

THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE



## A Covenant-Making God

**Ice Breaker:** What is the best April Fools Day prank you have done or had done to you?

**Read Together:** Genesis 6:5-8 (NIV)

**Discuss:**

- When people are treated as objects, violence will ensue. What is a way you have seen this happen?
- Noah was blameless in his generation. Whom do you know that you would call blameless?

**Read Together:** Genesis 9:9-17 (NIV)

**Discuss:**

- The core sin was that people were making themselves gods. If we try to be our own foundation, we will fall. How do you try to be your own foundation or your own god?
- What is a Covenant? Pastor Mark gave us the Biblical words.
  - Hebrew- Berit
  - Greek – Diatheke
- God is a Covenant Maker and a covenant keeper. What does that look like in Colorado circa 2022?

### **TRUST**

As you read the following scriptures, pay attention to the words where you start to think doubtful thoughts. What does this tell you about your trust and belief in God?

**Jeremiah 31:31-34** (ESV) [Eternal and unbreakable.]

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My

covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put My law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord, 'for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

#### **Ezekiel 36:26-28, 33-36 (ESV)**

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes and be careful to obey My rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be My people, and I will be your God."

"Thus says the Lord God: On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will cause the cities to be inhabited, and the waste places shall be rebuilt. And the land that was desolate shall be tilled, instead of being the desolation that it was in the sight of all who passed by. And they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden, and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited. 'Then the nations that are left all around you shall know that I am the Lord; I have rebuilt the ruined places and replanted that which was desolate. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it."

#### **Ezekiel 37:23, 26-28 (ESV)**

"... I will save them from all the backsliding in which they have sinned and will cleanse them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God." "I will make a covenant of peace with them. It shall be an everlasting covenant with them. And I will set them in their land and multiply them and will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore. My dwelling place shall be with them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Then the nations will know that I am the Lord who sanctifies Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore."

#### **Hebrews 8:6-7,10-12 (ESV)**

"But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant He mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second." "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put My laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."

#### **Hebrews 9:15,24-26 (ESV)**

"Therefore, He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the

transgressions committed under the first covenant.” “For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer Himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then He would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.”

**2 Corinthians 3:4-6 (ESV)**

“Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”

**Ephesians 2:12-13,19 (ESV)**

“Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” “So, then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.”

**Hebrews 13:20-21 (ESV)**

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen!”