

Edenic and Adamic Covenants

Lesson Objectives

The Purpose is to teach the believer concerning covenants that God has established with individuals and nations through out the time of man. This will also help the believer to understand how this would effect their relationship with God and rejoice in the blessings that are revealed to us through promises God has already put in place.

Overview of Covenants



Covenants

a covenant was an agreement between two parties that bound them together with common interests and responsibility. It was most solemn and a sacred to enter into a covenant. And covenants usually included blessings and curses- blessings upon the one who fulfilled his part in.”



A covenant relationship with God is one of the many spiritual blessings we have through our salvation in Jesus Christ. So what's the significance of being in covenant relationship with the Creator?

- The Edenic, Adamic, and Noahic Covenant are good for all mankind. They are universal, normative covenants. These covenants governed God's relationship with mankind.
- With the Noahic covenant God said:
 - "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."-
Genesis 9:11
- In the Adamic Covenant God said:
 - "And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."-
Genesis 3:15

The reality is that covenants do not begin nor end with our Scriptures. Ancient Near East civilizations formed covenants before there ever was a Nation of Israel or even before we are given the first human author of Scripture.

Edenic Covenant

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth

29 Then God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; 30 and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to everything that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food”; and it was so.

31 God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. - Genesis 1:26-

The Edenic Covenant is not explicitly called a covenant in Genesis; however, it is later referred to as a covenant in Hosea 6:7,

“But like Adam they transgressed the covenant; there they dealt faithlessly with Me” (ESV).

When approaching the Edenic Covenant, one must understand the timeframe and schedule of events. We are looking at the innocence dispensation in the garden of Eden. Innocence is the shortest of the dispensations. God created man to live in perfect harmony with Himself, and there was nothing known of imperfection or evil. Adam and Eve were created in the image of God, and they were innocent of sin (Genesis 1:27). They had an eternal soul, a free will, and the ability to procreate. They walked and worked with God, who interacted with His creation (Genesis 2:15).



No other creation on earth have the privilege to have a relationship with God other than mankind. Creating man was relational. When God created other living creatures, He simply used a phrase of “Let there be”. When it came to creating man, God said, “Let us make man in our image”. We are the only thing that God created that will not pass away. We are created for eternity. Everything else in the creation story will pass away.

In the first passage, we see that God provides mankind with

- Life
- Sustenance (2:8-14) such as water and food
- Work (2:15)
- Fellowship (2:16)
- Limits (2:17)
- Companionship

The penalty for breaking this covenant was death.

- Mankind (male and female) created in God's image.
- Mankind's dominion (rule) over the animal kingdom.
- Divine directive for mankind to reproduce and inhabit the entire Earth.
- Eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil forbidden (with death as the stated penalty).

Before Eve's creation, all Adam's relationships were vertical —to God above him and to the animals below him. Adam was given the assignment to name the living creatures

Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

The idea of naming is about dominion, rule, and reign. Whoever name something is over that thing. Parents name their children and pets. Because you oversee them. Whatever the man called the living thing, that is what it is. God extended His authority to man. He let man to be in charge on earth. When God created the woman, God placed the woman in front of Adam to be named. This means that the woman belonged to Adam. Notice that the woman did not get her name Eve until 3:20 and it was given by Adam

Interpretation for the Church

- Temple

- Do you not know that you are a [f]temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you? ¹⁷ If any man destroys the [g]temple of God, God will destroy him, for the [h]temple of God is holy, and [i]that is what you are.

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- Building

- For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building (1 Corinthians 3:9)

- Garden

- For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building (1 Corinthians 3:9)

Adamic Covenant

Adamic Covenant

- The covenant conditioning fallen man's life on the earth.
- Satan tool (serpent) was cursed
- the first promise of the redeemer was given
- woman's status was altered
- the earth was cursed
- physical and spiritual death resulted.

Adamic Covenant

In Genesis 3, God holds Adam responsible for the sin of eating from the tree by addressing him first, even though it was Eve who first partook of the fruit. This coincides with Paul's understanding of the representative role of Adam in Romans 5:12-21 and 1 Corinthians 15:21-22.

12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

13 for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

- Enmity between Satan and Eve and her descendants.
- Painful childbirth for women.
- Marital strife.
- The soil cursed.
- Introduction of thorns and thistles.
- Survival to be a struggle.
- Death introduced.
- Death will be the inescapable fate of all living things

Institution of Marriage

- The one who is vested with headship is done so in 3 ways:
 - Responsibility (He is held responsible)
 - Primacy (He should go first)
 - Accountable (He is the one accountable)
- When we look at Jesus and the implications for the church, Jesus always honored the father. The one who is called to submission is vested with
 - Obedience
 - Jesus was obedient to God to the very end.
 - Trust
 - Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." Jesus trusted God with his life.
 - Honor
 - Jesus never ceased to honor The Father

Eschatological View

Adamic and Edenic Covenant



What we are going to see through these covenants that God is bringing His prophecy to pass full circle from eternity past to eternity future.

How does time begin? With God purposing mankind to be His co-regents. In the Book to Genesis, God created man to be His co-ruler.

We are His partner in rulership but the sin of man distorted God's rulership on earth. In Genesis it says there is going to be a time when this distorted rulership is going to be straightened back out when He said it is good. There will be a time when everything will go back the way it was supposed to be.

Day of the Lord (reckoning)

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”- Genesis 3:15

Like the Edenic Covenant, this one is not explicitly referred to as a covenant in Genesis, but it is a significant promise that God makes to mankind. It is the first promise of redemption and the first promise of Christ's coming (Genesis 3:15). Here, only three chapters into this remarkable book, God is already giving us hope of a Redeemer.

Romans 16:20 says, "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you."

The Seed shall bruise...

Here God promises that one born of a woman would be wounded in the process of destroying Satan. The “seed” of the woman who would crush the Serpent’s head is none other than Jesus Christ (see Galatians 4:4 and 1 John 3:8). Even in the midst of the curse, God’s gracious provision of salvation shines through.

Both the Edenic Covenant and the Adamic Covenant of Redemption that follows are significant for several reasons.

- First of all, they establish a pattern to be repeated throughout the Scriptures
 - Man sins
 - God judges the sin
 - God bestows grace and mercy by providing a way to redeem man and restore man's relationship with God.
- Second, the covenants show us that sin always has consequences. Understanding the different covenants in the Old Testament and their relation to each other is important in understanding God's covenantal relationship with His chosen people as well as His plan of redemption as revealed in Scripture.