

God's Big Picture

An overview of the Bible in eight weeks

Part 3: The Promised Kingdom

Sin > Judgment > _____

Gen 3:15 – The serpent-crusher

Gen 5:24 – Enoch walked with God

Gen 6:18; 9:1-17 – God's covenant with Noah

Covenants

The Noahic Covenant

Promise: God makes a unilateral (unconditional) covenant to preserve and never again to destroy creation by a flood.

Sign: Rainbow

The Abrahamic Covenant

Promise: God promises to raise up a great nation from Abraham's descendants and give them a land to live in. He will bless them and through them the whole world will be blessed.

Sign: Circumcision

The Mosaic Covenant

Promise: God promises the Israelites that they will be his special people; they in turn are commanded to obey his law.

Sign: Sabbath

The New Covenant

Promise: The Israelites break their covenant obligations and God has to judge them. But he promises through the prophet Jeremiah a new and better covenant, which leads to a changed heart, universal knowledge of God and complete forgiveness. Jesus' death on the cross begins this new covenant.

Sign: Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Read Genesis 17:1-8; Galatians 3:6-14

Genesis 17:1-8

God confirms the covenant by repeating his promises. List them under these headings:

People

Land

Blessing

Galatians 3:6-14

The Galatian Christians are being led astray by false teaching that suggests that it is not enough to believe in Christ but that they also need to obey the Jewish law if they are to be right with God. Paul counters this argument by pointing to Abraham.

Why are those who have faith in Christ Abraham’s true children?

What does it mean to ‘rely on observing the law’ (verse 10)? How might we do that today?

Why is it useless?

How is it possible for us to receive God’s blessing instead of the curse of judgement?

How would you explain the truths of this passage to a non-Christian?

The Promised Kingdom

God’s people	God’s place	God’s rule and blessing

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