Covenant Theology

The Second Coming of Christ

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**
#7 Second Coming of Christ	Matt. 24:27	Acts 1:6-10

Context of the Covenant

I. Salvation History
- A. The promise of the Messiah (Adamic covenant)
  - 1. Delivered from eternal sin and death
- B. The promise fulfilled (Covenant in Christ)
  - 1. Reversing the curse
  - 2. Defeating sin and death—the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world
  - 3. The ultimate turning point—the war is won, but not all the battles have been fought

II. The Age of the Church—the great surprise in Salvation History
- A. The Great Commission
- B. Pentecost—the seal of the Holy Spirit
- C. "… and you shall be my witnesses, to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth."
- D. The book of Acts of the Apostles (sometimes called the Gospel of the Holy Spirit)
- E. The person/nature/work of the Holy Spirit
- F. The "call" of the church; the "new Israel" (which does not negate the "old Israel")
- G. To all nations before the end comes

III. The promise of the 2nd Coming
- A. Matthew 24:27
  - 1. As in the days of Noah
  - 2. What part of "you won't know" do we not get?
- B. "The Day of the Lord" - Jesus will "judge the nations"

The Second Coming of Christ

I. Jesus will return in human history!
- A. No one will have to wonder, "Is this it?"
- B. This is "His Story" and we should not be surprised that he himself is going to bring it to a conclusion!
- C. When? When the time is right!

II. The Book of Revelation

A. It was written so that those experiencing it, would not think God had abandoned them

B. Apocalyptic literature is open for a wide variety of interpretations

C. The first three chapters and the last three chapters are the most significant to us

D. God will remake all of heaven and earth

1. So that they might be "one" again
2. Because it is not the "garden" that returns, but the "Holy City"
3. And death will be no more, neither shall there be mourning or crying nor pain, anymore, for the former things have passed away. (Rev. 21:4)

E. Don't miss the forest for the trees. Premillennial, postmillennial, amillennial, pre-tribulation rapture, mid-tribulation rapture, post-tribulation rapture, are all interpretations of what happens after Jesus' return, and before God makes the new heaven and new earth. These too, will be a blip on the radar of everlasting life!

F. This ends "salvation history" and opens the books on all God has in store for us yet! We are just at the very beginning of all God has in store!