



# SECOND CORINTHIANS

*The Comfort of God FOR and THROUGH His People*



Part I3— Excursus B: “A Synthetic Overview of the Bible (2 of 3)” — 28 January 2023

## Introduction: The Covenant Promises of God Visualized

The unconditional covenant promises of God can be understood as the scaffolding that holds together the structure of the Bible. Or, they could be viewed as the major threads that pull together the mosaic of Scripture. The point is that they all function in relation to one another and of necessity require the coming of Messiah in order that they might be fulfilled.

*The Noahic Covenant* →

*The Abrahamic Covenant* →

**Main Point:** The Mosaic, Land, and Davidic covenants are all related to how God would fulfill His unconditional \_\_\_\_\_ made to Abraham’s descendants in the Abrahamic Covenant.

## Covenant History and the Story of Israel

### The Mosaic Covenant—Exodus 19:1-8

**Background:** In accordance with the word of the Lord (Gen. 15:13-14), the descendants of Abraham ended up living as sojourners in a foreign land where they multiplied greatly. After over 400 years in Egypt, the population of Hebrews grew to well over a million people. The census taken at the beginning of the book of Numbers mentions around 600,000 men, excluding women and children.

⇒ God’s actions to deliver the people were based on His promises to \_\_\_\_\_.

Exod. 2:23-24—<sup>23</sup>During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. <sup>24</sup>And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

⇒ Although people seem to have been aware of the LORD and His promises to the patriarchs (Exod. 3:14-15), they had very much become assimilated into Egyptian culture (Exod. 16:1-3; Num. 11:4-6).

*The people lacked a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ identity.*

⇒ The purpose of God’s deliverance of the people was that they might go into the wilderness and \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

Exod. 6:6-8—<sup>6</sup>Say therefore to the people of Israel, ‘I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup>I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup>I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you for a possession. I am the Lord.’”

### The Parties of the Covenant & the Covenant Oath: The LORD & \_\_\_\_\_

Exod. 19:4-6—<sup>4</sup>‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>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; <sup>6</sup>and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’

Exod. 19:8—<sup>8</sup>All the people answered together and said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

### The Confirmation of the Covenant

Exod. 24:7-8—<sup>7</sup>Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” <sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

### Key Observations Regarding the Mosaic Covenant

1. The covenant was \_\_\_\_\_.

“As evidenced by the subjunctive in Ex. 23:22 ‘...if you truly obey...and do all I say...’ God’s covenant with Israel through Moses was indeed a conditional covenant. It promised blessing upon the nation if the nation remained obedient to the law.” —Chris Cone, *The Promises of God*.

2. The promises associated with the covenant were predominantly \_\_\_\_\_.

“The blessings and curses of the covenant were decidedly physical. They dealt with God’s grace in leading the Israelites into the land...which also made it evident that [their] ability to dwell in the land was the key issue.” —Chris Cone, *The Promises of God*.

3. The covenant was \_\_\_\_\_.

“The Mosaic Covenant never had the ability to bring redemption, only to point to it and therefore, built into this covenant was an intended inadequacy that would be compensated for...God built this covenant to serve its purpose, and once its purpose was complete it was to be replaced, and thereby fulfilled...God made it very clear what He required, understanding the Law would not be difficult. Keeping it would be, however.”

—Chris Cone, *The Promises of God*

## The Land Covenant—Deuteronomy 29-30

**Background:** Israel's failure to keep the Mosaic covenant was almost instantaneous (Exod. 32:1-35). The culmination of their unbelief was their failure to trust God to bring them into the land of promise. His judgment ensued and the people were forced to wander for forty years in the wilderness until all of that generation died. As the generation born in the wilderness prepared to enter the land of Canaan, Moses once again presented the terms of the Mosaic Covenant (Deuteronomy means "second law"), reiterating the promised blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.

**The Parties of the Covenant:** The LORD & \_\_\_\_\_

Deut. 29:1—These are the words of the covenant that the Lord commanded Moses to make with the people of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant that he had made with them at Horeb.

### The Covenant Oath

1. The Land covenant \_\_\_\_\_ the unconditional land promises of the Abrahamic Covenant (29:13-15) and the conditional blessings for obedience and judgment for disobedience associated with the Mosaic Covenant (29:16-28).
2. The Land covenant includes new promises of God to Israel that are both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in nature:
  - \* *Israel will break the covenant, coming under judgment and being scattered among the nations (30:1)*
  - \* *Israel will repent and turn to the Lord (30:2), have her fortunes restored (30:3), and will be regathered as a people (30:4)*
  - \* *Israel will be restored to the Promised Land and be greatly blessed (30:5)*
  - \* *Israel will be regenerated and given the ability to rightly obey the Lord (30:6)*

### Key Observations Regarding the Land Covenant

1. The Land Covenant was \_\_\_\_\_.  
Deut. 30:1a, 3—<sup>1</sup>“And when these things come upon you... <sup>3</sup> then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you.
2. The Land Covenant further emphasized God's sovereign \_\_\_\_\_ to give to Israel the Promised Land.  
“The special importance of the [Land] Covenant is that it reaffirms Israel's title deed to the [Promised] Land. Although she would prove unfaithful and disobedient, the right to the land would never be taken from her. While her enjoyment of the land is conditioned on obedience, ownership of the land is unconditional. Furthermore, it shows the conditional nature of the Mosaic Covenant did not lay aside the unconditional nature of the Abrahamic Covenant.” —Arnold Fruchtenbaum, *Israelology*

## The Davidic Covenant—2 Samuel 7:1-17

**Background:** After Israel had been in the land for over 300 years, the people demanded of Samuel a king in the fashion of the other nations. God raised up for them Saul who ultimately failed obey the Lord in the manner He had commanded. He then raised up David and established him as the king following the death of Saul. It was David's intent to build a permanent place for the ark of the Lord in Jerusalem that the Lord might dwell among the people.

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2 Sam. 7:8a, 11b—<sup>8</sup>Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, “Thus says the Lord of hosts...<sup>11</sup> the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house.

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2 Sam. 7:12-16—<sup>12</sup>When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup>He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup>I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, <sup>15</sup>but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. <sup>16</sup>And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

### Key Observations Regarding the Land Covenant

1. The Davidic Covenant was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant requires the \_\_\_\_\_ of one of David's offspring.
3. The fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant requires the establishment of a literal, earthly \_\_\_\_\_.  
“The descendant of David through whom God will fulfill His promises completely is Jesus Christ. In view of what God said of Him in Luke 1:32-33, there are five major implications of the Davidic Covenant for the future. God must preserve Israel as a nation. He must bring her back into her land. Jesus Christ must rule over her in the land. His kingdom must be earthly, and it must be everlasting.”—Thomas Constable

### Concluding Thought

- God's promises to Israel (their everlasting claim to the Promised Land and a coming king to rule over an everlasting kingdom) could not be fulfilled apart from the coming of a \_\_\_\_\_ who could make it possible for sinful people to inherit such blessings.



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*The people lacked a geographic, religious, and political identity.*

⇒ The purpose of God’s deliverance of the people was that they might go into the wilderness and worship Him.

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