

Surrey Chapel Fellowship Group – Bible Overview Session 2

We are covering a lot of ground - nearly all the "Law" (Exodus-Deuteronomy) and all the "History"! But there is a theme that holds it all together – Covenant. Our God is distinctive because he makes promises and keeps them and this is a key driving force all through the Bible. The covenants take different shape but at heart they all express one central promise and plan – to save a people for himself, by grace, through his saviour.

Part 1 - Learning

God's covenants – use the bible clues to complete the table!

Covenant	Promise	Sign & conditions	Fulfilment
Noah & descendants and all creature (Genesis 9:1-17)	Never to judge the world with a flood	Sign: Rainbow Conditions: None	Continues until New Creation – no more "sea"! (Rev 21:1)
Abraham and descendants (Genesis 12, 15, 17)	Land, descendants, blessings and protection (Gen 12)	Sign: Circumcision Conditions: None	Initially – Israel in the land Finally – to all with Abraham's faith
Moses and the Israelites (Exodus 19:1-8)	<i>(Exodus 19:5-8)</i>	<i>(Exodus 19:5-8)</i>	<i>(Hebrews 8:13)</i>
David and his sons (2 Sam 7:11-16)	<i>(2 Sam 7:11-16)</i>	<i>(2 Sam 7:11-16)</i>	<i>(Acts 2:30-31)</i>
New Covenant – all believers (Jer 31:31-34 & Heb. 8:8-12)	<i>(Jeremiah 31:31-34)</i>	<i>(Jeremiah 31:31-34)</i>	<i>(Hebrews 13:20)</i>

Part 2 – Applying (*Chose one to focus on!*)

Law and Liberation (Exodus – Deuteronomy) – Covenant through Moses

- This covenant was a temporary arrangement between God and Israel, until the coming of Christ. It had no power to save or change the heart.
- It is now obsolete as a way of maintaining a relationship with God. (What do we have instead? See Romans 8:3-4)
- But it is still the word of God! It reveals God's character, enabling us...

- 1) To restrain evil in society
- 2) To lead people to Christ (Galatians 3:24)
- 3) To help us become like him

Select from and discuss the following OT laws. How do they impact your life today?

Exodus 20:3 Deuteronomy 25:4 Exodus 28:2 Leviticus 16:20-23

Exodus 20:13 Deuteronomy 22:11 Any other examples that catch your eye!

Kings and Kingdom (Joshua – Esther) – Covenant with David

From your homework on 2 Kings 17:7-23

What was the key issue that brought the Kings of Israel (and later Judah) down?

Yet the covenant with David was not broken; his line continued and the promise was fulfilled in Christ.

How does the issue which destroyed Israel as a nation continue to threaten today?
Consider these specific examples:

Ephesians 5:5

Philippians 3:19

Revelation 2:14

Acts 12:21-23

What other significant examples in today's society?

Preparation for next session

Come ready with a short psalm (or part of a psalm) to enrich the groups prayer time.