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# Covenant of Faith

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## Introduction

God knows everything. There isn't anything that God does not know. God knows eternity from the beginning to the end. God knows everyone who existed in all of creation.

God is always now. Therefore, God also has foreknowledge of what is going to happen in the future. God knows the complete past, and God knows the complete future to the end of eternity.

God knows every detail about everyone's life. In Matthew 10:30 Jesus said, **“the very hairs of your head are all numbered.”** In Jeremiah 1:5, the LORD God said to Jeremiah, **“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.”**

Therefore, God knows everything and everyone ever born into this world. That means God knows you also. He knew you before you were formed in your mother's womb.

Now the question is, do you know God? If you say you do, how well do you know God?

## Covenant of Faith

God knew Abraham when he was still in Ur of the Chaldees. In Acts 7:2-4 Stephen said,  
**Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran, And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.**

**Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.**

Genesis 11:31 says, **“And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.”**

In Genesis 12:1-5 it says,

**Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:**

**And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:**

**And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

**So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.**

**And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.**

Up until this point we see that the LORD appeared to Abraham when he was still in Ur of the Chaldees, telling him to leave Ur and go to a place where He would show him. There is not indication that Abraham knew at that time that the place where the LORD wanted him to go was the land of Canaan. Evidently, Abraham spoke to his father about this for it tells us that “Terah, Abraham’s father, took Abraham, Lot, and Sarah, and departed from Ur and went and lived in Haran.” Abraham stayed in Haran until his father died.

This could have been a long time, for both Abraham and Lot gained much substance and servants while in Haran (Gen. 12:5). Sometime, during that time the LORD may have spoken to Abraham again. In Genesis 12:1 it says, **“Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.”** Thereby, we see that Abraham maybe didn’t know where he was to go in the land of Canaan the first time the LORD spoke to him in Ur of the Chaldees. It could be that while Abraham was in Haran that the LORD told him a second time to leave **“his father’s house”** and go to a place where He would show him (which was in the land of Canaan).

Notice this, sometimes the LORD needs to get us away from our families before He can get us to obey Him. Remember what Jesus said about our families in Matthew 10:34-38,

**Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.**

**For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.**

**And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.**

**He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.**

**And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.**

For Abraham, “after leaving his father’s house,” the LORD made a promise to Abraham, by saying,

**And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:**

**And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”** (Gen. 12:2,3).

It was Abraham’s obedience to the LORD that brought the blessing upon Abraham and his seed (not seeds, Galatians 3:16) after him.

By Abraham believing the LORD, and obeying Him, he received the blessings promised him. Year after year, from the time Abraham looked for the blessing of the LORD, Abraham had to endure by faith until the blessing came.

“Faith does not mean an instant manifestation.” Faith is “the time from when the promise is made until it manifests” (Rom. 8:24). Abraham lived “by faith” in the Word of the LORD “according to that which the LORD had promised.” Romans 4:18 says, **“Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.”** In other words, Abraham had nothing to go by except “the Word of the LORD.” There was no physical evidence, only the Word spoken to him.

Each time the LORD appeared to Abraham and spoke to him, Abraham received more information concerning the promises. Each time Abraham had to obey the LORD, and continue on in faith (with no physical evidence) according to that which the LORD had spoken. It wasn’t until Abraham reached that place in the land of Canaan that the LORD spoke to him about that land. In Genesis 12:7, it says, **“the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land...”**

By faith, Abraham continued in the land of Canaan. Abraham continued going from one place to another, based upon the promise that the LORD made him in Genesis 12:7. Through tough times, even a famine in the land, Abraham continued to believe the promise the LORD made. Not knowing all the details, Abraham went into Egypt during the famine (Gen. 12:10). When Pharaoh discovered that Sarah was Abraham’s wife, he sent Abraham and Lot out of the land of Egypt, back into the land of Canaan (Gen. 13:1).

When strife arose between Abraham’s herdsmen and Lot’s herdsmen, Abraham and Lot separated. Lot went toward the land of Sodom and Gomorrah. After Lot left Abraham, the LORD said to Abraham, **“Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward....For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever”** (Gen. 13:14,15). Then the LORD added,

**And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.**

**Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee** (Gen. 13:16,17).

Some years later, there was a war between certain kings. Five kings against four kings, and Lot and his family were taken captive. When Abraham was informed of the capture of Lot and those with him, He went with his people and others near him and rescued Lot, and defeated the kings that had

taken them captive (Gen. 14:1-16).

Years went by and Abraham still had no heir. Abraham questioned the LORD concerning the promise of an heir in Genesis 15:2. Then Abraham was told his heir would be his own child, not his servant Eliezer of Damascus.

Also in Genesis 15:18, the LORD made “a covenant with Abraham,” which was for the land to be possessed by Abraham’s seed through Isaac and Jacob. It says, **“In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates.”**

Abraham made mistakes, but the LORD did not change His Word, and continued with His original promise to Abraham. In Genesis, Chapter Sixteen, when Abraham was eighty-six years old, he had a son with Hagar, whom he named Ishmael (Gen.16:16). But Ishmael was not the son that the LORD had promised Abraham.

In Genesis 17, the LORD appeared to Abraham again and continued to make covenants with Abraham. Genesis 17:1 says, **“And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.”** The LORD was speaking to Abraham about his obligations, saying, **“walk before me, and be thou perfect.”**

Then in verse two, the LORD added, **“And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.”** In Genesis 17:4 the LORD said, **“As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.”** The LORD then changed Abraham and Sarah’s names to identify with the covenant He made with them. Abraham, meaning “father of a great multitude (nations),” and Sarah, meaning “mother of nations.”

In Genesis 17 two covenants were mentioned between Abraham and his seed.

- 1) Abraham’s seed which was through Isaac and Jacob, which was called Israel (the seed of Abraham according to the flesh--the sand of the sea shore).
- 2) Abraham’s seed which is Christ, (those which are of faith--which was Abraham’s seed also according to the stars of heaven).

The LORD said in Genesis 17:7, **“And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.”** This is speaking of what is called the New Covenant, which is spoken of in Galatians 3:16, saying, **“Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.”**

Therefore, there were a number of covenants made with Abraham. But, most important were two covenants, one called the Old Covenant and one called the New Covenant. Look at Genesis 22:15-18, which says,

**And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,  
And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:  
That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;  
And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.**

When the angel of the LORD said, **“And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed,”** he was speaking of what is called the New Covenant. The Old Covenant of the Law was only for the

children of Israel (the seed of Abraham after the flesh). Thereby, the Children of Israel had “two covenants,” whereas those who are “in Christ” have only one covenant, that is the New Covenant (which is a Covenant of faith). Even for the children of Israel after the flesh, Jesus fulfilled the Old Covenant of the Law for them, because they must also come into the New Covenant “in Christ.” The Old Covenant of the Law has now passed away and the New Covenant is now in full force (Heb. 8:13).

This New Covenant is not actually new, but new to the Children of Israel who were under the Old Covenant “not knowing their Messiah.” This New Covenant is the same Covenant that the LORD had made with Abraham. Abraham was a Gentile when the LORD made this covenant with him. The Gentiles were never under the Old Covenant of the Law. The Gentiles were always under the New Covenant that was already established with Abraham.

In short, a covenant is an agreement between two parties. In the case of the New Covenant, this covenant is between God and those “in Christ.”

Every covenant must have a mediator between the two parties. The mediator brings both parties together and mediates between the two parties. The mediator of the old covenant of the law was “the high priest,” (Aaron and those after him). The mediator of the New Covenant is also the High Priest (Jesus).

At the time of Abraham, the Priest was “**Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God**” (Heb. 7:1). Yet it was prophesied in Psalm 110:4, saying, “**The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.**” Now, the mediator of the New Covenant is Jesus, the Son of God.

In 1 Timothy 2:5, it says, “**For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.**” Jesus became High Priest after the order of Melchisedec, and not after Aaron (who was the High Priest under the Law).

Notice something else of major importance about the New Covenant. Genesis 14:18 says, “**And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.**” The seal of the New Covenant is “**the Blood of Jesus.**” When Melchisedec came to Abraham, he brought “the symbol of the seal” of the covenant (this is the same symbol that Jesus used with His disciples on what is called the last supper (Luke 22:19,20; 1 Cor. 11:24,25). The New Covenant is sealed with “**the Blood of Jesus.**” Whereas, the Body of Jesus is also an important part of the New Covenant.

Aaron was the mediator of the covenant of the Law. But the covenant “of faith,” made with Abraham “came before” the covenant of the Law. Now look at Galatians 3:15-17, which says,

**Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.**

**Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.**

**And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.**

Jesus was not a Levite. He was not of the sons of Aaron. The priesthood was already established with Melchisedec before the Law. The Law, which came to the seed of Abraham after the flesh (the sand of the sea shore), could not change the priesthood already established with Melchisedec at the time of Abraham.

Christ was “**the Seed**” of Abraham (according to the stars of heaven). Jesus is the mediator

of the covenant between God and those who are “in Christ.” Galatians 3:29 says, **“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”** Therefore, to whom was the promise made? It was made to those who are “in Christ,” and “after the faith of Abraham” (Gal. 3:9,29). Before Jesus died and arose again from the dead, all those listed in Hebrews, Chapter Eleven, “as living by faith” were included in the covenant made with Abraham “after the faith.”

This covenant **“of faith”** was a covenant made **“by promise,”** not by works. Galatians 3:18 says, **“For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.”** It is very important that we understand, **“if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.”**

The New Covenant is **“by promise,”** not by works. The Law (which required works), has been fulfilled, and no one is any longer under the Law. We are all under **“grace, by faith,”** Jews and Gentiles alike. In John 1:15-17 it says,

**John bare witness of him (Jesus), and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.**

**And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.**

**For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.**

In John 1:29 it says, **“John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”** Sin was paid for by the blood of the Lamb that was slain.

Sin is identified in 1 John 3:4, as **“transgression of the law.”** It says, **“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”** According to 1 Corinthians 15:56, **“...the strength of sin is the law.”** Romans 14:23 says, **“...for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.”** Sin is not the issue in the New Covenant, “Faith is the issue.”

The faith that started with Abraham is the important part of the New Covenant. It is so important that Ephesians 2:8,9 says,

**For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.**

Then Hebrews 10:38 tells us, **“Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.”**

Our faith is the important issue, not our works. For the works that were required to bring God and man together as one were finished on the Cross of Calvary. Jesus did the works that we could be saved “by grace through faith.”

The works were already declared finished from the foundation of the world. Hebrew 4:3 says, **“For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.”** Revelation 13:8 says, **“...the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”**

The New Covenant we have with God is based upon “Faith.” This faith must be “Faith in God.” Faith, that what God had promised, He will surely bring to pass. Remember, the faith of Abraham was “faith in the Word” that God had spoken to him.

Our faith must not be in what we can do, but in that which God has promised us in His Word. It is not our works of the flesh, but what God will do in our lives if we obey God like Abraham obeyed the LORD.

## **The Law, a Type and Shadow of Things to Come**

Hebrew 9:7, speaking of the sacrifice for sins, tells us, **“But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people.”** The blood was placed upon the Ark of the Covenant once every year for the sins and transgressions of all the Children of Israel. By this sacrifice, atonement for sin was made every year.

This atonement was for “all the children of Israel” under the covenant of the Law. Whatsoever sin or iniquity was committed, by whosoever committed the sin, it was atoned for by the blood. That means, whatsoever sin or iniquity they committed that year, “they were all atoned for” by the blood.

What about the New Covenant sealed by the blood of Jesus Christ, our High Priest? Hebrews 9:11-14 says,

**But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?**

How much more shall the blood of Jesus Christ do for those who are “in Christ?” If the blood of goats and calves was all that was needed under the Law, how much more can the blood of Jesus (which does not need to be shed every year, but is eternal), purge us of our sins once for all? It is very important that we understand this revelation of the Word of God.

We must believe God “according to His Word.” We must believe His complete Word, not just a few verses. God has given us His Word **“by promise.”** If it is by promise. It is not of works, but of faith.

Have you ever considered that, that which is by promise is similar to prophecy? Prophecy, is “the speaking forth of the foreknowledge of God.” A prophecy must come to pass. It cannot fail.

What about the promise of the LORD God to Abraham? What the LORD God promised Abraham did come to pass. The LORD knew what He was promising Abraham long before Abraham knew all the details. But, what the LORD God promised Abraham concerning “Isaac” did come to pass. Sarah did have a child in her old age. Isaac was **“the son of promise”** (Gal. 4:23).

Even though Abraham and Sarah tried to fulfill what they thought was the plan of God for Abraham to have a son, (by Abraham having a son through Hagar), the LORD God’s promise of a son still remained.

What Christians need to understand is that God has made many promises to His Children. These promises, God will fulfill. They will come to pass.

But, be aware, Satan also has taken the Word of God and made promises that look like it was God, but they are false. Satan, through the serpent in Genesis 3:4,5 said to Eve, **“Ye shall not surely die...For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”** Promises like these, made by other spirits, will not come

to pass. So do not rely upon false promises, or false prophecies.

We must be sure that, “what we believe came from God,” not from some other source. We must know from the written Word of God, what God said, not what others say, “God said.”

## God’s Word to Christians

The LORD God, who created the heavens and the earth, is God, and He cannot lie. If He said it, will He not keep His Word? Numbers 23:19 says, **“God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”** Therefore, it is up to us, will we believe His Word?

First let us consider what God said about sin, for Satan tries to keep us under his control by reminding us of our past sins. Already in Isaiah 43:25,26, the LORD said,

**I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.**

**Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.**

We must rightly divide the Word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15). That means, just because it is spoken in the Old Testament, that does not mean it only applies to the Covenant of the Law.

The New Covenant, which is “the Covenant of faith” made with Abraham was already in effect before the Law. All during the Law, the New Covenant “which is by faith” was also in effect. Notice this, King David operated according to the New Covenant before Jesus died and arose again from the dead. King David was a man “of faith” according to the covenant “of faith” the LORD made with Abraham.

Therefore, those things which did not apply to the Law also applies to the New Covenant, even though the seal of the blood of Jesus was not yet shed on the Cross. But, what God declared finished from the foundation of the world, was already in effect from the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:8 says, **“...the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”** God declared the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, that means, the blood of the Lamb was already in effect from the foundation of the world.

By this we know that Isaiah 43:25,26 applies to the New Covenant as well as the Old Covenant. If their sins were blotted out at the time of Isaiah, how much more would ours also have been blotted out before we were born into this world?

We were born after Jesus paid the price on the Cross of Calvary. Therefore, Jesus had already blotted out our sins with His Blood, before we were born (that is, before we even committed one sin of our own). We could say, the bill was paid before we even owed anything. Before we sinned, the price was already paid for our redemption from sin.

Does that mean we can sin, and it will not make any difference? Certainly not. Romans 6:1,2 says,

**What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?**

**God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?**

In 1 John 1:9 it tells us, **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”** Every time we sin we need to be cleansed from sin. It’s like white clothing that we wear, when it gets dirty, it needs to be cleaned. When we sin, we need to be cleansed from sin.

But, there is a way to be cleansed daily, that is what it tells us in 1 John 1:7. It says, **“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”**

If we are walking in the light as He is in the light, then Satan has nothing on us. When we are walking in the light of God’s Word, then Romans 8:2 tells us, **“the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”** If we are free of the law of sin and death, Satan has nothing on us.

Better yet, if we are free from the law of sin and death, then we should be receiving the promises that God made us as His Children. In Christ, we are heirs and joint-heirs with Christ to all that belongs to Christ (Rom. 8:17).

Therefore, if we are not walking in victory over the works of the devil, it’s our own fault. God did not plan it that way. God planned that we should be walking in victory every day, all day. Look at what God promised those who walk by faith. Hebrews 4:1-11.

**Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.**

**For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.**

**For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.**

**For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works.**

**And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest.**

**Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief:**

**Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

**For if Jesus (Joshua) had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day.**

**There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.**

**For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.**

**Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.**

As Christians, we really need to study these verses. God expects us to **“enter into a rest,”** whereby we cease from our own works of the flesh and “live by faith.” To live by faith, we must live according to that which God has promised us. If it is by promise, it is not of works.

That which is by promise, is that which God said He would do. Yes, God needs our cooperation, for **“with God nothing shall be impossible”** (Luke 1:37). In the natural, it was not impossible for Mary to become pregnant and have Jesus while she was still a virgin. But, God knows how to do things “supernaturally.” God is a “supernatural” God. He loves doing things “supernaturally.” When Mary agreed to believe the Word, the angel brought her, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit and had a child while she was still a virgin. That is doing things “supernaturally.” Yet, the important thing is, Mary had to agree **“with God,”** for this to happen in her life.

Why did God come down from heaven and make His residence in our new spirit (when we were born again)? Because, God wants to work **“with us”** in all things that He promised us. What God has promised, He will surely do, **“with our cooperation.”** If we will cooperate **“with God”** and believe Him according to His Word, nothing shall be impossible.

Why did God rest on the seventh day of creation? Was God tired? God is Spirit and spirits don't get tired. No, God rested on the seventh day as a type and shadow of what God wants us to do. For God to work, all He needs to do is **“speak His Word,”** and it comes to pass. That's not hard, even for people.

But, did you realize that, that is what God wants us to do also? God wants us to **“speak His Word,”** and then rest while He brings it to pass. If we speak the Word of God, believing that what God has promised, He will surely bring it to pass. Abraham believed the Word that the LORD had spoken to him, and the LORD did bring it to pass. When Abraham was ninety-nine years old, God said to Abraham in Genesis 17:15-17,

**As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.**

**Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?**

Then in verse nineteen it says, **“And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.”** In Genesis 18:14, the LORD said to Abraham, **“Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”**

Are there any situations in your life that are **“too hard for the LORD?”** You may think so, but you need to renew your mind on the Word of God so you get your thinking straightened out. Those who don't believe the Gospel have let the devil blind their minds too long (2 Cor. 4:4). It's time to stop listening to the devil and start listening to the Word of God. If we still think the way the world thinks, it's time to make some serious changes in the way we think.

How do we get our mind straightened out? Romans 12:2 says, **“be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”** We must keep renewing our mind on the written Word of God (especially, our obligations and the promises which are made to us in the New Covenant). These promises are made to help us **“live by faith,”** and **“walk by faith,”** and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

Have you ever noticed in Romans 10:8 it says, **“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach”?** How does the Word of faith get into our heart and our mouth?

Let me suggest something, **“if it is not there, put it there.”** Daily, keep studying the Scriptures and speaking the Word of God. The more you put the Word of God in, the more the Word of God will come out.

Proverbs 23:7 says, **“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he...”** In Matthew 12:34,35, Jesus said, **“...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh....A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.”**

What some people call good is not good in the sight of God. What God calls good are those things that agree with His Word according to His covenant. In 1 John 2:15-17 it says,

**Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

**For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.**

**And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**

Many Christians spend most of their time doing what the world does, the way the world does things. They have their mind on the world and what is in the world that they can enjoy. They see what others are doing and enjoy watching what the world does. They love watching Television more than they love reading and studying the Word of God. They even love the world news, but forget about the Good News that God reveals in the Scriptures. They love the world's sports and recreation and don't have time for God's Word.

Then, when the Devil takes a strike at them with sickness or disease, they wonder why God doesn't heal them. They never spent time with God when they were well, then when they are sick, they want to "instantly" reap the benefits of what God did for them. Some of them even get angry with God because they claim God isn't keeping His Word.

If they would repent, God would forget their past and heal them. Jesus said, **"that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nation..."** (Luke 24:47). Repentance in this type of situation would mean, stop following the world, and get going with God. Stop watching the world's news and get into the Good News in the Bible. Stop watching worldly television and get into the Bible and prayer.

In other words, pay attention to God and His Word and don't pay any attention to the world's news and happenings. The world cannot help you in the end. Only God can help you, so repent and receive forgiveness, so God can help you.

Don't get mad at God, God is not your problem, God is the answer to your problem. The devil is your problem, he is the god of this world and he has been blinding people's minds with the things of this world all along. It's time to repent, and listen to what God has to say in His Word.

So, where is their heart? Is it on the things of this world or the things of God? The best answer is, to meditate upon the Word of God day and night. Get the Word of God down in your heart and in your mouth, that is "the Word of faith." Then, when you pray, God will answer. When you believe the Word of God, you will see results. When you have the Word of God in your heart and in your mouth, all you need to do is, speak the Word, and God will reward you with the answer you need.

Romans 10:10 says, **"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."** Salvation means "deliverance and protection." If you need deliverance and protection from sickness and disease or any other work of the devil, believe the Word of God in your heart and speak it out of your mouth. That's the way God planned it from the beginning. Follow God's plan and it will work for you.

Don't dwell upon your past. Once you have repented, then put behind those things that have kept you from walking with God and walk with God. Don't try to walk with God without putting those things behind you. Once you have put them behind you, then receive forgiveness for your past and go on with God.

God is always now. God forgets the past every time a Christian repents and receives

forgiveness. Once God forgets, then you must also forget. Satan will keep trying to remind you of your past. It's your responsibility to forget your past and not let Satan keep you in bondage to your past.

The best way to handle Satan's reminders of your past is to mention the Blood. Keep reminding Satan of the Blood of Jesus that cleanses you from all your past. The Blood of Jesus also protects you in the NOW, if you believe it and understand it.

You cannot live in ignorance and expect God to work on your behalf. God gave us the responsibility to renew our minds on the Word of God (Rom. 12:2).

It is considered a sin not to do what we know God told us to do. James 4:17 says, "**Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.**" Christians know what to do, God shows it to them from their spirit, they are without excuse.

If Christians would be doers of the Word and not hearers only, Satan will have no place in their lives. It's when Christians stop doing the Word, and even stop hearing the Word, that Satan gets a place in their lives.

## Living by the Word

In Matthew 4:4 Jesus said, "**It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.**" The natural man lives by natural food. Christians are not natural men. They are born again of the Spirit. Therefore, they are to live by the Word of God.

In John 6:53, Jesus said, "**Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.**" What does Jesus mean by eating His flesh and drinking His blood? This is "symbolic language." Eating His flesh and drinking His blood is consuming the Word of God. Jesus is the Word of God. When we study and meditate upon the Word of God, and get it into our minds and our hearts, we are eating Jesus' flesh and drinking His blood.

The Word of God gives us eternal life. Without the Word of God we have no eternal life in us. Eternal life for us is in Jesus (John 1:4). He is our eternal life. We live in Him and He lives in us. We received this eternal life when we received Jesus Christ as our LORD and Savior.

Jesus and the Word of God are One (John 1:1,2). We continue to live in Christ Jesus by living on the Word of God. We live in the spirit by consuming the Word of God daily, just as we eat natural food to keep our physical bodies alive.

Our spiritual life is received and maintained by living by the Word of God given to us "by promise," not by works of the flesh, not by man's ability, but by the ability of God working in us and through us according to His Word.

We must also understand that, "**Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof**" (Prov. 18:21). In 1 Peter 3:10 it says, "**For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile.**" Jesus said in Matthew 12:37, "**For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**"

We must be very careful of the words we speak out of our mouth. Speak only the Words that God tells us to speak. Do not speak words that condemn us or others in the body of Christ. If we condemn others, the same words we use against them will also be used against us. Jesus said in Matthew 6:14,15,

**For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:**

**But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**

Therefore, forgive others, and God will forgive us. Never look at some other persons past and hold what they have done in the past against them. If they have repented and confessed their sins, then their past is forgotten by God. Then we also need to forget their past and forgive them for what they have done in the past.

Don't judge others, and we will not be judged. **"Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."** Jesus said, **"by thy words thou shalt be justified..."** We are not justified by our works, but we are justified by what Jesus did for us. Therefore, we must agree with God in what Jesus did for us.

For healing, we must agree with what the Word of God says about healing. In 1 Peter 2:24 it says, **"by whose stripes ye were healed."** If we were healed by Jesus' stripes, then God is not "going" to heal us. We are "already healed." Maybe not according to what we see with our eyes, or feel within our bodies, but, "we don't walk by sight, we walk by faith."

We need to renew our minds according to eternal life, not natural life. In eternal life there is no time element. Everything was already done before the foundation of this world. If it is already done, then it is not something God is going to do in the future. God has already done it (it is past tense, not future tense).

Therefore, we speak those things that are not in the natural, as though they were already done in the natural. Romans 4:17 says, **"(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."** God speaks those things that are not as though they were. Therefore, we also speak those things that are not as though they were.

In Isaiah 33:24, it says, **"And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity."** Do not even say you are sick. God says you are healed, by the stripes' Jesus bore for you on the Cross of Calvary. Do not disagree with God, and agree with the devil. The devil wants us to walk after the flesh, according to the circumstances. God wants us to walk in the spirit, according to His Word.

We must renew our minds to speak only that which God says we should speak. We must not be conformed to this world, but **"be transformed by the renewing of our mind"** (Rom. 12:2).

What God says, is truth. What the world says, is what the devil wants them to say. Don't follow the world, follow the LORD by the leading of the Holy Spirit within you. This is the most important thing any Christian can do, "follow the LORD by the leading of the Holy Spirit within you."

Way too often, Christians try to find another way, and look for those who think they have found another way. There is no other way that will work and continue to work forever. God has sent the Holy Spirit to be our Teacher, Helper, Guide, Leader, and Comforter. Without the written Word, the Blood of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, there is nothing that can help us. No matter what else we try, it may look like it is helping, but it will not endure until the end. What the world has to offer is only temporal. What God has to offer is eternal.

Let us look at something very important in 1 John 5:8,9,

**And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.**

**If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.**

When we understand the difference between the Old Testament Law and the New Testament, we can understand what the Scripture is speaking of in these two verses. In the Old Testament Law, it was required that before a person could be put to death, there had to be two or three witnesses (Deu. 17:6). Those witnesses were people.

But, in the New Covenant we have three witnesses which are greater than the witnesses of men. We have “the Holy Spirit,” “the water (Word),” and “the Blood of Jesus Christ.” Notice that the Apostle John used the Greek word “hudor” translated “water” in English “symbolically” many times. If you study the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John, and Revelation, wherever he used the word “water,” you will know that “most of the time” he was not speaking of liquid water.

One of the best examples is in John 7:38, where Jesus said, **“He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”** When you see a Christian going around with rivers of liquid water flowing out of his belly, let me know. I haven’t seen one yet. John explained what Jesus was talking about in the next verse, by saying, **“(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)”** (John 7:39). The water that the Apostle John is writing about is the Holy Spirit bringing “the Word of God” out of our spirit. This is true prophecy. True prophecy is “speaking the Word of God by the unction of the Holy Spirit from our spirit, not from our mind.”

Therefore, Christians have “a more sure witness of two or three witnesses,” the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, and the Blood of Jesus Christ. These three will always set us free, and keep us in fellowship with the Father and the Son (1 John 1:3,4).

It is important to understand, there always needs to be at least two witnesses, and sometimes three. The first two which are always necessary are the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Then, when a third witness is necessary, we have the Blood of Jesus Christ.

The Word of God says, **“if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin”** (1 John 1:7). This is God’s Word to us. God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). When we are daily cleansed by the Blood, we have fellowship with the Father and the Son. By having fellowship with the Father and the Son, we can come boldly before the throne of God and make our requests known (Heb. 4:16). When we come to God, according to His Word, which is His will, and make a request, we know that He hears us, and we know that He will answer according to our request (1 John 5:14,15).

Is there any other way that will guarantee results better than the Word of God? No, that is the way, and the only way to get perfect results every time. God and His Word are One (John 1:1,2). God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). The devil is a liar (John 8:44). People lie (Num. 23:19). But God never lies. Therefore, we can trust God totally and completely in every thing He says and does.

## **Healing for Our Bodies**

What about healing for our bodies? Can we trust the Word of God for complete healing for our bodies? Certainly, when we consider everything God said in His Word concerning healing for our bodies.

There are some conditions attached to the promises of healing to our bodies. We must also include the conditions that God gives us in His Word. In the Old Testament, the LORD (through Moses) said to the children of Israel, **“If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments,**

**and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.”** (Ex. 15:26). Notice that for the Children of Israel, there were some conditions to receiving healing for their bodies.

For Christians, there are also some conditions for receiving healing. If we do not meet the conditions, God is not obligated to heal us. In 1 John 1:7 it said, **“if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”** Sin is the cause for sickness and disease. This is why healing is on the Cross right along with forgiveness of sins. In 1 Peter 2:24 it says, **“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.”** So there we have it, forgiveness of sins and healing both on the Cross at the same time.

To remove sickness and disease, we must first remove the cause. We must walk in the light if we want to be cleansed from all sin. We cannot continue to walk in darkness and still be cleansed from all sin.

If we are walking in darkness, we must first repent (that is, stop walking in darkness, before we can walk in the light). In 1 John 1:6 it says, **“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.”** If we are walking in darkness, we must first repent. In a type and shadow of repentance first, we could say, you will never get a pig clean while he is still in the mud. You must first get the pig out of the mud before you can get him clean.

Now, we are not under the Law, but we do have a law written in our hearts and minds, that we know God and His Word. Let us look at what it says about Christians knowing God’s laws. In Hebrews 8:10-12 it says,

**For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:**

**And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.**

**For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.**

This is **“a promise”** of God, given to us by promise, not by works. God is the One who writes His laws in our minds and in our hearts. Yet, we are still obligated to do our part, we must live according to the laws that God writes in our minds and in our hearts.

Therefore, if we go contrary to His Word, we make His promises of none-effect in our lives. We must first **“repent, then confess our sins”** and walk in the light, then we can come boldly before the throne of God and make our request known to God.

Under our covenant which is **“by faith,”** and not by works, we must not let the devil hinder us from receiving the promises. The LORD said in Hosea 4:6, **“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.”** Even though God has written His laws in our minds, and in our hearts, Christians can still forget what God wrote there. When we forget those laws, Satan gets an advantage over us. Satan destroys our bodies with sickness and disease, simply because we have forgotten the laws of God which He has written in our minds and in our hearts.

In many Churches today, it seems they have rejected the knowledge given to Christians in the New Covenant. They have let the cares of this world become more important than destroying the

works of the enemy. Satan is the cause of all sin, for he sinned from the beginning (1 John 3:8).

One of the greatest hindrances to receiving healing is the lack of teaching on condemnation. Who condemns those who sin? First in John 3:17 it says, **“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”** If God is not condemning us, then who is? In John 3:18 it tells us, **“He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”** Therefore, we condemn ourselves if we do not believe on the name of Jesus (the only begotten Son of God).

In Romans 8:1 it tells us, **“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”** If we are condemned, it is because we are walking after the flesh, and not after the Spirit. When we walk according to the flesh, we cannot please God. This is all explained in Romans 8:5-8. But, going back to Romans 8:2-4 it says,

**For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.**

**For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:**

**That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**

Many Christians do not receive their healing because Satan keeps reminding them of their past sins. They have already repented and confessed their sins. But, Satan keeps reminding them, to keep them from receiving their healing.

Therefore, we must look at what it tells us in Romans 8:31-34. It says,

**What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?**

**He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?**

**Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth.**

**Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

The only One who could condemn us is Christ. But instead of condemning us, Christ is making intercession for us. Hebrews 2:11 tells us, **“For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one: for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren.”**

Is God condemning us? No. Is Christ condemning us? No. Then who is condemning us? We are condemning ourselves because we do not believe on the name of Jesus.

Christians need to be using the name of Jesus against all the works of the devil. Jesus said to us in Luke 10:19, **“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”** Jesus' name is above every name. Jesus has given us authority to use His name against all the works of the devil.

We must not let our past hinder us from walking in the light and receiving all that God has promised us, which includes health and healing for our bodies. The price for our healing is already paid in full. Don't let the devil steal that which is yours **“by faith,”** not by works. God gave it to us **“by promise,”** not by works.

Where are Christians missing it when it comes to healing for their bodies? First, many do not know their covenant, which is “by faith” and not by works. Some Christians know parts of their covenant (such as knowing that healing is on the Cross right along with sin), yet they still let Satan

steal their healing. They let the thoughts in their minds stop them from getting the Word in their heart that, “by Jesus’s stripes they are already healed.”

One of the greatest hindrances to receiving their healing is in a lack of knowledge of faith. James puts it this way, **“What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?”** (James 2:14). Is James now saying we are saved by works? Is James saying we cannot be saved without works?

Many have misunderstood what James is saying. This word “works,” has more than one meaning. What James is saying is, “faith without corresponding action is dead.” If we have faith, then we must back up our faith with “corresponding action.” Abraham put action to his faith. Christians need to “put action to their faith.”

If Christians are to receive their healing, which is already theirs by what Jesus did for them on the Cross, they need to receive it “Now.” In most cases, the manifestation does not come until Christians put action to their faith. Many Christians let the devil stop them from receiving their manifestation of healing by not putting action to their faith.

We see Christians all over the world getting prayed for, and then they just sit there waiting for something to happen. As long as they sit there and wait, nothing happens. They need to get up and do what other people do who are healed. If they couldn’t walk before they were prayed for, then when they get prayed for, they need to put some action to their faith and get up and walk. When their confession does not line up with their actions, there is something wrong with their confession.

Another hindrance to faith is lack of knowledge of our Covenant. A covenant is an agreement between two or more parties. A covenant usually requires both parties have responsibilities. In our covenant with God, we have responsibilities and God has responsibilities.

To understand these responsibilities it is necessary to understand why we have a covenant with God to begin with. The easiest way to explain that is, God is Love, and God loves people whom He created. Because of God’s love, He made a covenant with Abraham (after he obeyed God). If Abraham would not have obeyed God and left Ur of the Chaldees, we would not have the covenant that we have now.

So let us look at these two important things concerning our covenant with God. First of all, God is love and love never forces’ anyone to do anything. Love offers to do many things, but never forces anyone to do anything.

By the love of God, Jesus went to the cross and took upon Himself all our sins, iniquities, infirmities, sickness, and diseases. Therefore, by His love we have healing for our bodies. He already paid the price, and healing is ours by what Jesus did for us.

Yet, there are many who are still sick and dying of diseases. Why? There is a condition on our part. That condition is, “we must receive what is ours.” God will not force us “to receive” what He has already provided for us. If we do not receive by faith what is ours, we will remain sick and even die from sickness or disease. Not, because God did not do His part of the covenant, but because we did not do our part of the covenant.

It’s not that God doesn’t want us healed. God has already done His part on the Cross of Calvary. It’s our part to believe what God has already done for us on the Cross of Calvary. Jesus said in Mark 16:16, **“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”** In other words, if we don’t believe God’s Word, we will not receive what is already ours. Whatsoever it is that God has promised us, if we don’t believe, we will not receive. To the man, whose son had a deaf and dumb spirit, Jesus said, **“If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth”** (Mark 9:23).

What many Christians are not doing is understanding what is said “besides” the very words spoken by Jesus. When Jesus said, **“all things are possible to him that believeth,”** He is, at the same time saying, “nothing is possible to them that do not believe.” If we don’t believe, we will not receive.

We have a covenant with God, based upon “faith.” Outside of faith (or without faith), we do not have a covenant with God. Our covenant is based upon “faith.”

Faith and believing are similar to each other. What many Christians do not understand is that “believing” operates from our mind, whereas “faith” operates from our spirit. Being a new creature in Christ, all Christians have “faith.” Faith is a fruit of the Spirit, in our born again spirit (Gal. 5:22,23). Every Christian has faith. Every person, Christian or not, has the ability to believe.

Now, let us look at another thing of importance concerning receiving healing, or anything else that is ours by promise. In Luke 1:37, the angel said to Mary, **“For with God nothing shall be impossible.”** The words **“with God,”** imply that it must be in cooperation with God. We must cooperate with God according to His Word. To be in a covenant with God, we must cooperate with God in everything God says in our covenant. If we do not cooperate “with God,” then we are breaking our covenant, and the covenant is of none-effect in our lives.

Many Christians have missed it on this part. I know of Christians who died, simply because they said, “if God wants to heal me, then it’s up to God.” No, it’s not up to God. God does want to heal everyone, even those who are not Christians. That is proven by the fact that Jesus took all our sickness and disease upon Himself on the Cross. That proves that God wants us healed. Now, it’s no longer up to God, but it’s up to each individual, to “receive” what is already theirs. If they are going to wait for God to heal them, “if He wants to,” they will die waiting for God.

Another place where many Christians have missed it is in saying, “it’s all in the LORD’s hands.” I have seen Christians, even Pastors of Churches die, because they said, “it’s all in the LORD’s hands.” They say they have put their healing in the LORD’s hands. Some have prayed and prayed and prayed, and then gave up, saying “it’s all in the LORD’s hands,” or saying, “I’m leaving it up to the LORD.”

You cannot make the LORD responsible for what He has already made you responsible for. He gave us the responsibility to “receive” what is ours. He will not force us “to receive.” Receiving is our part of the Covenant. Providing for healing is His part of the Covenant. He has already done His part, now it’s up to us to do our part.

Many Christians are being destroyed for a lack of knowledge of the Word of God. Satan is blinding their minds because they do not understand their covenant with God. It’s not God’s fault, but it’s the Christian’s themselves. They are not doing their part of the Covenant. We must do our part, God has already done His part.

Another area where Christians are missing it when it comes to receiving their healing is in “who they get to pray with them?” There are many Christians today, calling themselves “Pastors.” Many of these do not have the anointing necessary to be a Pastor. They took the title of Pastor, but have not received the anointing from the LORD to be a Pastor. This is a very sad situation indeed, for those who belong to their churches do not get the proper teaching on how to receive healing. Therefore, when they get sick, their Pastor sometimes tells them to go and see a doctor. The Bible does not teach that.

The Bible teaches that a Pastor is to take them to the LORD according to the Word of God written in our New Testament (Covenant) and get them healed. This is the duty of a Pastor.

I have seen Pastors who go and visit people in their homes and hospitals, thinking they are

obeying James 1:27, which says, **“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”** When they visit those who are sick, instead of praying according the Word of God for their healing, they try to comfort them in their pain and suffering. They become like “Job’s comforters,” not helping those who need healing at all. But instead, helping Satan destroy their bodies with sickness and disease. When the person dies, they say they were doing their duty, by preparing them to meet the LORD in heaven when they get there. Satan sure has their minds blinded to the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Remember, part of Job’s problem was his three friends, which some call “Job’s comforters.” Had Job listened to Elihu, the young prophet sent by the LORD, his situation could have been turned around much earlier in his struggle with the boils that Satan smote him with (Job 2:7). When Christians are sick, “they don’t need those Pastors,” that don’t know how to take a persons sickness and diseases to the LORD and get them healed.

Look at what it says about Elihu, in Job 32:2, **“Then was kindled the wrath of Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the kindred of Ram: against Job was his wrath kindled, because he justified himself rather than God.”** This is many times the reason why Christians who are sick and need healing don’t get healed. They don’t need someone to comfort them in their sickness. They need someone to lead them in repentance from their sin of self-justification. Once they have repented of their self-righteousness and self-justification, it is easy to get them healed.

I have been at funeral services of Pastors, where they had many other Pastors praying for them and visiting them all the time while they were sick at home, and in the hospital. They were not helping the sick, they were only helping the devil destroy them and take the sick persons life.

There are many “Job’s comforters,” in the position of Pastors of churches today. We need to be praying for them, because of their ignorance in the “Covenant of faith.”

Let us learn from the book of Job, why Job was sick with boils and what it took to get him healed? In short, many have not studied out the book of Job. They have taught what they have hear others teach, not seeing the truth that they should have seen.

In Chapters one and two, the LORD said to Satan, **“Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?”** (Job 1:8). Don’t always think because of what it says here that Job did not have a problem that brought upon himself his condition. The LORD does not always tell the devil what the devil wants to hear. Even at that, sometimes the LORD speaks those things that be not as though they were (Rom. 4:17). Sometimes, as the LORD sees the end from the beginning, He speaks according to the end, not the beginning.

Consider this, if Job did not have a problem, then when the LORD permitted Satan to smite Job with boils, the LORD would have been “unjust.” The LORD is never unjust in anything He does. Therefore, we need to see what Job’s problem was that opened the door for Satan to smite Job.

Secondly, if Job did not have a problem, then why did the LORD send Elihu to speak to Job in chapters thirty-two through thirty-seven? Why did the LORD speak to Job from a whirlwind in Chapters thirty-eight through forty-one? There surely seems a problem that Job needed to see and make the necessary changes in his attitude.

Elihu identified Job’s problem in Job 32:1,2, when he said, Job **“was righteous in his own eyes.”** Then in verse two, Elihu said, Job **“justified himself rather than God.”** In Job 33:9, Elihu was speaking “by the unction of the Holy Spirit” when he said that Job had said, **“I am clean without transgression, I am innocent; neither is there iniquity in me.”**

Therefore, Job did have a problem, that opened the door for Satan to destroy in his life. As Christians, we must recognize Job's problem and understand why Job was attacked by the devil. Once we see this, then we must also look at the solution to Job's condition. What did Job do to regain his health, and then also become so blessed by the LORD?

First we see in Job 42:1-6 that Job repented of his self-righteousness, and self-justification. He also admitted that he had spoken words without knowledge (Job 42:3).

Following Job's repentance and confession of his sins, the LORD then acknowledged Job as His servant (Job 42:7,8). Now, let us look at Job 42:7,8 which says,

**And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath.**

**Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.**

Notice that Job's comforters were not without sin either. They also needed to make restitution for their words and actions. It wasn't just Job who opened the door for Satan to destroy in his life. Job's three friends, were also in need of repentance.

The last thing we need to see about Job's deliverance is that his captivity was not reversed until after Job prayed for his three friends also. In Job 42:10 it says, **"And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before."** It was after that Job prayed for those three that the LORD turned Job's captivity around and blessed Job.

As Christians, we need to see the total story of Job, not what some are teaching about Job. We need to first put away all self-righteousness and self-justification. Then, we need to pray for those who are like "Job's comforters." They also need to repent, and come into agreement with the "Covenant of faith" which we have with God, through Abraham, "in Christ."

Therefore, we must understand how that the devil gets a place in our lives, when we open the door for his attacks. We must understand what happens to those who are in Christ and die of sickness or disease.

Satan is the one who has the power of death, not Jesus (1 Cor. 15:26; Heb. 2:14). We believe Jesus will receive those who are His when they die. But, the LORD's way of receiving someone when they leave this earth is that they just simply "give up the ghost, and go to be with Jesus." Christians do not need to be sick to die. Sickness and disease are works of the enemy.

O' how important it is to understand our covenant, and the way the LORD works, that we do not help the devil do his destroying among Christians. We don't need Pastors who are "Job's comforters." We need Pastors who have the anointing that is necessary to do the work of a Pastor. That anointing only comes from the LORD as they enter through the Door of the sheepfold (John 10:1,7).

When the LORD calls someone into the ministry of a Pastor, He also anoints them with the anointing necessary for a person in the office of a Pastor. Without that special anointing of a Pastor, they cannot do the work of a Pastor. They only "take the position of a Pastor" without the ability to do the work of a Pastor.