

COVENANT OF THE PEOPLE

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"Thus says God the LORD, He who created the heavens, and stretched them out; He who spread forth the earth and that which comes out of it; He who gives breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk in it, "I the LORD have called **You** in righteousness, and will hold **Your** hand, and will keep **You**, and give **You** as a **Covenant of the People**, and as a Light to the Gentiles; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and those who sit in darkness out of the prison house." (Isaiah 42:5-7)

Covenant: from the Hebrew word **berith** which means "a covenant".

Covenant: to come together, to agree; a formal, solemn, and binding agreement or contract; a formal or serious agreement or promise.

Theology: "an agreement that brings about a relationship of commitment between God and a person, or His people."

The Old Testament Covenant is based on the biblical covenant made with Abraham Isaac and Jacob, and their descendants, including Moses, and the Messianic line of David; and was officially ratified by the shedding of blood.

The New Testament Covenant is based upon the fulfillment of the Old Testament Covenant through the promised Messiah Jesus and the shedding of His blood on the cross. In the New Testament, the Greek word for covenant, **diatheke**; also includes the idea of a testament, or something that testifies of something; and also includes the sense of a 'last will and testament' of some one who has died."

People: from the Hebrew word **am** which means "people, nation, mankind, or men."

In the verse quoted from Isaiah 42, God, the Father, is actually speaking **to** His promised Messiah, His Son! In this verse to His Son God says, or makes these promises, or makes the following binding agreements:

- that He has "called **Him** in righteousness"
- that He will "hold **His** hand"
- that He will "keep **Him**"
- that He will "give **Him** as a Covenant of the People" or "a Peoples Covenant".
- that He will "give **Him** as a Light to the Gentiles"

Called: from the Hebrew word **qara** which means "to call, to proclaim, to read."

Hold: from the Hebrew word **chazaq** which means "to grow firm or strong, to strengthen."

Keep: from the Hebrew word **natsar** which means "to keep, to guard, to watch over."

Give: from the Hebrew word **nathan** which means "to give, put, set, make, place, appoint, etc..

The Son's part in this formal solemn agreement is to: "open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and for those who sit in darkness out of the prison house." That is Jesus' roll in this covenant-agreement, with the Father, is to save people from the curse of their sin; a **Covenant for us People**, as it says:

"For God so loved the world, that He **gave** his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved."
(John 2:16-17)

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Consider these verses:

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink you all of it, for this is **My blood of the New Testament**, which is shed for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:26-28)

"By so much more Jesus was made a guarantee of a better Covenant. And there were truly many priests, because they were not permitted to continue by reason of their death. But this Man (Jesus!), because He lives forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. Therefore, He is able also to save them to the uttermost those who come unto God through Him, seeing He forever lives to make intercession for them. For such a High Priest He became for us, who is holy, innocent, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; who needs not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's; for this He (Jesus) did once, when He offered up Himself." (Hebrews 7:22-27)

"But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also He is the mediator of a better Covenant, which was established upon better promises; for if the First Covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the Second." (Hebrews 8:6-7)

Some background verses: "And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning and built an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen unto the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the **Book of the Covenant** and read in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the LORD has said will we do, and be obedient." And Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold the **Blood of the Covenant** which the LORD has made with you concerning all these words." (Exodus 24:4-8)

"....And for this cause **He is the mediator of the New Covenant**, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the First Covenant, they who are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator." (please read Hebrews 9:8-28)

"Now may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 13:20-21)

JESUS IS ...

the Covenant of the People

Jesus is the Everlasting Covenant of the promised Messiah of God;

Who opens our eyes!

Who sets us free through the Blood of the New Covenant!

Who died for us on the Cross...

for the forgiveness of all our sins; and thus He obtained eternal redemption for us!

Thank You Father!! Thank You Jesus!!

Truly, truly, To You be the Glory forever and ever - Amen!