Covenants

The covenants of God are how HE deals with mankind through the ages.

The covenant with Adam was; Be fruitful and multiply, have dominion over the earth, and Oh, by the way, don't eat the fruit from that tree.

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

Gen 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,

Gen 2:17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Adam failed; abdicating his dominance by willfully committing the one act he was forbidden. [even though he did it out of love for his wife, not malice] This led to the Age of Chaos, ending with the Great Flood.

The Noahide covenant was built upon the foundation of the first covenant;

Gen 9:1 And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.

And clarified to show what was expected of mankind in the new setting, the Age of Law.

Gen 9:3 Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. And as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything.

Gen 9:4 But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.

Gen 9:5 And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: [do not murder] from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man

[set up a government to enforce it] I will require a reckoning for the life of man.

Gen 9:6 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

[you are responsible to God {"love God with all your heart, your soul and mind"}]

Gen 9:7 And you, be fruitful and multiply, increase greatly on the earth and multiply in it." [act towards one-another in the favor of life {"love your neighbor as yourself"}]

Gen 9:8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him,

Gen 9:9 "Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you,

Gen 9:12 And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations:

Gen 9:13 I have set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

While there are still rainbows in the sky, all mankind is held accountable to this covenant and subject to judgement at the Great White Throne at the end of the Millennial reign of Christ. [Rev 20:11>:15]

In the meantime; God made another, separate, covenant with Abraham;

Gen 13:14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward.

Gen 13:15 for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.

Gen 13:16 I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted.

Gen 13:17 Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you."

Then He clarified it with Moses;

Deu 14:2 For you [Israel] are a people holy to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

Exo 19:5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine;

Exo 19:6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

Deu 12:9 For ye are not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance, which the LORD your God giveth you.

Israel's job was to represent God to the rest of the world by being set apart and following HIS commandments. God, knowing they weren't able, promised them a savior through the Prophets.

King David saved the nation of Israel, who would have been swallowed up by the nations without a warrior king.

The covenant with David, assured them there would be another savior;

- 2Sa 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.
- 2Sa 7:13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.
- 2Sa 7:14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,
- 2Sa 7:15 but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.
- 2Sa 7:16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

Israel rejected Jesus as their savior. They were looking for "the son of David- the warrior" not the "son of Joseph- the servant".

As a result of the rejection, Jesus, the Image of God, made another covenant with all of mankind, ushering in the Church Age;

- Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
- Joh 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.
- Joh 3:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.
- Rom 10:9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
- Rom 10:10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.
- Rom 10:11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."
- Rom 10:12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.
- Rom 10:13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."
- Eph 1:13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,
- Eph 1:14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

The Law was given to and for Israel to be witnesses for God's love towards men; this why Paul can argue that as Christians we are not held to the Mosaic Law. Gentiles were and are still accountable to Noahide Law;

But there is a better way: The Love of God in the renewed mind of Christ-in-you;

Rom 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Rom 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [Gal 5:23] gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

God's Covenant with Christ will be fulfilled at the Rapture of the Christ-ins.

The Covenant with Abraham will be fulfilled when Israel annexes the nations that attack her.

The Covenant with Moses will be fulfilled when all believers are in heaven, and the 144,000 sealed Jews are protected from the Tribulation. (the Promised Rest)

The Covenant with David will be fulfilled when Jesus reigns over the Earth for 1000 years.

The Covenant with Noah will be fulfilled at the Great White Throne Judgement of Rev:20.

The Covenant with Adam will be fulfilled when the Garden is restored and all evil is removed.