

# A Covenant with Christ!

#3069 0903 23A

To make a covenant with someone is to have an agreement with them—it means to carry through with what is agreed between them. God wanted an agreement with His people and told Moses Exodus 24:12 “Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.”

This would be an amazing meeting—Exodus 24:17 “And the sight of the glory of the LORD was like devouring fire on the top of the mount in the eyes of the children of Israel.”

Moses obeys and leaves Aaron, Hur, Joshua, and the elders at the base while he ascended up the mountain to the presence of God.

For six days Moses waits in silence—looking and listening for a sign—finally on the seventh day, God says: Exodus 25:2 “Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly”—and 8 “And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.”

The God of Israel—who had redeemed them from bondage in Egypt and who revealed His glory on Mount Sinai, now agrees to live with them. God’s dwelling would be called a *sanctuary*; a *tent*; or a *tabernacle of the congregation*.

This Law or testament given to Moses was kept in the Ark of the Covenant inside the Tabernacle—it was a written testimony of God’s Truth for the world to read and obey.

A *covenant* is a *contract* between two—and they both promise to fulfill certain aspects of the agreement. It is a pledge and a promise that we will *do* what we have *promised* to do.

God will, certainly, fulfill *His* part of the agreement to forgive our sins; to heal our body; to change our attitude; and to save our soul—if we will fulfill *our* promise and do *our* part of the agreement to *believe in faith* and *trust in faith* on the Atonement *Blood* of Jesus.

God tells Moses: Exodus 25:2 “Speak unto the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering: of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart ye shall take my offering.” 2 Corinthians 9:7 “So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.”

The duty of the high priest when entering the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement, is to pour blood on the mercy seat—this represents Jesus going to the cross to pour out His Blood to atone for our sins. Hebrews 7:25 “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”

We can now approach God in confidence because our *Covenant with Christ* gives us access to His throne of grace. Moses confirmed the covenant when he put blood on the altar and then on the people—saying Exodus 24:8 “Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you all these words.”

God redeemed Israel from Egypt; He revealed His glory on Mount Sinai; He gave them the Ten Commandments; and He agreed to live on earth with them.

What joy there would be when they heard that God would be with them. For 500 years the Tent of Meeting was where God would dwell and His people could speak with Him. Exodus 40:34 “The glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.”

As with everyone, Israel had a tendency to worship idols, so the Tabernacle reminded them that they served the one true God who required their loyalty.

There was idolatry all around them, but they were not to be influenced by this and to keep placing their total trust on God. The Tabernacle gave access to God, but He could be approached only if atonement was made.

Every feature of this sanctuary—from the bronze altar, where sacrifices for sin were offered, to the work of the high priest who poured blood on the mercy seat—pointed to God’s redemptive plan for His creation and of His requirement to approach Him only through sacrifice and intercession.

The cleansing of the altar and of the people had to be done *before* any communion with God would be possible. Hebrews 9:20 “This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. 21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry.”

Our Covenant with Christ obligates God to fulfill *His* part of the agreement, and He *will* when a believing faith is placed on the sacrifice He made for us. The blood is the *payment* for our healing, our protection, and every answer to prayer—it is the *value* paid to justify the claim. It is the covenant of blood that forgives our sin and restores our health.

Faith in that sacrifice is all that is required for our forgiveness and healing. Anyone of any nation can repent, claim their Atonement rights, and be delivered from Satan’s grip. The Old Testament *sacrifices* remind us that the New Testament *covenant* is ratified by the Blood of our Lord and Savior.

The blood of Abel is said to cry out from the ground for vengeance Genesis 4:10-11 and today the Blood of Christ cries out for mercy and forgiveness that we all need. We come Hebrews 12:24 “To

*Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.”*

The shedding of blood symbolizes the payment of a debt; A sacrifice being offered; A life given; and an agreement signed. *Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”*

With every prayer—our *claim* for the answer; The deliverance; or the victory is because *Romans 3:25 “God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.”*

Forgiveness by faith in Jesus is stated all through Scripture. *Ephesians 1:7 “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.”* The Blood of Christ is the foundation of our faith and the payment for the atoning of our sin.

The sacrifice of *Christ* is the *only* reason we are accepted by God. *“Without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness” Hebrews 9:22.* Access to God’s throne of grace is possible by *Our Covenant with Christ.*

Access to God through faith in Christ is available to anyone. *Romans 5:1 “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: 2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”*

*Hebrews 10:7 “Then said I [Jesus], Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. NKJV 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”* That is why *Hebrews 10:19 “Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus”*—with confidence that our prayer will be answered.

No sinner can approach God in their sinful condition, but a *Covenant with Christ* gives access. Through faith in Christ, we can enter God’s presence and know that He is waiting to hear what we want to say.

An unclean person could not come even *close* to the tent, but when the Blood of Christ was shed on the cross, He *rent the veil in two*, tore the curtain half, and gave access to anyone who will believe, repent, and trust God. *That* is our *Covenant with Christ* made possible by His sacrifice.

Jesus told Peter and John to prepare for the *Passover*. They found everything as Jesus said and were given permission to use an upper room. The Master’s heart was heavy, for He knew what lay ahead and of the suffering He must endure. The anguish and agony of the cross weighed heavily on His mind.

*Luke 22:14-16 “When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, ‘I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.’”*

Eating this dinner with His friends would mark the beginning of the *Via Dolorosa* walk, and on to *Golgotha* to pay the debt of the world’s sins. Our *Covenant with Christ* must be signed with His Blood.

*Luke 22:19-20 “He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” 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 meal symbolized important things. A bowl of salt water reminded them of the *Red Sea* crossing; The acidic herbs represented the bitterness of slavery; and a paste symbolized the clay for bricks. The *Passover* commemorated freedom

through faith in Christ and reminded them of God’s mercy and grace.

Therefore, we take time each month to celebrate the deliverance God gave the Israelites from Egypt, and to commemorate His freeing *us* from slavery to sin. The sacrifices made on the brazen altar, symbolizes the cleansing work of Christ on a wooden cross. All who put their faith in His Blood, receive remission of their sins. *Romans 3:25 “God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.”*

The gift of the Spirit is given so He can search every dark corner of our heart to reveal any leaven; any root of bitterness; feelings of pride, worldly attitudes, or anything outside the will of God. A renewed commitment to Christ is our way of thanking Him for the gift of redemption.

With His enemies just outside the door, Jesus offers a prayer *Luke 22:17-18 “Having received the cup and given thanks, He said, ‘Take this and share it among yourselves; for I tell you that from this time I will never drink the produce of the vine till the Kingdom of God has come.’”*

Our *Covenant with Christ* is the reason we can approach God’s throne of grace.

As we prepare to partake of the *Elements* this afternoon—*Elements* that symbolize the *agreement* God has with us, let us first offer the prayer of *repentance*—including one of *thanks* for all that God has *provided*; all that He has *promised*, and all that will be *given us*—through *Our Covenant with Christ!*



[www.fcgchurch.org](http://www.fcgchurch.org)

*\*Be on our free mailing list—contact:*

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

[info@fcgchurch.org](mailto:info@fcgchurch.org)

#3069 0903 23A