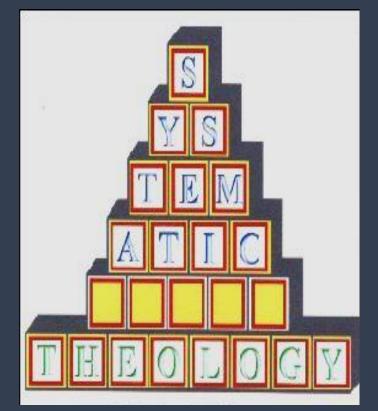
I Timothy 3:15

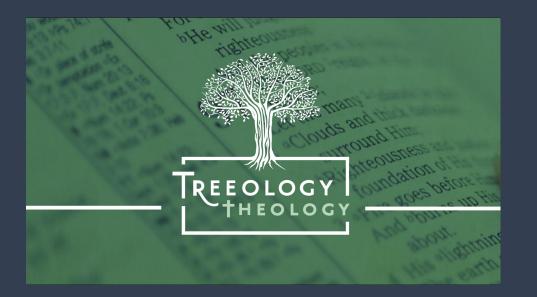


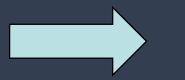
WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?















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What hope has God given that it is possible for us to be redeemed from our state of sin and misery?

But the lovingkindness of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, <u>to those who keep His covenant</u> and remember His precepts to do them (NASB; Ps. 103:17-18).

... Israelites, to whom belongs the adoption as sons, and the glory <u>and</u> <u>the covenants</u> ... (NASB; Rom. 9:4).

Remember that formerly you, the Gentiles, . . . were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to <u>the covenants of promise</u>, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus, you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ (NASB; Eph. 2:11a, 12-13).

Here is a company of poor miserable souls, that have utterly undone themselves, and now lie open to my *justice!* Justice demands satisfaction for them, or will satisfy itself in the eternal ruin of them: What shall be done for these souls?

The hope that God has given that it is possible for us to be redeemed from our state of sin and misery consists in the gracious provisions of His covenants.

What is a Divine Covenant?

A sacred bond

A sacred bond which God has initiated with certain human beings

A sacred bond which God has initiated with certain human beings in order to pledge Himself

A sacred bond which God has initiated with certain human beings in order to pledge Himself to them

A sacred bond which God has initiated with certain human beings in order to pledge Himself to them for the fulfillment of specific redemptive promises.

Covenant Theology:

Covenant Theology:

Covenant of Redemption

Covenant Theology:

Covenant of Redemption Covenant of Works

Covenant Theology:

Covenant of Redemption Covenant of Works Covenant of Grace

Covenant Theology:

Covenant of Redemption Covenant of Works Covenant of Grace

Our Catechism: ?

What are God's Covenants that give us hope in our state of sin and misery?

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I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said, "Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, <u>who keeps His covenant and</u> <u>lovingkindness</u> for those who love Him and keep His commandments, we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances" (NASB; Dan. 9:4-5). God's Covenants that give us hope in our state of sin and misery are the Noahic, the Abrahamic, the Mosaic, the Davidic, and the New.

What is the Noahic Covenant's gracious provision?

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... "I will never again curse the ground on account of man, for the intent of man's heart is evil from his youth; and I will never again destroy every living thing , as I have done" (NASB; Gen. 8:21).

Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, "Now behold, I Myself do establish My covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; of all that comes out of the ark, even every beast of the earth. I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be cut off by the water of the flood, neither shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; I set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth" (NIASB. Con 0.8-13)

The Noahic Covenant's gracious provision is God's promise that despite the natural depravity of man's heart, He will never again destroy the entire earth with a flood.

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What are the Abrahamic Covenant's gracious provisions?

"And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. <u>And in you all the</u> <u>families of the earth will be blessed</u>" (NASB; Gen. 12:2-3).

"Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward; <u>for all the land</u> <u>which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever</u>" (NASB; Gen. 13:14-15).

And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to Him, "So shall your descendants be" (NASB; Gen. 15:5).

Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, "<u>And to</u> your seed." that is. Christ (NASB: Gal. 3:16). The Abrahamic Covenant's gracious provisions are God's promises concerning (1) Abraham's physical descendants, especially the nation Israel, (2) his ultimate seed, the Lord Jesus Christ, and (3) God's blessing through Abraham upon all the families of the earth.

What is the Precious Hope that the Divine Covenants Advance?

What hope has God given that it is possible for us to be redeemed from our state of sin and misery?

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Remember that formerly you, the Gentiles, . . . were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to <u>the covenants of promise</u>, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus, you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ (NASB; Eph. 2:11a, 12-13). ... He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of *the* divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

-- II Peter 1:4

The world is a dirty, defiling thing. A man can hardly walk here but he shall defile his garments. The very things of the world leave a taint upon our spirits.

By worldly objects we soon grow worldly. It is hard to touch tar and not to be defiled... The lusts of the world, they stain the glory and deface the excellency of your natures: "Corruption is in the world through lust" (II Pet. 1:4).

The men of the world are sooty, dirty creatures. We cannot converse with them, but they leave their filthiness upon us.

Let us grow more and more weary of the world. A man that would always live here is like a scullion that loveth to lie among the pots. In those blessed mansions that are above, "there shall in no wise enter anything that defileth. . ." (Rev. 21:27).

There we shall have pure company, and be out of the reach and danger of temptations. There are no devils in heaven they are cast out long since... The devil, when he was not fit for heaven, was cast into the world, a fit place for misery, sin, and torment, and now this is the devil's walk. He compasseth the earth to and fro.

Who would be in love with a place of bondage, where a man can hardly move back and forth, but he shall be defiled? You are to discourse upon the promises, and to work them into your hearts by spiritual reasoning, that you may "escape the corruption that is in the world through lust" (II Pet. 1:4 and II Cor. 7:1).

--Thomas Manton

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood.

--Edward Mote