

Covenant Blessings

“Listen, you priests—this command is for you! ² Listen to Me and make up your minds to honor My name,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “or I will bring a terrible curse against you. I will curse even the blessings you receive. Indeed, I have already cursed them, because you have not taken My warning to heart. ³ I will punish your descendants and splatter your faces with the manure from your festival sacrifices, and I will throw you on the manure pile. ⁴ Then at last you will know it was I who sent you this warning so that **My covenant** with the Levites can continue,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ⁵ “The purpose of **My covenant** with the Levites was to bring life and peace, and that is what I gave them. This required reverence from them, and they greatly revered Me and stood in awe of My name. ⁶ They passed on to the people the truth of the instructions they received from Me. They did not lie or cheat; they walked with Me, living good and righteous lives, and they turned many from lives of sin. ⁷ “The words of a priest’s lips should preserve knowledge of God, and people should go to him for instruction, for the priest is the messenger of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ⁸ But you priests have left God’s paths. Your instructions have caused many to stumble into sin. You have corrupted **the covenant** I made with the Levites,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. ⁹ “So I have made you despised and humiliated in the eyes of all the people. For you have not obeyed Me but have shown favoritism in the way you carry out My instructions.” **Malachi 2:1-9**

>Malachi preached at the **end of an Age** before **Jesus came the first time**, and his message is just as relevant for the **end of this Age before Jesus comes the _____!**

..there is a great rebellion against God.. So God will cause them to be greatly deceived..believe lies ...

2 Thessalonians 2:3,11

We live in an age of Deception, Immorality, Failings---a Rebellion against God!

But no matter, _____! It’s a **Covenant** thing!

What is a **COVENANT**? It is so important to understand this concept!

All Bible Truth is **COVENANT** Truth! All Bible Blessings are **COVENANT** Blessings!

Our Bible is made up of two Testaments [**COVENANTS**]

Covenant [Hb. *be-reeth*] “cutting of flesh,” “shedding of blood.” It is a sacred, binding agreement between two parties that resulted in both parties sharing basically everything [loving kindness]. It extended even to descendants. It was sealed with blood, hence the term “blood brothers.” Blood brothers would be closer “related” than bio brothers (Prov. 18:24) and called “friends.” The **COVENANT** was initiated as follows:

1. Exchange of Blood—Sharing of Persons
2. Exchange of Clothing—Sharing of Possessions
3. Exchange of Weapons—Sharing of Protection

And Jonathan made a covenant [1] with David because he loved him as himself. ⁴Jonathan took off the robe [2] he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt [3].

I Samuel 18:3-4 (NIV)

⁴Jonathan had a son who was lame in both feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan..... His nurse picked him up and fled, but as she hurried to leave, he fell and became disabled. His name was Mephibosheth.

2 Samuel 4:4

¹David asked, "Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan's sake?"³.... "Yes, one of Jonathan's sons is still alive. He is crippled in both feet." ⁴"Where is he?" the king asked. "In Lo-debar,"⁵..... So David sent for him.....⁷"**Don't be afraid!**" David said. "I intend to show kindness to you because of my promise to your father, Jonathan. I will give you all the property that once belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will eat here with me at the king's table!" 2 Samuel 9

³²And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32 KJV

Jonathan is a picture of _____!

- [1] God mingled the blood of man and the blood of God on the Cross Acts 20:28
- [2] God also gives us His robe of righteous Isaiah 61:10, Revelation 19:18
- [3] God also gives us the Sword of the Spirit and the Armor of God Ephesians 6

Mephibosheth is a picture of the _____!

- >Deformed by the Fall
- >Dethroned
- >Doomed to Die
- >Deceived

David is a picture of God the Father offering Loving Kindness to us Sinners for Jesus sake!

What did Mephibosheth get? 2 Samuel 9

- 1. King's Forgiveness (7) He deserved death but got mercy and kindness
- 2. King's Fellowship (7,10,11,13) He got to dine with the King
- 3. King's Future (9) He had his inheritance restored
- 4. King's Family (11) He was a son of the King

What's your choice? Keep living like a pauper in Lo-debar or start living as a child of the King?

Answers:
 Second Time, God Keeps His Word,
 Jesus Christ, Lost Sinner

Sun., 15th Small Group - Bible Study at 8:30 am, 8:45 am, 9:00 am, 11:15 am
 Malachi Part 3 "**Covenant Blessings**" at 10:00 am in the Worship Center
 Bake Sale— All proceeds will go towards MTC & Barahona D.R Mission's Trip
 New Members Class at 11:15 am in the Fellowship Hall
 Sunday Night Bible Study at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Wed., 18th A Time to Pray 6:30 pm —7:00 pm in the Faith room
 Youth Night at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall
 Kids Ministry at 6:30 pm upstairs in the children's area
 Ezekiel Bible Study at 7:00 pm—8:00 pm in the Faith room
 Ladies Bible Study "He Speaks To Me" at 7:00 pm — 8:00 pm in the Library

Sun., 22nd Small Group - Bible Study at 8:30 am, 8:45 am, 9:00 am, 11:15 am
 Malachi Part 4 at 10:00 am in the Worship Center
 Church Wide Picnic after Service at Gemini Springs in the OK Corral
No Sunday Night Bible Study

Financial Update

Total Weekly Budget
\$ 12,857.00

Weekly Offering
 Received
 April 8, 2018
\$ 8,568.62