "new covenant." 舊約是:應許,影子,預言;新約是:成全,實體,應驗。

The "old covenant" may be characterized as "promise," as "shadow" as "prophecy;" the "new covenant" may be characterized as "fulfillment," as "reality," as "realization." 希伯來書的結構和信息的基礎是:舊約的應許,在新約得到了應驗,成全。 The entire structure of the letter to the Hebrews builds on this basic distinction. Essential to the Epistle is the promise in the old covenant achieving fiulfillment in the new. 保羅在加拉太書作了幾方面的對照;最重要的,是舊約和新約的對照。 In Galatians Paul sets several dynamic concepts over against one another. Most importantly, he developed the distinction between the old covenant and the new. 保羅的目的:對照教會內猶太派 (Judaizers) 的"律法主義"和新約裏的"恩典"。 Purpose: to contrast the legalism of Judaizers with the grace of the new covenant.

加 Gal. 2:14-16

- 14 但我一看他們行的不正,與福音的真理不合,就在眾人面前對磯法說:你既是猶太人,若隨外邦人行事,不隨猶太人行事,怎麼還勉強外邦人隨猶太人呢.
- 15 我們這生來的猶太人,不是外邦的罪人,
- 16 既知道人稱義,不是因行律法,乃是因信耶穌基督,連我們也信了基督耶穌,使我們因信基督稱義,不因行律法稱義,因為凡有血氣的,沒有一人因行律法稱義.

加 Gal. 3:1

無知的加拉太人哪,耶穌基督釘十字架,已經活在你們眼前,誰又迷惑了你們呢.

加 Gal. 4:31, 5:2

- 4:31 弟兄們, 這樣看來, 我們不是使女的兒女, 乃是自主婦人的兒女了.
- 5:2 我保羅告訴你們,若受割禮,基督就與你們無益了.

可是,為要突出這個對照,保羅作了幾個次要的對照。

But, in order to heighten that distinction, he sets up several secondary contrasts. 為了避免誤解保羅主要的目的,我們必須看清次要對照和主要對照之間的關係。
To avoid a blatant misreading of the apostle's primary intention, it is essential to consider these secondary contrasts as they relate to his primary prupose.

我們若不看清楚保羅的主要論據(中心思想),很容易把相對的對照絕對化。 Unless the central argument of the apostle is kept in view, an absolutizing of relative contrasts may mislead the reader seriously.

保羅本身對他作的對照,都說出其條件與限度;可是,有一個對照是絕對的。 Paul modifies each of the contrasts he sets up, except one contrast he maintains resolutely. 對破壞基督福音的猶太派的教導,使徒保羅一點都不讓步。

No compromise is made between the destructure proposals of the Judaizers and the gospel.

保羅作的其他對照,都支持這個基本的對照。

Every other contrast made by Paul enforces the absoluteness of this essential distinction.

首先,保羅對照基督未來之前的整段歷史,和新約時期。

First, Paul contrasts the whole period before the coming of Christ with the new covenant age.

保羅對照信(因信得救的理)未來以先時,和信(因信得救的理)既來的時期。 The period "before faith came" contrasts drastically with the time in which "faith has come."

加 Gal. 3:23, 25

- 23 但這因信得救的理, 還未來以先, 我們被看守在律法之下, 直圈到那將來的真道顯明出來.
- 24 這樣, 律法是我們訓蒙的師傅, 引我們到基督那裡, 使我們因信稱義.
- 25 但這因信得救的理, 既然來到, 我們從此就不在師傅的手下了.

基督的降臨,是我們信心的對象,也完全改變了歷史。

The coming of Christ, and his consequent position as object of faith, has altered the entire course of history.

因基督已來,上帝對待人的方法不能再回到舊約的模樣。

God's dealings with men cannot return to the old patterns once the Christ has come. 猶太派的教導是錯誤的,因為他們沒有考慮基督已來對歷史的重大影響。

Judaizers' error: they do not know the radical difference Christ's coming made for history.

保羅的對照雖然是絕對的,他也提出一個條件;這福音早已向亞伯拉罕宣講。 Yet with all the force of the absolutes in Paul's presentation, a modification is present. The very same gospel was "preached beforehand" to Abraham.

加 Gal. 3:8

並且聖經既然豫先看明,上帝要叫外邦人因信稱義,就早已傳福音給亞伯拉罕說,[萬國都必因你得福.]

今天的基督徒是隨從亞伯拉罕進入蒙福的地位的。

Along with Abraham the believer, the Christian today enters into his state of blessedness.

加 Gal. 3:9

可見那以信為本的人,和有信心的亞伯拉罕一同得福.

所以,從某一角度看,基督來臨以前和以後的歷史,是絕對不同的。舊約和新約是 絕對不同的。可是,從另一角度看,上帝的救贖計劃(救法)從來是一個的。

From one perspective, an absolute antithesis may be drawn between the periods of history before and after the coming of Christ. The old covenant and the new covenant are radically distinct from one another. But there has always been a single way of salvation.

[Note.] The primary reference to the period "before faith came" in Gal. 3:23 contrasts specifically the Mosaic period with the present age. But this fact does not permit the marking off of the Mosaic period so that it stands alone in old covenant history as a time in which "faith" had not "come." Cleraly men were saved by grace through faith alone in Moses' time as well as in Abraham's time. The phrase must include the Abrahamic period as well, even though "law" was not functioning in the same manner under Abraham as it was under Moses. The coming of "faith" in Gal. 3;23,

whether it be understood objectively or su bjectively, sets the historical period after the coming of Christ over against the historical period before his coming.

其次,保羅對照了亞伯拉罕時期和摩西時期。

Secondly: Paul contrasts the Abrahamic and the Mosaic periods of the Old Testament:

加 Gal. 3:15-19

- 15 弟兄們, 我且照著人的常話說, 雖然是人的文約, 若已經立定了, 就沒有能廢棄或 加增的.
- 16 所應許的原是向亞伯拉罕和他子孫說的. 上帝並不是說眾子孫, 指著許多人, 乃是 說你那一個子孫, 指著一個人, 就是基督.
- 17 我是這麼說,上帝豫先所立的約,不能被那四百三十年以後的律法廢掉,叫應許歸於處空.
- 18 因為承受產業, 若本乎律法, 就不本乎應許. 但上帝是憑著應許把產業賜給亞伯拉 罕.
- 19 這樣說來, 律法是為甚麼有的呢. 原是為過犯添上的, 等候那蒙應許的子孫來到. 並且是藉天使經中保之手設立的.

保羅清楚教導:承受上帝的福分不是憑律法(靠守律法),乃是憑應許。

The apostle plainly says: the inheritance of God's blessing is not based on law, but on promise.

保羅把摩西律法之約,和亞伯拉罕應許之約對立起來。

Paul e sets the Mosaic covenant of law over against the Abrahamic covenant of promise. 可是,保羅在這裏討論的目的,是分辨純正的福音和猶太派的假福音。

Yet: Paul's purpose is to distance the true gospel from the Judaizers' false gospel.

他對照的是:(一)與應許(恩典)隔離的律法,和(二)律法在基督裏的成全。

His discussion focuses on law as isolated from promise and its fulfillment in Christ.

其實:摩西時期的律法,從來就不應該從應許隔離而運作(這不是上帝的心意)。 Law under Moses never was intended to function apart from promise.

律法若從應許(恩典)的層面隔離,就不可能使罪人稱義;應許是在基督裏應驗。 Seperated from promise (which reached fulfillment), law never could make sinners righteous.

在整段舊約時期,罪人在上帝面前稱義,只能憑亞伯拉罕之約中的(恩典)應許。 Promise as under Abraham was the only way by which sinners could be justified before God throughout the history of the old covenant.

雖然保羅對照律法和應許,可是他視亞伯拉罕、摩西之約為一致的;這與猶太派的 律法主義,乃有天淵之別。

While Paul vigorously sets promise over against law, he sees a basic unity between the Abrahamic and the Mosaic covenants in contrast with the Judaizers' legalism.

保羅認為行割禮的要求,顯出猶太派的律法主義;這違背了純正的福音。

He focuses on the legal requirement of circumcision as that point which distinguishes the anit-gospel of the Judaizers from the true gospel of Christ.

加拉太人若必須受割禮(才能稱義),則基督對他們是無益的。

If the Galatians should receive circumcision, Christ will not benefit them.

加 Gal. 5:2

我保羅告訴你們,若受割禮,基督就與你們無益了.

可是我們要記得,割禮是首先在亞伯拉罕之約(不在摩西律法之約)裏制定的。 Yet, circumcision historically was initially instituted under the Abraamic covenant of promise, rather than the Mosaic covenant of law.

這事實說明:保羅心目中最基本的對照,不是亞伯拉罕的約和摩西的約;而是猶太 派的稱義方式(必須行割禮的要求),和基督裏賜下(藉信心得到)的稱義。

This fact clearly indicates that the ultimate contrast in Paul's mind is not between the Abrahamic and the Mosaic covenants, but between the way of justification advocated by the Judaizers and the way of justification provided by Christ.

上帝的子民一天還活在影子般的啟示和禮儀下,割禮(外殼)有它正當的功用。可是,歷史進展,實體已經來到,若仍強調外殼,則有侮辱實體,廢棄實體之嫌。When God's people lived under shadowy revelations & rituals, circumcision served a function.

The "husk" of externalities had a useful purpose. But now that the reality has appeared in history, insistence on continuation of the husk-forms insults and nullifies the reality. 所以,保羅雖然對照律法之約和應許之約,他視上帝救贖之約為一致的。

Thus, the emphatic antithesis in Paul between the "law-covenant" and the "promise-covenant" must not be detract from the unity of God's dealings under the covenant of redemption.

保羅在其他地方肯定地說明: 律法之約並沒有廢棄應許之約。

Elsewhere Paul clearly affirms that the law-covenant did not annul the covenant of promise.

加 Gal. 3:17

我是這麼說,上帝豫先所立的約,不能被那四百三十年以後的律法廢掉,叫應許歸於 虚空.

在加拉太書 4:25-26,保羅特別對照了現今的耶路撒冷,和上頭的耶路撒冷: Ultimately in Galatians 4, Paul specifically traces the antithesis which he has in mind to the contrast between the "present Jerusalem" and the "Jerusalem above" (Gal. 4:25-26).

- 25 這夏甲二字是指著亞拉伯的西乃山,與現在的耶路撒冷同類. 因耶路撒冷和他的 兒女都是為奴的.
- 26 但那在上的耶路撒冷是自主的, 他是我們的母.

保羅提到的現今的耶路撒冷,是指當時猶太派對律法之約的了解(即:誤解)。 By his reference of the "present Jerusalem," Paul alludes to the understanding of the Mosaic law-covenant maintained by the contemporary Judaizers.

新約,與保羅當時的猶太派律法主義,是水火不相容的。

The new covenant stands in starkest contrast with the legalism of the Judaizers. 可是對摩西律法指約的誤解,是不等同於上帝原先對此律法的心意。

But this misappropriation of the Mosaic law-covenant cannot be equated with God's original intention in giving the law.

猶太派對摩西的了解是錯誤的;保羅的論據就是為要指責他們的錯誤。

Judaizers of Paul's day were not correct in their understanding of Mosaic law.

The full force of the apostle's polemic is directed against their misunderstanding.

關鍵性的問題是:猶太派對摩西律法的了解是正確的嗎?

Here is the key question: Were the Judaizers correct in their understanding of the Mosaic law?

當然我們必須相信:上帝把律法(與應許對照)賜給人,是要叫人知罪。 Indeed, law in distinction from promise was given to reveal sin.

加 Gal. 3:19

這樣說來, 律法是為甚麼有的呢. 原是為過犯添上的, 等候那蒙應許的子孫來到. 並且是藉天使經中保之手設立的.

上帝藉律法徹底地暴露了人的罪惡與墮落;因為律法暴露罪人的自信 (self-trust)。 The radicalness of this exposure of human depravity is seen in the fact that the law, by its very form, was calculated to uncover sinful man's inclination to self-trust.

從這角度來看,西乃山上約的施行,與亞伯拉罕的應許之約,是很不同的。

Thus Sinaic covenant sharply contrasts with Abraham's promise-covenant.

可是這方面的不同,不可以破壞上帝啟示的救贖之約的一致性和歷史進展性。舊約和新約融合起來,成為一體。

But this contrast must not rupture the unity and progress of the revelation of the covenant redemption. Old and new covenants merge into a basic harmony.

亞伯拉罕之約和摩西之約,在啟示上帝恩典的計劃上是完全一致的。

Abrahamic and Mosaic coveantns unite in the purposes of God's grace.

可是,猶太派的教導和基督的福音之間,就沒有共通點。兩者對立是絕對的。

But no unifying factor whatsoever arises to harmonize the mssage of the Judaizers with the message of Christ. This antithesis is absolute.

上帝約的安排(covenant administration)在不同時期有不同的形式。這多元性豐富了上帝對他子民的計劃。可是上帝約的多元性融合在祂歷代計劃的一致性裏。

Diversity indeed exists in the various administrations of God's covenant. This diversity enriches the wonder of God's plan for his people. But the diversity ultimately merges into a single purpose overarching the ages.

我們考慮了上帝約的多元性之後,我們可以按每一時期約所強調的分門別類:

Having considered the diversity among God's covenants, the historical manifestations of the covenant of redempotion may be categorized according to their specific emphases:

亞當: 起始之約Adam: the covenant of commencement挪亞: 保存之約Noah: the covenant of preservation亞伯拉罕: 應許之約Abraham: the covenant of promise

摩西: 律法之約 Moses: the covenant of law

大衛: 國度之約 David: the covenant of the kingdom 基督: 完成之約 Christ: the covenant of consummation

約之間的區別:

Significant aspects of the divine covenants in their diversity:

- 1. 創造之約的至終目的成全於救贖之約。兩約的目的是相輔相成的。藉著救贖,創造的目的成就了;而且超越了。
 - The ultimate purpose of the covenant of creation finds realization in the covenant of redemption. The intended goals of the two covenants correspond. By redemption, the original purposes of creation are achieved or even excelled.
- 2. 救贖之約不同時期的安排 (covenant administration),有著有機(生命)的關係。他們並不彼此取代。相反地,後來的擴大了先前的安排。
 The various administrations of the covenant of redemption relate organically to one another. They do not replace one another chronologically. Instead, each successive covenant expands on previous administrations.
- 3. 救贖之約裏所有的預言和儀式,都在基督裏成全、應驗。基督就是約,新約的實體。上帝救贖的旨意,完全成就在基督身上。
 Fach of the shedowy, prophet administrations of the coverent of redemption
 - Each of the shadowy, prophet administrations of the covenant of redemption (dotted lines) finds its fulfillment in Christ, the personal embodiment of the new covenant. In him is found the fulfillment of all God's covenant purposes.