

# Understanding the Covenants

## A Master KEY to unlock Scripture

### New Life Discipleship Training

The Bible uses just two words for "covenant" that occur 316 times in 295 verses. In the Old Testament (*berith*) means literally a covenant, alliance, pledge, treaty, league, constitution, and an agreement. In the New Testament (*diatheke*) means a disposition, arrangement, covenant, testament or will.

The Hebrew word above (*berith*) derives from a root which means "to cut" and hence a covenant is a "cutting" with reference to the cutting or dividing of animals into two parts and the contracting parties passing between them, in making a covenant. This is illustrated in Genesis 15.

In the ancient world covenant was the closest, holiest, most solemn and most indissoluble compact conceivable. The covenants God made with man were ultimately made to fulfill His gracious purpose to redeem man from the penalty, power and presence of sin.

### Each Covenant has 3 parts

1. The **WORDS** of the Covenant
2. The **BLOOD** of the Covenant
3. The **SEAL** of the Covenant

### The Words of the Covenant

1. The **PROMISES** of The Covenant
  - Promises of Blessing
  - Promises of Cursing
  - Natural promises
  - Spiritual Promises
2. The **TERMS** of the Covenant (can be revocable and irrevocable...if you will... then I will)

### The Blood of the Covenant

1. The **SACRIFICE** of the Covenant
  - The body
  - The Blood
2. The **MEDIATOR** of the Covenant
3. The **SANCTUARY** of the Covenant

### The Seal (sign, Token) of the Covenant

The seal is an ongoing tangible witness to the veracity of the covenant. It serves as a constant reminder of the authenticity of the covenant promises and terms

### The Duration of the Covenant

1. Everlasting
2. Temporal
3. **IRREVOCABLE** regardless of mans response (Gen 22:17) I will...
4. **REVOCABLE** God will fulfill the promises of the covenant upon mans obedience to the conditions (Example = The Mosaic Covenant)