

## *Blood Covenant Part 2*

- We are talking about blood covenant because our relationship with God is a blood covenant relationship
- It's important to remember that when two parties made a blood covenant agreement, they would mingle their blood together. (We talked about the four ways blood covenant was cut and God's way was the substitutionary sacrifice). This signified that they were one blood or one blood line.
- But remember that the blood represented the man's life. So, when they mingled blood, they mingled their lives together saying we are now one new life.
- Life embodies everything you have. So, in blood covenant, I'm giving you my blood or giving you my life. You are getting everything that belongs to me, but in return, I'm getting everything that belongs to you.
- Also, remember I'm not just getting your assets and good qualities, I'm getting your debts too and vice versa.
- This is why a blood covenant is not made without love.
- This is why that the greatest love was shown when Jesus gave His blood to make a blood covenant between us and the Father.
  - o In that blood covenant, Jesus gave us His life, but in return, He got our life and our life put him on the cross and in hell. But His life put us in right standing with God, blessed us, and gave us the Holy Spirit.

### Covenant terms

- When you understand that the word is divided into two testaments or covenants and therefore is a book of covenants (old and new), you begin to see all the covenant language it's written in. You begin to see why the bible says some of the things it says.
- One covenant term is friend
- Proverbs 17:17
  - o The word friend in this verse comes from the Hebrew word *rea* and it means an associate.
    - We all understand what it is to have friends that we hang out with, talk to, and do stuff with.
    - They are associates.
  - o But a brother is born for adversity.
    - But in adversity friends (*reas*) is not who we call or who comes around. Family like brothers is who we call on and who comes to our side.
    - Sometimes that's the only time you hang out together but that's what family does.
- But then there's another Hebrew word for friend in proverbs 18:24
  - o The Hebrew word *Ahab* is what the second friend is translated from which really is referring to a blood covenant brother. This is referring to something deeper than an associate. This is referring to someone that is actually one with you in blood.
  - o A friend that sticks even closer than a brother. What is a friend that sticks closer than a brother? It's a covenant brother.
    - He sticks closer than a brother because he chose to be one blood with you. Your natural brother had no choice.
  - o This word is referred to in 2 Chronicles 20:7 and Isa 41:8.

- Abraham is called a blood covenant brother with God because him and God entered into a blood covenant together.
  - I have entered into the same blood covenant as Abraham with God through faith in the blood of Jesus.
- John 15:15 Jesus called us friends.
  - This is covenant language. Not associates but blood covenant brothers.
  - Jesus is our friend. Not an associate but one that sticks closer than a brother.
  - The rest of that verse says all things He has heard He made known unto us. That's covenant.
  - We are actually one with Jesus through His blood.
- There's a term in the eastern culture where blood covenant is understood that says blood is thicker than milk.
  - Meaning blood covenant relationship is stronger than two brothers that was born from the same womb and drank from the same milk.
  - So, in a lot of cases, family will disagree, quit talking to one another, turn their backs on one another. But a blood covenant brother says I would rather die than turn my back on you.
  - So, the blood of a covenant relationship is stronger than the blood of a natural brother because the blood of a covenant relationship says I will put aside the disagreements, hurts, faults, mistakes and help you.
  - Jesus is a friend that sticks closer than a brother. His blood is stronger than disagreements, circumstances and falling outs.
  - Even you and I who are in blood covenant with Jesus are actually in blood covenant with one another and that blood makes us closer than family many times.

1 Samuel Chapter 18 looking at an actual blood covenant that took place between David and Jonathan.

- v1-3 Jonathan and David made a covenant because Jonathan loved David as his own soul.
  - Love is the basis of blood covenant. The only reason that Jonathan would make a blood covenant with David is if he loved David as himself.
  - Which meant that He valued David's life as if it was his own life. He was going to fight for David as if he was doing it for Himself. So, the blood covenant was really just the result of love.
  - So really love doesn't come from Blood Covenant. Blood covenant is the result of love.
  - God didn't make a blood covenant to bind Himself to you and hold Himself to His promises. It was really a result of His love for you. He didn't need the blood covenant to keep Him faithful. He made a blood covenant to show you how faithful He is. He made the blood covenant for us so that we could have something to put trust in.
  - When it doesn't look like His word is coming to pass, we remember the blood covenant and say wait a minute, God has to show up.
  - That's what David did with Goliath. Everybody forgot the covenant when the giant was in the land. But David didn't say well because Goliath is taunting, where is God. He remembered the Covenant and said God has to defeat this giant.
- V4 is where we find the ritual they went through to make blood covenant.
  - There are nine different things we find in the bible that was done when making a covenant.
  - David and Jonathan did some of these things. But some do all nine of these rituals and some do just one or two.

- Jesus did all nine things when making covenant with us.
- 1. Exchange of garments
  - Garments reflect personality, position in life, state of income.
  - So, when they exchanged garments, they were exchanging their position in life with one another.
  - David and Jonathan exchanged garments.
  - David had everything to gain and Jonathan had everything to lose.
  - David gave a shepherd's coat and Jonathan His princely robe. When Jonathan gave David his robe, he was saying I give you the kingdom.
  - This is why love is the root because Jonathan said I love you so much that I will give you the kingdom and even my position. Jonathan also had to trust David to give him His position. But Jonathan didn't get much of anything in return.
  - God exchanged my garment for his. He gave us the robe of righteousness and took our filthy rags.
  - Just like David, when God gave us His garments, he was giving us His position of power and authority.
  - Eph 4:24 is covenant language because it says put on the new man. In other words, put this new man that you are in Christ on your mind, your character and take on God's position in the earth. Putting on the new man is putting on the garment you have received from God.
- 2. They exchanged belts
  - Belt held the weapons.
  - So, David and Jonathan exchanged weapons.
  - Jonathan was saying by giving David his belt or weapons your enemies are my enemies and vice versa. I will defend you as if I was defending myself and you must defend me.
  - But all David gave to Jonathan was a slingshot.
  - Well one day I gave God my slingshot (works and energy and strength of the flesh) and He gave me His weapons of the Holy Ghost, anointing, wisdom, prayer, tongues and so on. Now He's protecting me.
  - 2 Corinthians 10:4 is covenant language.
- 3. Cut an animal in half split it down the backbone.
  - Sometimes in place of their own blood and sometimes in conjunction with.
  - They would set one side on the left hand and one side on the right hand and allow the blood to flow in the middle of the two pieces and then walk a figure eight together in the pool of blood.
    - They considered themselves to be one in the body of the substitute sacrifice.
    - Jesus was that substitutionary sacrifice or that animal that was cut in half and we walked through the middle of it with God and became one with God in the body of Jesus.
    - Even saying I am in the body of Christ is covenant language.
  - The figure eight was a symbol of infinity or eternity.
    - This symbol showed the length of the covenant.
    - It lasted long after the two people who made the covenant died. It would last for generations.
    - The following generations didn't have to shed any more blood to make covenant. They could enter the covenant with one another just by

acknowledging the covenant and accepting it. They could also reject it if they wanted to.

- I don't have to shed any more blood to get in this covenant. Jesus already shed it and I just have to acknowledge it and accept it.
- 4. Cut themselves and mingled the blood
  - Under the old covenant, the cutting of themselves to enter the covenant was through circumcision.
  - But under the new covenant, it's not the cutting of the foreskin, it's the cutting of the heart.
  - When I got saved, the flesh or the old sinful nature from Adam was cut away and destroyed. My spirit which is my real life was mingled with God's life and we became one, and I became a new creature in Christ
- 5. Took ashes and put it in the cut.
  - This is so there would be a permanent cut or scar so they could show that they were in the covenant. They could roll up their sleeves and show the marks of the covenant.
  - A missionary in Africa made blood covenant with over fifty tribes so that when He went around to different villages and they thought let's kill the white man, all he had to do was show them the covenant marks on his arms and they knew if they attacked him they would be attacking over fifty other tribes.
  - Gal 6:17 I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.
  - I bear the marks of the covenant. When I entered into covenant with God, I was cut in the heart and now I have the presence of God, the power of the Holy Spirit and His nature.
  - Whenever the devil comes around, we need to show him the marks and remind him we've been cut, and we are one with Christ.
- 6. names were exchanged
  - Names would be merged.
  - Name is right of attorney or power of attorney.
  - We receive the name of Jesus and become power of attorney.
- 7. covenant terms were read
  - The blessings for keeping the covenant were read and also curses for breaking the covenant were read.
  - Duet 28 are the terms of the covenant.
  - All the covenant terms are given to us in the word of God.
- 8. covenant meal
  - Universally the covenant meal is always bread and wine.
  - This is because they are saying we have become one in body (bread) and in our very blood or lives (wine).
  - John 6:53-56 covenant language. He says here that if you have life in you and Jesus is in you and you in Him then you have eat His flesh or become one with His body and drank His blood or become one with His life.
  - Communion is our covenant meal. When we take communion, this is what we are declaring and renewing our minds to that we are in covenant with Jesus and the Father and therefore one with them.
- 9. planted a tree.
  - Gen 21:22-24; Abraham is going to make a covenant with Abimelech.
  - Then in Gen 21:32-33 we see that Abraham plants trees as a sign of the covenant.

- A tree represents ongoing life like the covenant that's ongoing.
- A tree continues to grow through out generations like this covenant is going to go on through the generations.
- A tree becomes stronger and stronger like the covenant.
- This tree was a visual reminder of the covenant. They planted it where both parties could always see it and walk by it and remember it.
- Also, the next generations would see the tree and be reminded of the covenant.
- That tree is the cross and it's a symbol to all generations that a covenant has been made with God, that no more blood has to be shed, it was shed once for all and all we have to do is accept the covenant and enter in to it.