DIVINE COVENANTS

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This subject is taught in the Mystery Concept series, lesson 189, taught by W. W. "Pete" Daughtry. This and other doctrinal series can be ordered on mp3 CD by writing to the church. A list of available recordings and publications will be provided on request.

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Biblically speaking, a covenant is a contract between God and man. In the Bible, we find eight covenants, all initiated by God. Seven of these covenants are unconditional, requiring nothing from man, totally dependent upon the integrity of God. One is conditional, requiring of man something that he cannot do. In order for this covenant to be fulfilled, God the Son became man in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ in order to fulfill the requirement Himself on man's behalf. The Eternal Covenant is the key and the basis for all the others.

These are the eight divine covenants, with the covenant sign and the ratification for each one.

Adamic Covenant: Gen. 3:15 cf. Gen. 3:21

- **Unconditional:** Christ was to come as the crushing Seed of the Woman.
- Covenant sign: Childbearing.

 Ratification of the covenant: Shedding the blood of the innocent animals, a picture of the spiritual death of Christ on the cross (the Blood of the Covenant).

Noahic Covenant: Gen. 6:18 cf. Gen. 8:20

- Unconditional: The promise of Christ as the crushing Seed of the Woman was reaffirmed.
- **Covenant sign:** The rainbow (the perpetuation of the human race).
- Ratification of the covenant: Based on the altar. (Substitutionary death, the Blood of the Covenant).

Abrahamic Covenant: Gen. 12:1-3, 7-8

- **Unconditional:** Christ was to come as the Promised Seed through the line of Abraham (the new racial species, the Jews).
- Covenant sign: Circumcision.

• Ratification of the covenant: Based on the altar. (Substitutionary death, the Blood of the Covenant).

<u>Davidic Covenant</u>: 2 Sam. 7:12-17; 1 Chron. 17:3-15

- **Unconditional:** Christ was to come as the Ruling Seed of David (Rom. 1:3).
- **Covenant sign:** The perpetuation of the family of David.
- Ratification of the covenant: Based on the Levitical offerings of the Mosaic Law, including the Day of Atonement. (Substitutionary death, the Blood of the Covenant).

Mosaic Covenant (The Law): Ex. 19-Deut.

• Conditional: The only conditional covenant, given to demonstrate man's inability to meet God's righteous demands and his need for a Savior, to lead him to Christ. The life and death of the Lord Jesus

Christ met and fulfilled the requirements of the covenant. (Matt. 5:17; Rom. 10:4)

- **Covenant sign:** The tables of stone on which were written the ten commandments.
- Ratification of the covenant: Based on the Passover. (Substitutionary death, the Blood of the Covenant).

New Covenant to Israel: Jer. 31:31-38

- Unconditional: The fulfillment of all the previously presented covenants at the Second Advent of Christ; the bringing in of the promised Kingdom, the Millennial Reign of Christ.
- Covenant sign: Two-fold. First, the virgin birth of the King, and second, the destruction of the enemies of Israel.
- Ratification of the covenant: The substitutionary spiritual death of Christ on the cross when He was judged for the sins of mankind, as well as His resurrection,

ascension, and session at the right hand of God the Father.

New Covenant to the Church: Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25

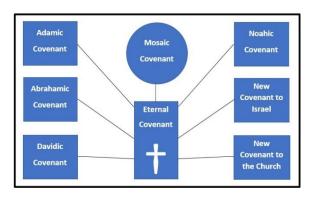
- Unconditional: Provides for the believer to become part of the new spiritual species, a member of the Royal Family of God, an heir of God and a joint-heir with Christ, and the recipient of the unique spiritual life as lived by the Lord Jesus Christ in Hypostatic Union.
- Covenant sign: The Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the indwelling of the Trinity in every Church Age believer.
- Ratification of the covenant: Based on the substitutionary spiritual death of Christ on the cross, His resurrection, ascension, and session to the right hand of God the Father.

Eternal Covenant: Heb. 13:20

• **Unconditional:** The mutual agreement and undertaking of man's salvation by the

members of the Trinity—God the Father as the Author of the Plan, God the Son as the Executor, and God the Holy Spirit as the Revealer and Communicator of the Plan.

- **Covenant sign:** The incarnation of Christ in Hypostatic Union and the principle of *KENOSIS* (Phil. 2:5-8).
- Ratification of the covenant: The Blood of the Covenant, the substitutionary spiritual death of the humanity of Christ on the cross, as well as His resurrection and glorification. This established the basis on which the salvation of man is secured.





Albany native W. W. "Pete" Daughtry was called to be the pastor-teacher of Albany Bible Church shortly after the church was formed in 1974. He attended Emmaus Bible College in Chicago, Illinois, and has studied intensively for over 40 years under the teaching of R. B.

Thieme, Jr., of Berachah church in Houston. The principle focus of Pete's teaching pastorate has been to clearly present the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and the procedures for living the unique spiritual life provided for believers in the Church Age. In addition to Little Faiths, Pete has authored The Shield of Faith, Mothers are Human Too, The Believer's Field Manual on Suffering, and others, all available through Albany Bible Church.



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