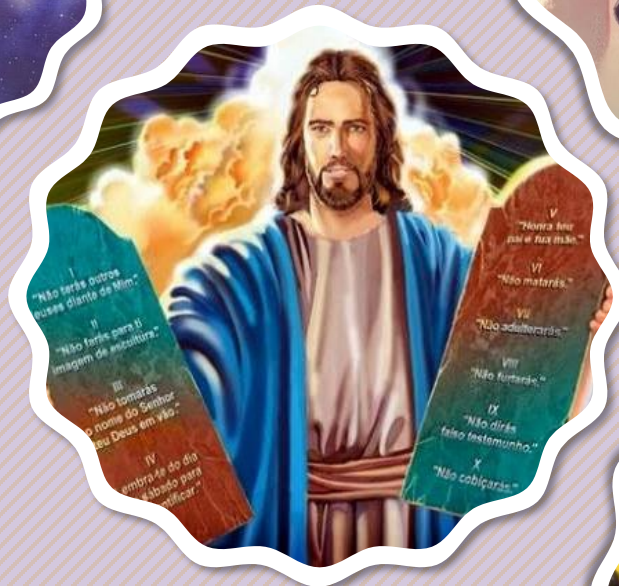




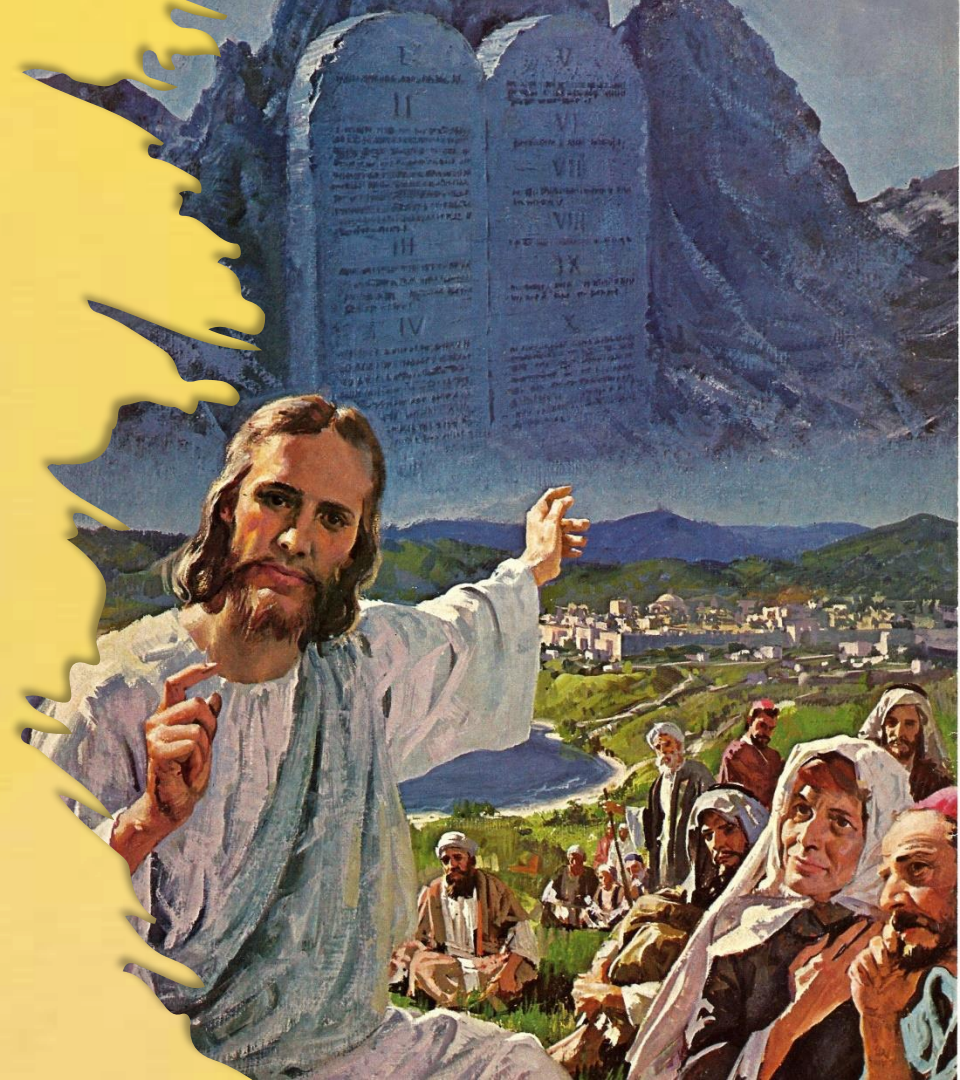
# GOD'S COVENANTS WITH US



Lesson 2 for  
January 14, 2023

"Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God"

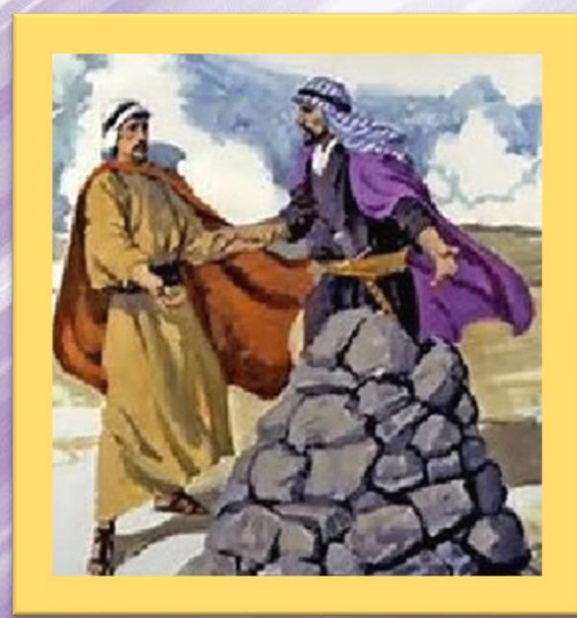
(Deuteronomy 28:1-2)





Although there are some exceptions, a covenant is usually a contract between two parties. Both parties commit to fulfill their part. Besides, the conditions of the covenant and the possible causes of cancellation must be clearly stated.

God has made some unilateral covenants with humankind (Gn. 9:11). However, most of His covenants are bilateral. That is, God will do something if the people involved fulfill their part.



The covenant of salvation



The covenant of blessing



The covenant of the firstfruits



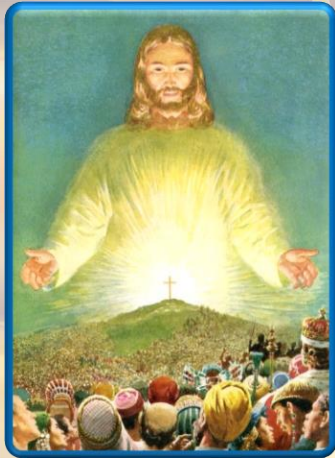
The covenant of the tithe



Other covenants

# THE COVENANT OF SALVATION

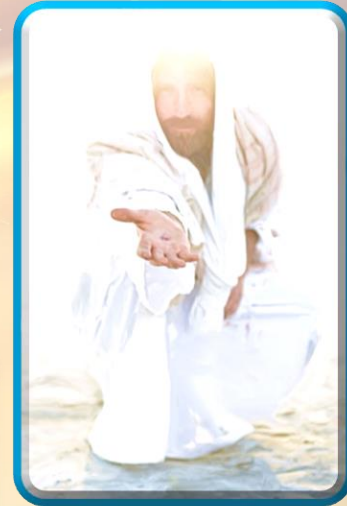
**"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." (Acts 16:31)**



Salvation is not a unilateral covenant from God's side. Therefore, not everyone will be saved no matter what they do or believe. It's a bilateral covenant between God and humankind: Believe [our part] ... and you will be saved [God's part]" (Acts 16:31).

It's a simple covenant. There are no complex or hard clauses. Its main goal is to give us eternal life (1Jn. 5:13). However, this is not a covenant that's signed once and then forgotten: "but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved." (Mt. 24:13 NVI).

When Paul was about to die, he was sure that he had "kept the faith," and that he would receive "the crown of righteousness" with "all who have loved His appearing" (2Tim. 4:6-8).





# THE COVENANT OF BLESSING

**"All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God."**

(Deuteronomio 28:2 NIV)

**The covenant God made with Israel (and with us) includes many blessings (Dt. 28:1-13 NIV):**



Blessed be the city where you live (3)



Blessed be your children (4)



Blessed be your income (4)



Blessed be your work tools (5)



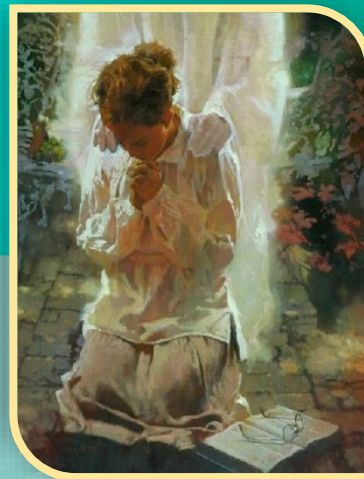
Blessed be your household and the places you visit (6)



You will be blessed among your enemies (7)



Blessed be your work (8)



**There are some conditions to receive these blessings:**

**Listen to God and obey His commandments (1)**

**Live according to God's will (9)**

**Make God the only Lord of your life (14)**

# THE COVENANT OF THE FIRSTFRUITS

**"Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase."**

(Proverbs 3:9)



**The covenant of the firstfruits works as follows:**

**Our part: Giving God  
the first and the best**

**God's part:  
Blessing the rest**



**This covenant includes the fruit of our work, our affection, our time...**

**It may sound illogical, because if we give the first and the best, then we will have less and worse remaining... However, this is different with God. Why?**

**God invites us to "trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." (Pr. 3:5 NVI).**

**Besides the blessing that comes from God, the Bible is also full of advice to effectively manage our money, our affection, our time...**



# THE COVENANT OF THE TITHE

**“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, ‘If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.’” (Malachi 3:10)**

Malachi wrote those words in a moment when the people of Israel had forgotten their part on God’s covenant. Therefore, he said: **“Return to Me, and I will return to you” (Mal. 3:7).**



Then he proposed a covenant, a material covenant with spiritual consequences. This covenant is also valid for us today: **Bring me the tithe and I will bless you (Mal. 3:10).**

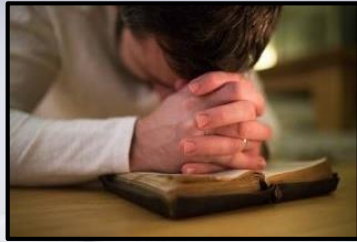
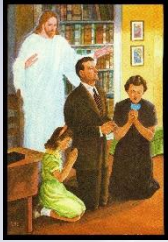
The people of Israel proved that this covenant is valid. In times of king Hezekiah, **“they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything” (2Chr. 31:5).** Then they could say that **“the Lord has blessed His people.” (2Chr. 31:10)**





# OTHER COVENANTS

**"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)**



**Jesus extended the covenant of the firstfruits: If we put God in first place, He will give us food and clothes, and He will satisfy our needs (Mt. 6:25-34). There are other covenants in the Bible:**

COVENANT	OUR PART	GOD'S PART
Covenant of peace (Is. 26:3)	Trust God and think about Him	Give us complete peace
Covenant of forgiveness (1Jn. 1:9)	Confess our sins	Forgive our sins and clean us from evil
Covenant of healing (2Chr. 7:14)	Humble oneself, pray, seek God, repent	Heal our land

**God always offers two options: either to obey and receive blessings or to disobey and lose the blessings. "therefore choose life [obeying], that both you and your descendants may live [receive blessings]." (Dt. 30:19)**





**“The Lord bestows His gifts abundantly upon us. He ‘so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’ Every blessing we have comes through Jesus Christ. Then shall we not arouse, and do our duty toward God, upon whom we are dependent for life and health, for His blessing [...]? We are assured if we give to the Lord's treasury, we shall receive of Him again.”**

**E. G. W. (Testimonies for Ministers and Gospel Workers, cp. 44, p. 307)**