

EVERY TRACK EVERY WEEK WEEK 13: Leader Study Guide

Covenant Theology- How God Relates to Man

-Welcome!

-Intro: Thanks for being here! Revisit last week's points

****point everyone to PODCAST! Fcamx.com/gospeldrivenathlete**

**Exchange numbers or invite attendees to join your ETEW Facebook group.*

INTRO:

Hi, and welcome to Every Track Every Week. My name is _____ and I am involved with Texas FCA Motocross through _____. I've been involved with FCA MX for _____ years and my favorite thing about the ministry is _____.

This week's discussion is based upon episode #61 of our podcast "The Gospel Driven Athlete" titled, "Covenant Theology- How God relates to Man." This week we are digging a little deeper to understand a few things better. If you don't know what a covenant is, or what theology is, don't worry, we will explain as we go. If you are wondering why it is important to study this stuff, we need to know what we believe and why we believe it. We will never know even close to everything about God, but the more we understand His Word the stronger our faith will become because we will see more and more who God is and how good He is. We look deeper to grow closer to the Creator who has chosen to save us by His Son.

Question 1: Have you ever heard of a covenant? If so, what is it?

Answer:

1. A covenant is a promise to uphold something or hold up your end of the deal. An 'arrangement' that is made.

2. Covenant is really a Biblical principle. *The word covenant appears around 300 times in the Bible. Around thirty times in the New Testament, around 280 or 290 times in the Old Testament. In biblical times, covenants were often very serious promises or agreements that were made. A smart



Bible professor once said, “a covenant is a bond in blood, sovereignly administered.”

3. Marriage is a good example of a modern-day covenant. A man and woman take covenant before God to be committed to each other through sickness and health, all that good stuff...

Question 2: Why then do you think covenants are important?

Answer:

1. Covenants in the Bible (covenant theology) shows us how God relates to us... it shows us what our relationship to God is. In other words, we are either in bad standing (in Adam) or in good standing (in Christ). We are either sons of God or we are enemies of God. Everyone has a relationship with God; one is favorable and the other is markedly unfavorable.

2. Covenant theology helps us better understand Scripture. Throughout Biblical history this is how God reveals himself to us. Example: The first covenant was the “Adamic Covenant” “do not eat of the tree, yet you will surely die..”

3. Covenants show us the consistency and continuity in scripture. The covenants continue, mainly in the Old Testament, but also in the New Testament to help us better understand the Gospel and Salvation by grace. The easiest way to understand scripture is starting with the covenants.

4. The covenants show us how God relates to us in such a gracious and undeserving way and continually show us his sovereignty.

Question 3: What types of covenants do we see in the bible?

Answer:

- a. Covenant of Works – commands from God that are contingent on obedience.
 - i. “Do this and live.” In the Adamic Covenant – God told Adam (and all of mankind) that we were required to obey him in order to secure his blessing.



- ii. This covenant applies to all of us and we are either covenant keepers or covenant breakers.
- iii. Only one human being has succeeded at keeping this covenant- Christ.
- b. Covenant of Grace - God saves sinners by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. God made an arrangement to save us (mankind) from the consequences of our sin.
 - i. This has been done for you, now live in light of it.
 - ii. The Reformation Study Bible Notes says it this way, “The Covenant of Grace fulfills the covenant of works because God graciously applies the merit of Christ to our account. Thus, by grace we meet the terms set forth in the covenant of works.”
 - iii. Gen 17:7 “And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”
 - iv. the beauty of the covenant of grace is that God comes in and He Himself provides the basis of our part of the relationship. Propitiation (our debit is paid) in Christ and then by His grace, He enables us to believe and reap the benefits of the covenant (through his work).
 - v.

Question 4: What are some specific examples?

Answer:

- c. Covenant of Life (which is really just another term for covenant of Works for those who want to emphasize the gracious nature of the covenant of works)
- d. Noahic Covenant
 - i. Covenant sign of the rainbow – never again flood the earth...Symbolism of the promise of a redeemer.
- e. Abrahamic Covenant
 - i. God’s promises to Abraham and redemption for His chosen people...God promises to take care of him and his children. Genesis 17:7. God is the one who promises to uphold the covenant.
- f. Mosaic Covenant



- i. God's promises to the Israelites – exemplifies grace and forgiveness. Moses tells and provides the law.

Question 5: Where does Christ fit into this picture of the covenants?

Answer:

1. Christ makes and fulfills the conditions of the covenants. Throughout scripture – old and new testament, Christ has fulfilled these covenants.
2. Christ makes the covenant of grace possible, by his own fulfillment of the covenant of works.
3. He then imputes his work on us. His perfect law keeping is handed over directly to us.

Question 6: So how should an understanding of Covenant Theology inform our lives as Christians?

Answer:

1. If we understand these covenants incorrectly, we might think that our job is to pull it off on our own, when in fact, Christ pulls it off for us.
2. Although, the covenant of works informs us of what is required of us, we know that we are not able to uphold this. Again, we know that through Christ's work, the covenant of works as fulfilled and we are merited His grace.
3. This allows us to rest fully in the work and fulfillment of the covenants through Christ for our salvation.

Question 7: For further studying/reading, what are some of the "go-to" passages that illustrate covenant theology?

- g. Gen 3
- h. Gen 15:12-20
- i. Gen 17:7 Immanuel Principal (echoed throughout the OT and NT)



- j. Exodus 24
- k. Jer31:31-34
- l. Christ as the fulfillment of Exodus 24:8 (Mtt 26: 28, Heb9:20)

