

Our Covenant with God

God's past covenants

God's covenant with Noah

The first record we have about God making a covenant was with the righteous man Noah. Early in the history of the world God decided to bring a great flood upon the earth. He was going to bring it because mankind had greatly corrupted themselves. But God made a covenant with Noah to save him if he would make a great ark as God commanded him.

Noah kept his covenant with God, and so he and his family were saved alive when the flood came and destroyed all other living things. Afterward God also made a covenant with mankind to never again destroy the earth with a flood. God also created the rainbow in the sky as a sign to remind us of that covenant.

God's covenant with Abraham

Although God promised he would never again destroy the earth with a flood, he knew that mankind would again corrupt themselves. And so to preserve righteousness upon the earth God chose the righteous man Abram, saying to him, **“Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, to the land that I will show thee. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great, and be thou a blessing. And I will bless those who bless thee, and he who curses thee I will curse. And in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed”** (Genesis 12:1-3).

The Bible record tells how God made several covenants with Abram, but they were all related to his primary covenant to bless him and his offspring. After Abram proved his faithfulness, God made this covenant with him: **“To thy seed I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates ...”** (Genesis 15:18). God went on to name ten peoples of that land that would be dispossessed. They were dispossessed because they were exceedingly sinful.

After that God enlarged his covenant with Abram, saying to him, **“I am God Almighty, walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. ...**

“As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shall be the father of a multitude of nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham, for I have made thee the father of a multitude of nations. And I will make thee exceedingly fruitful. And I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

“And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant,

to be a God to thee and to thy seed after thee. And I will give to thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land of thy sojourning, all the land of Canaan for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God" (Genesis 17:1-8). At the same time God also gave Abraham the covenant of circumcision, which would be sign of his (greater) covenant with him and his offspring.

Later God renewed his covenant with Abraham to Abraham's son Isaac and then to his grandson Jacob (later named Israel). Jacob and his family were forced to immigrate to Egypt because of a great famine. Over the centuries in Egypt the descendants of Abraham multiplied greatly, so much that the Egyptians began to fear them. Consequently, they made slaves of them.

Eventually the Egyptians even required the sons of Israel to kill every newborn male of them. It was then that Moses was born. When the daughter of Pharaoh saw the babe, she showed pity and raised him as her own. When Moses was forty years old, he killed an Egyptian who was attacking an Israelite. Pharaoh heard of it, and so Moses fled to the land of Midian in the Sinai peninsula.

When Moses was eighty years old, the record says, **"And it came to pass in the course of those many days, that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up to God because of the bondage. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God saw the sons of Israel, and God took knowledge of them"** (Exodus 2:23-25). God sent Moses to deliver them. And after God performed many great signs and wonders against Egypt, Pharaoh let the people go.

God's covenant with the nation of Israel

When God brought his people the sons of Israel out of Egyptian bondage, to create their nation, he first led them to mount Sinai on the way to their promised land. There, the record says, **"And Moses went up to God. And Jehovah called to him out of the mountain, saying, Thus thou shalt say to the house of Jacob, and tell the sons of Israel: Ye have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be my own possession from among all peoples, for all the earth is mine, and ye shall be to me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation"** (Exodus 19:3-6).

God also said to his people Israel that if they kept their covenant with him, then **"Thou shall be blessed above all peoples"** (Deuteronomy 7:14). But alas they failed to keep their covenant with him. Nevertheless, a small minority of them did remain faithful. And it was from those men that God wrote his holy book the Bible. That book contains treasures of knowledge and wisdom that cannot be surpassed. For it has the potential to transform both men and nations to greatness.

A covenant with God for America

Although America has never had a formal covenant with God, we were a people who believed in him and in his Son Jesus Christ. And we live by his words from the Bible. Indeed, we were known as the people of the Bible. Consequently we became blessed above all peoples. For Solomon said, **“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people”** (Proverbs 14:34).

The people of America were happier and safer during those days. There were no bars on the windows of our houses or our businesses. Keys were often kept in the cars. I owned a popular American motorcycle that did not even have a key. Houses were commonly kept unlocked. People, including children, could go virtually anywhere in the land without fear. Our money was in high demand throughout the world. I know about those things because I lived during those years.

America can again be the happiest and safest country of the world. We can again be blessed in every way above all nations. Indeed, we can be even more blessed if we make a covenant with God to obey him, and we keep that covenant. For God will respect our covenant with him, and he will open the windows of heaven to bless us because Peter said, when he saw that God was accepting Gentiles into the church, **“In truth, I am overwhelmed that God is not partial, but in every nation, he who fears him, and works righteousness, is acceptable to him”** (Acts 10:34-35).

In order for my country, the United States of America, to be God’s people to enjoy his bountiful blessings, we must commit ourselves to him and obey his commandments. America must abandon the evil philosophy of humanism, and worship and serve God only. That means we must replace our national constitution, because it is based upon the deceptive values of humanism, and not those of God’s word, the Bible.

The only constitution we need is our covenant with God. That would consist of our commitment to his Son Jesus Christ, because God has made him **“Lord of lords and King of kings”** (Revelation 17:14). Plus our obedience to his will for us that is expressed in his Holy Bible. The principles and examples from the Bible will show us the way. That is the only constitution we need to be America, God’s way.

That is the only constitution we need to formulate our government and its laws. For America, God’s way will not be ruled by a strict legal system, with lawyers wrangling over technicalities. We will certainly need laws, but those laws will be applied with wisdom and righteousness by our enlightened and righteous judges (not juries of the common people). America, God’s way will be a people of righteousness, not a library of laws for a legal system. For unless our people, especially our rulers and judges, love truth and righteousness no amount of laws will save us from evil.