

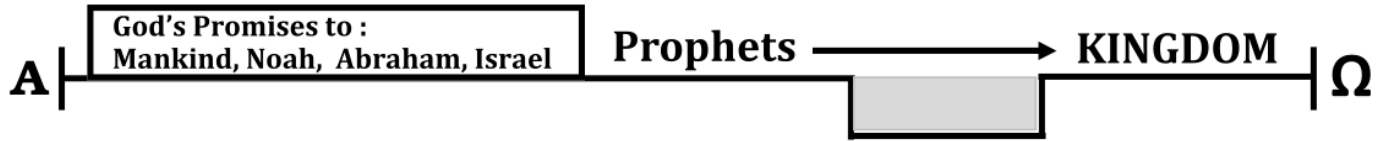
# The Biblical Metanarrative:

*"Knowing the story we are all a part of."*

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## PART 8: GOD'S PROMISED SERVANT AND THE NEW COVENANT

### REVIEW:



Along with prophecies about the soon to occur destructions of Israel and Judah, nearly all of the prophets gave revelation concerning the coming of a better Kingdom that would be ruled by a triumphant King.

- This Kingdom would be everlasting and the King who rules over it will be divine. —Is. 9:6-7
- This Kingdom would show the glory of the Lord to all the nations. —Is. 60:1-5
- This Kingdom would be the fulfillment of God's promises to David. —Jer. 23:5-6
- This Kingdom would be the fulfillment of God's promises in the Land Covenant. —Jer. 32:37-41

Within their writings the prophets also spoke about salvation that would be offered to the people through the Lord forgiving their sins.

### A Bloody History

The story of the Old Testament is riddled with examples of blood sacrifice:

- ⇒ *The Lord killed an animal and clothed Adam and Eve after they had sinned. This demonstrated that only with the shedding of blood could sin truly be covered.—Gen. 3:21*
- ⇒ *The Lord accepted Abel's sacrifice of the first born of his flock. This solidified blood sacrifice as necessary for the proper worship of God by sinful humanity.—Gen. 4:4*
- ⇒ *The Lord was pleased with Noah's offering of burnt flesh following the Flood. This again demonstrated that those rightly related to God understood the need for sacrifice.—Gen. 8:20-21*
- ⇒ *The Lord provided the animal to be sacrificed in place of Isaac. This demonstrated that the sacrifices that were being made were substitutionary.—Gen. 22:13*
- ⇒ *The Lord instituted the Passover with the Hebrew people. This further demonstrated the idea of substitution but also revealed that the blood served to preserve from judgment.—Ex. 12:21-23*
- ⇒ *With the giving of the Law in the Mosaic Covenant, the Lord codified the need for sacrifices to be offered by individuals as payment for their sins. —Lev. 4:1-6:7*
- ⇒ *The Law also contained regulations regarding sacrifices on behalf of the nation as a whole and demonstrated the need for propitiation (the satisfying of the wrath that sin deserves) and expiation (the removal of the guilt and defilement of sin).—Lev. 16:1-22.*

### Some important considerations regarding Old Testament sacrifices:

- Salvation for these Old testament believers was by \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_.
- Their obedience in performing the required sacrifices was the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith.
- These sacrifices provided a \_\_\_\_\_ covering for the sin of the Old Testament believers until Christ accomplished the complete work of atonement.

#### Isaiah 43:25-27

"I, I am he who blots out your transgressions *for my own sake*, and I will not remember your sins. Put me in remembrance; let us argue together; set forth your case, that you may be proved right. *Your first father sinned*, and *your mediators transgressed against me*.

➡ Before Israel could experience the blessings of the everlasting Kingdom ruled by the promised King, their sin would have to be dealt with once and for all.

### The Promised Servant

To the prophet Isaiah, not only did God give some of the clearest visions of the Promised King and His Kingdom, the Lord also gave him visions of a Promised Servant. Isaiah 42-66 present the Servant in an amazing amount of detail.

- *The Servant is chosen by God and filled with the Holy Spirit.—Is. 42:1*
- *The Servant will be born of a woman and given a name by the Lord.—Is. 49:1, 5*
- *The Servant will speak with knowledge and kindness.—Is. 50:4*
- *The Servant will be obedient even to the point of physical persecution.—Is. 50:6*
- *The Servant's appearance will at some point be so disfigured that it will horrify, but the result will be the sprinkling of many nations.—Is. 52:13-15*
- *The Servant would grow up like any normal person but there would be nothing about His appearance or situation in life that would draw the attentions of people and cause them to assume His greatness.—Is. 53:1-2*
- *The Servant would experience deep rejection and be despised...knowing grief and sorrow.—Is. 53:3*
- *The Servant would bear our sorrow and grief and be smitten of God.—Is. 53:4-5*
- *The Servant will be oppressed and afflicted but will be silent like a lamb led to the slaughter.—Is. 53:7*
- *The Servant was going to physically die.—Is. 53:8-9*
- *The Servant will somehow live again.—Is. 53:10-11*
- *The work of the Servant means that sinners will be accounted as Righteous. —Is. 53:11*
- *The Servant will bear the sin of many and make intercession for the transgressor.—Is. 53:12*

**The work of the Servant had to occur so that the  
Rule and Reign of the King could occur!**

## A Broken Covenant and a Ruined Testimony

The promise of Genesis 3:15 and the sacrifice of Genesis 3:21 demonstrate that God's plan from the beginning was that eventually He would rescue humanity from Satan (our enemy), sin (our captivity), and death (our fate). In choosing Israel as an elect nation, God's ultimate goal was the blessing of all nations.

### Recall the words of the Mosaic Covenant:

"You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." —Ex. 19:4-5

➡ Psalm 67 depicts the missional aspect of the Mosaic Covenant

- Israel should have been physically blessed by the Lord above all other nations, demonstrating that Yahweh was the one true God.
- Israel should have been a kingdom of priests, serving as an intercessor for the nations and being the ministers of God's Word to them.
- Israel should have been holy and set apart from the other nations through their obedience.

## The New Covenant

With the Mosaic Covenant broken and Israel's testimony ruined, they would never be able to serve as God's blessing to the nations apart from His intervention on their behalf.

### Veiled References:

Isaiah 59:21 & 60:21

⇒ These passages make vague references to a covenant God will make that will include Him placing His Spirit within them, forgiving their sin, and planning them in the land promised to them forevermore.

### The Covenant clearly stated: Jeremiah 31:31-34

⇒ The covenant is made specifically with the houses of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

⇒ The Lord will write His Law on their \_\_\_\_\_.

⇒ They shall \_\_\_\_\_ know the Lord.

⇒ He will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ their sins.

### The blessings of The New Covenant further unveiled:

*Physical Blessings:* Jeremiah 32:37-38, 41 — Ezekiel 37:24-28

- The Lord will regather Israel from the nations to which He scattered them and He would plant them there forever in faithfulness.
- The Messiah, symbolically referred to as David, will rule over the people as King and will bring them peace and abundance.

*Spiritual Blessings:*                      Jeremiah 32:39-40 — Ezekiel 36:25; 36:26-27

- The Lord will give them one new heart. He will cleanse them of all idolatry by putting the fear of Him within these new hearts.
- The Lord will forgive their sin and place His Holy Spirit within them so that they will walk in His ways.

### **THE BIG PICTURE:**

The New Covenant is the basis for God's restoration of Israel. It is the \_\_\_\_\_ promise that sets right all that went wrong through Israel's breaking of the Mosaic Covenant!

The New Covenant is the result of the work of the promised \_\_\_\_\_ so that Israel and ultimately all nations might experience the blessings of the reign of the promised \_\_\_\_\_!

### **Zechariah 8:13, 22-23**

Though Israel had ruined her testimony to the nations, the Lord would restore her for His glory, her good, and ultimately to extend His salvation to the nations!

### **An Interesting Parallel:**                      1 Peter 2:9-10

"<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

- ⇒ The Church is not the "\_\_\_\_\_"
- ⇒ The Church does not \_\_\_\_\_ Israel in the plan and purposes of God.
- ⇒ During the present Dispensation of Grace, the church rather than Israel serves as the primary \_\_\_\_\_ of God's Truth to the nations.

**How is that going in your personal life, your family, and in our church?**