

In the beginning...

Salvation History and Covenants



Covenants:

Salvation History in the Bible

■ Contract

- Promise between parties
- Exchange of goods/services
- Terms & conditions including termination clause
- Sealed with their name

■ Covenant

- Oath with God
- Exchanges of persons
- No termination
- Sealed with name of God
- Makes a family

■ Family of God

“As God said: ‘I will live with them and move among them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people.’... ‘I will be a Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me,’ says the Lord Almighty.” (2 Cor 6:16-18).

■ Covenants

- Adam - family
- Noah – extended family
- Abraham - clan
- Moses – tribe
- David - kingdom
- Jesus Christ - world

A Priestly People

■ *Created*

- “created man in His image...in the divine image...male and female” ([Genesis 1:26-28](#))
- Created in the image means to be child of...

■ *Eden*

- World created as a Temple, with Eden as sanctuary, the holy place where God dwells
- Priestly role

■ *Work of Adam and Eve*

- Adam is placed in the Garden “to cultivate and care for it” (see [Genesis 2:15](#))
- *abodah* and *shamar*
- Elsewhere – role of priest serving in the Temple

■ *Priestly People*

- Covenants and sacrifice
- Jesus’ sacrificial offer
- Our part as a priestly people? Offering oneself to God

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