

Bible Review

- External evidence of the reality of God's Word
 - Dead Sea Scrolls
 - Consistency in manuscripts
- Internal evidence:
 - Creation (Isa. 45:18-22; Ps. 19:1; Rom. 1:18ff)
 - Revelation (Isa. 46:9f; I Cor. 2:6ff; Gal. 1:11-12)
 - God spoke the world and the scriptures into existence (II Tim. 3:16; Ps. 33:9).

Bible Covenants

What is a Covenant

- “An arrangement between two parties” (Liddell and Scott pp. 187).
- “A binding agreement made by two or more persons or parties; compact, law” (American Heritage Dictionary pp. 334).

What does a Covenant Do?

- Bible covenants do 5 primary things:
 - 1. Identifies sin
(Rom. 3:20; 7:7; 4:15; I Jn. 3:4).
 - 2. Revealed to restrain sin (I Tim. 1:9-10).
 - 3. Reveals to man his need for forgiveness
(Isa. 59:1-2; I Jn. 1:5-7).
 - 4. Reveals instructions that man may receive forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; Gal. 3:24).
 - 5. Leaves man with hope (Rom. 5:1-11).

There are 2 'Primary' Covenants Revealed in the Bible

- “First Covenant” (Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 8:8ff).
 - All of OT considered “**the Law**” (Matt. 11:3; Lk. 16:16; 24:44; Jn. 1:17 or the “oracles of God” (Rom. 3:2).
 - Mosaic Law or “**the law**” is a term often used to distinguish the Mosaic and OT Law from **Law of Christ**
- Second Covenant (Jer. 31:31-34; Heb. 8:8).
 - **Law of Christ** (I Cor. 9:20ff; Gal. 6:2) or the law of liberty (James 1:25).

The Mosaic Covenant

“The Law”

- Law existed in days of Adam (Gen. 2:16-17; I Tim. 2:13).
- Law existed in days of Abraham (Gen. 17:9-14).
- Mosaic Law was “added” to previous law (Gal. 3:19) to form one basic OT law (covenant spoken of in Hebrews 8:13).
- Mosaic covenant was a law (Deut. 5:1-3).

“Weakness” of Mosaic Covenant

- It was “*weak*” & “*unprofitable*” (Heb. 7:18).
- While the Mosaic Law demanded perfection (cf. Gal. 3:10) it did not offer a means whereby man could attain a “state” of perfection (i.e., the forgiveness of sins) (Heb. 7:19; 8:7; 10:1-4).
- “**The law**” was given to the Jewish nation **alone**. (Deut. 5:1-3; Ex. 20:1-2; Rom. 3:1-2).
- The Mosaic Covenant was temporary (Matt. 11:13; Heb. 8:13; 9:8-9; Gal. 4:4-5).
- Due to its weakness the law was “*disannulled*” (Heb. 7:18; Col. 2:13-14).

Part I Conclusion

- Bible Covenants are laws given by God to man.
- Bible Covenants reveal man's sin, helps man see his need for forgiveness, restrains sin, instructs man toward righteous living, and gives man hope in this life and the life to come.
- God has given two primary covenants.
- The first covenant was weak due to the fact that it could not remove sins.
- Due to the weakness of the first law, it was disannulled and replaced by the Law of Christ.
- The "fullness of time" (Gal. 4:1-7).

The Bible



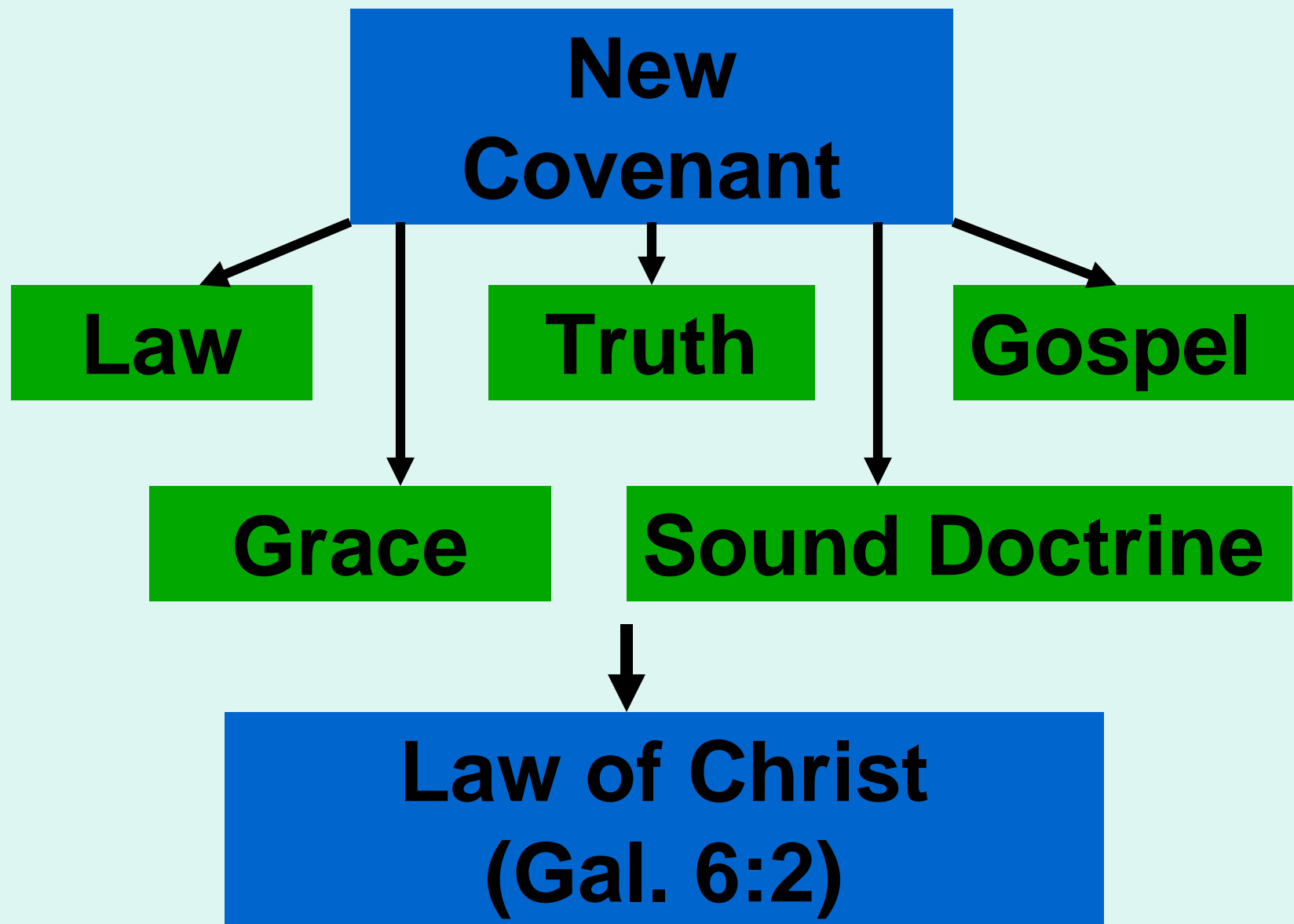
**Bible
Covenants
Part II**

Review

- God has delivered two basic covenant laws.
- “The Law” (first covenant) was “disannulled” due to its weakness and “unprofitableness” (Heb. 7:18).
- “The Law’s” weakness was that it was not designed to remove sins, it was for a specific race of people, and it was temporary.
- The second covenant came at a time when men were ready for the gospel message (Gal. 4:4).

What is the 2nd Covenant?

- 2nd Covenant is a “**new covenant**” (Heb. 8:8).
- The “new covenant” = **Law** (Heb. 8:10).
- Covenants are termed “**truth**” (Dan. 9:13; Malachi 2:5-6; Heb. 8:10).
- Jesus received “truth” from the Father (Jn. 8:40).
- Jesus preached truth and termed it **gospel** (Matt. 4:23; 9:35; 24:14; Eph. 1:13).
- The gospel is the **grace** of God (I Pet. 1:9-12; Titus 2:11-12).
- The gospel is “**sound doctrine**” (I Tim. 1:10-11)



Strength of the 2nd Covenant

- Has no fault (Heb. 8:7).
- Provides perfection for man (i.e., the forgiveness of sins) (Matt. 26:28; Heb. 9:13-14; 10:14).
- Not restricted to time as the Mosaic Law is (cf. Heb. 10:14).
- Not limited to race as the Mosaic Law is (Gal. 3:27-29).

Who is Subject to the Law of Christ?

- “All Flesh” (Jeremiah 32:27)
- All will be judged by the New Covenant Law (Jn. 12:48; Rev. 20:12).
- “Whosoever” rejects the new covenant does not have a hope of heaven (II Jn. 9).

Concluding Thoughts

- God has given His covenant laws to man because He is merciful and kind (Jer. 9:24).
- Law identifies sin and provides a remedy for man's loss of fellowship (reconciliation).
- To reject God's New Covenant is to reject eternal salvation (II Jn. 9).