Covenant Theology

The Christological Covenant

Review:

Covenant vs Contract -

Contract - Your performance is based on the performance of the other person in the contract. If they do not perform their end, you are not bound to perform yours.

Covenant - Your performance is based on your character, your ability to keep your promise, regardless of the other person's performance.

Covenant	**By Choice**	**By Grace**
#6 Christological - Salvation by grace/ Holy Spirit	Jn. 3:16	Eph. 2:8,9

Context of the Covenant

I. The first 5 major Biblical Covenants
- A. The promise of the Messiah (Adamic covenant)
  - 1. Delivered from eternal sin and death
- B. The promise of purpose (Noahic covenant)
  - 1. Salvation History is going somewhere; and ultimately, not here!
- C. The promise of salvation by faith (Abrahamic covenant)
  - 1. God counts faith as righteousness, because we need restored relationship with God (which was broken by lack of faith, and can only be healed by faith)
- D. The promise of a "showcase" people (Mosaic covenant)
  - 1. God selected a "people" to be a priestly people—intermediaries (ambassadors) to carry the message of His grace
- E. The promise of an everlasting King (Davidic covenant)
  - 1. God Himself will once again by our Sovereign Lord and King

II. "In the fullness of time…"
- A. The failure of Israel to keep the covenant (the 10 tribes and the 2 tribes)
  - 1. The divided kingdom
  - 2. The 10 lost tribes of the north—the judgement via the Assyrians
  - 3. The 2 tribes of the south—the Babylonian captivity
  - 4. The return to the land
  - 5. The 400 year intertestamental period
- B. The Pax Romana
  - 1. Peace
  - 2. Commerce
  - 3. Interchange of ideas/rise of secularism
- C. The rebuilding of the temple

III. The first coming of the Messiah
- A. Jesus came to save people, not nations
- B. Jesus came as the one "true" Israelite—the suffering servant spoken of in Isaiah
- C. Jesus came to conquer, not our lands, but our hearts

The Christological Covenant

I. This is the covenant of salvation—offered to all people

A. Bilateral—Jesus died to pay for the sins of the world; forgiveness has been purchased for All but it will not be effective for all; God has not sought vengeance, but to be reconciled to God requires we accept that offer; we must be "born again" - John 3:1-21

B. Gracious—we do not deserve it, but it is "unmerited favor"

C. We are saved by grace through faith, not of works, lest anyone should boast Ephesians 2:8,9

D. Christ's death on the cross was both necessary and sufficient, but he did not come to deliver us from all things in this life, but through all things in the life into everlasting life!

II. Implications

A. This is the fulfillment of the promise given to Adam and Eve

B. This "good news" must be shared with all people because it is offered to all people—that was God's intent since the first covenant

C. Faith is the means by which we are reconciled and restored to the relationship of trust with the God who loves us this much!

D. Our faith is in God's faithfulness, not ours!