

## David Pawson – The Five Covenants of God (二)

June 17, 2018

- A. Q1: How many covenants in the Bible? 1, 2, 3, 5, 7? My answer is 5.
- B. Q2: How many of them affect me? My answer is 4. One covenant is supposed to be for Jewish people, not Christians. Example: 十一的奉献是旧约的规定。在新约之下，神喜悦“捐的乐意的人”，不是规定数目，而是内心愿意。Example: Pawson's discussion with Rabbis on a flight about whether Jewish people nowadays can obey completely the laws of Moses.
- C. Every covenant has 对象，时间，内容，地点，等等。要注意这些内容。
- D. Review of message #1: background and details of Covenant of Noah. 圣经有旧约和新约全书。Many misunderstood 误解 that there were only two Covenants. Or the old covenant 过时了，现在不用管了。其实许多在旧约中列出的约仍然有效。Example: Covenant of Noah is still effective, so we can still enjoy the food God provided for us. God expects us to respect the Sanctity of Life.
- E. A table with 6 entries for each of 5 covenants.
- F. 2<sup>nd</sup> Covenant: Abrahamic covenant. Background and life of Abraham (Gen 12, 15, 17). Three key people: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. Even though they had many faults, but they all are willing to listen to God. God promised them a land. Neither Abraham nor Isaac actually owned that land, but they passed God's promise to their descendants. These people are still living, with God. According to Luke and Revelation, Jesus and his people will have meal together. The Covenant of Abraham emphasizes God's promise about a piece of land. God chose a nation to bless all people. We need to be thankful to Jewish people because most of our most valuable things came from Jewish people (e.g., Bible, God). But many people like the things they got, but they look down upon Jewish people.
- G. There is a small condition in Abrahamic covenant. God blesses and curses. He is loving and just. God said: if you bless/curse Jewish people, God will bless/curse you as well. Sign for this covenant is man's circumcision. Understanding such a covenant needs to be applicable to understanding the current situation in mid-East. This covenant is also eternal. God chose to use this "channel" to speak to all nations on the Earth. Over the human history, we saw that Jewish nation is the most blessed and experiences the most devastation.

- H. 3<sup>rd</sup> Covenant: Mosaic covenant (Old Covenant, Exodus 23, 23, 34; Deut. 28). Total of 613 laws (including Ten commandments). There are blessings and curses. They took 1000 yrs to finally enter their promised land, but 500 years later they went into exile. These conditions are fully realized in the history of Jewish people. The devastation of WWII is from the curse of God. Similarly, in the future when the Jesus comes back the second back, He will judge all nations in the world, just as He has promised in the Scriptures.
- I. Mosaic covenant is temporary, 直到弥赛亚的来临。
- J. 4<sup>th</sup> Covenant: Davidic covenant. Israel reaches peak during King David's period. Example: Pawson has two rings, both have David's name on them. God made this covenant with King David when he was near the end of his life (2 Sam 7, Ps. 89; Chron. 17; Ps. 132). The covenant says that there will be a king who is a descendant of David who will be a King forever. He is Jesus Christ (Messiah). He will establish His Kingdom on Earth forever. Implications for modern day politics (democracy vs. under a King). In the early churches, Christians were persecuted because they proclaimed that they found a new King.
- K. Davidic covenant will be fully realized. We already have this King.