

Covenants, Q&A

- Lk 22:20, “In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.’”
 - the “new covenant”
 - main purpose of new covenant: restore man to relationship with God, which he did through Jesus the man
- Description of covenant
 - defines a loving relationship
 - each party is fully committed to the other’s success & well-being within the covenant terms
 - protection of each party from the other is unnecessary
 - covenant defines an unconditional, enduring relationship
 - is a binding, unbreakable obligation between two parties; breakable only by death
- scope & terms
 - define the covenant’s purpose & what’s included in covenant
 - identify each party’s role & responsibilities
- exchanging outer garment
 - symbolizes giving all of oneself, one’s identity
 - this means you are no longer just yourself, now also united with other person
 - the two become one
- exchanging weapons
 - represents protection, security
 - covenant partner pledges himself unto death for the other’s security & well-being
 - they no longer live independently, but for each other
- exchanging belts
 - represents pledging all of one’s strength, support, skills & abilities
 - “I’ll do whatever I can to help you.”
- exchanging portion of name
 - represents taking partner’s identity, purpose & authority
 - represents legal authority to use person’s resources & conduct their business
- pronouncing blessings over each other
 - a statement of benefits for adhering to covenant terms
 - includes rights & privileges
- identifying all assets (money, property, possessions)
 - assets become legal property of covenant friend
 - covenant partners own all things in common (within scope of covenant)
- pronouncing curses over each other
 - a statement of consequences for violating covenant terms