

# **Covenant Connection**

*(Sample Excerpt)*

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Unless otherwise stated, all Scripture quotations in this book are from the King James Version of the Bible.

Covenant Connection

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## **Covenant Connection!**

This message was impressed very strongly upon my heart by the Holy Spirit. I woke up in the middle of the night and felt like I was in a dream and God was repeating an expression into my spirit. I heard the following words coming strongly out of my spirit; “Covenant Connections!” “Covenant Connections!”

At first, I did not understand exactly what God was trying to tell me. After I meditated on it for a while, I believe I received what God wants us to hear about “Covenant Connections.”

*“For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? <sup>8</sup>Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. <sup>9</sup>Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. <sup>10</sup>Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. <sup>11</sup>And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and*

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*he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. <sup>12</sup>And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts”*

**(Malachi 3: 6-12).**

I'm glad that God is not like us human beings who change very frequently. God never changes. He is the same today as He was yesterday and will be tomorrow.

There are two covenant connections stated in the scripture above. They are the covenant of the “tithes” and “offerings.” We shall discuss these two covenant connections later in the book.

*“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: <sup>14</sup>That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith” (Galatians 3: 13-14).*

We need to understand that God is not responsible for the curse of the law. God did not bring the curse. If God had brought the curse, He would not have sent His Son to come and redeem us from that same curse that He brought. The curse was a direct result of disobedience.

The disobedience of Adam and Eve in the Garden brought a curse onto mankind. God created a perfect world and gave a free-will to man to make choices. God intended for His creation to

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enjoy a curse-free life. But man chose to listen to the devil rather than to God. Sin caused man's life to go out of order.

Sometimes, when you are driving your car and your tire hits an object or goes over a pothole, your tire could get out of alignment. The car will no longer drive smoothly. You need to take it to the shop for re-alignment. It is the same with the relationship between man and God. Sin causes mis-alignment between us and God. When our lives get out of order and do not flow smoothly, we need to go back to God for re-alignment.

Some aspects of the curse are listed in the fourteenth chapter of the book of Deuteronomy. Some Christians get the wrong impression that the curse of the law was eliminated under the New Covenant. But notice that Galatians 3:13 did not say Christ destroyed or annihilated the curse. That verse says Christ has redeemed us from the curse. This suggests that the curse still exists in the world but that it should not have any effect on us.

I'm sure you've heard the sad statement that people often make when there are disasters like storms, earthquakes, tornadoes and the like. People often say it is "Mother Nature." Can someone please tell me who in the world "mother nature" is? Sometimes they describe it as "the act of God." Such statements are the result of religious mindsets. We often think it will be easier to bear when we blame it on God. Natural disasters are the direct result of God's creation

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functioning out of order. We do not have any record of any natural disasters in the Garden of Eden. The storms started after sin came, after the fall of man.

I am convinced that God did not create animals to kill and feed on one another. (Please note that I am not considering humans as animals.) The animal kingdom seems to operate on a principle of the survival of the fittest. Some people say that killing and being killed is the order in which God created the animals. No, I do not believe God created them that way in the garden.

Everything that is out of God's order is evidence of the curse which is still in the world. But I have good news for you. We see in Galatians 3 that Christ has redeemed us from the curse. He has purchased us away from the curse. We can live in this cursed world without having the effects of the curse control our lives.

The curse is three-fold. It is comprised of poverty, sickness and death. Jesus said in John 10:10 that the enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy.

*"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).*

The above verse is primarily referring to the devil, but it equally applies to anything that steals, kills and destroys. It could apply to a lion killing a zebra. Anything that steals, kills and destroys is out of the order of God. It is the effect

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of being out of alignment with God's order. It is the result of the curse which originated from sin and not from God.

Anything that gets out of balance, from the way it was created, produces a curse. Let's consider electricity and the comfort it provides us in our homes with light, air-conditioning or heating. If anything goes out of order in the electrical system and we lose connection to the power source, we will lose all those comforts. We will no longer enjoy the benefits of electricity. It is the same way in God's creation. We lose the benefits of God's system if anything goes out of order in God's system.

When things get out of order, you do not blame the designer. If you do not follow the instructions of the designer, what you are operating could get out of order. If your system breaks down, you do not necessarily throw it away. You find what is wrong and fix it. God did not originate the curse in the world. Sin did! God sent His son to fix the root cause of the curse which was sin.

Jesus Christ redeemed us from the curse by taking the curse upon Himself. He took our place. God's first son, the first Adam, messed things up in the garden. So God sent another Son, the second Adam, to fix the problem that the first Adam had caused. The work Jesus did was a provisional work. This means that every human being does not automatically reap the benefits. It is only those people who accept Jesus Christ who benefit from the work of redemption.

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The curse is still upon those who refuse to accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and LORD. If you are born again, then the curse has no power over you. Poverty, sickness and death no longer have power over you. You might say, "Well, I'm born again, but the curse is still bothering me." There must be a reason the curse may still be bothering you. The bible says in Proverbs 26:2 that the curse cannot come without a cause.

Some people who are redeemed could still be affected by the curse simply out of ignorance. They may not know that they have been redeemed. A fascinating research was done in India by animal trainers. They put an elephant on a leash when it was very young and kept it on the leash for a very long time. After the leash was removed, the elephant still believed it was on the leash and therefore refused to walk farther out than the length of the leash which used to limit it.

Notice that the Bible didn't simply stop at the fact that Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law. There was a reason we were redeemed. We were redeemed from one thing to another. We were relocated from one place to another.

The scripture explains why we were redeemed. It says we were redeemed so that the blessing of Abraham might come on us. Unless you are a Jew by birth, you and I are the Gentiles this scripture refers to. Jesus took the curse upon Himself and brought us into a place of blessing. It is important for us to understand what the blessing of Abraham is.

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One of the aspects of the blessing that Abraham enjoyed was in the area of wealth-and-riches. Abraham was very rich in material things. If we are not increasing in our finances, then the curse is still affecting us.

*“What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness”*  
**(Romans 4: 1-3).**

Romans 4:1 is asking us a question: What has our father Abraham found? If we can find what our Father Abraham found, then we can also claim and enjoy the blessing that Abraham enjoyed. The answer is given in verse 3. Abraham believed God and it was counted unto him as righteousness. His act of believing was counted unto him as righteousness. If we also believe God, it will be counted unto us as righteousness.

If you read the story of Abraham, you would notice that his believing was not passive. He had more than head belief. Abraham backed his belief with actions, even to the point of his willingness to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, on the altar. His act of believing connected him to the power source of the blessing.

Abraham was the first person mentioned in scripture to pay tithes. He did it willingly. He was not coerced or forced by any law or ritual. Abraham had a covenant connection with God

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through the tithes. Some Christians pay tithes out of duty but do not believe God for anything. You cannot have what was promised about the tithe unless you believe. After bringing our tithes to the storehouse, we must believe God. We must trust Him to keep His promises. What did Abraham find? He found that if he would believe God, then circumstances in his life would change.

*“Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. <sup>7</sup>Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. <sup>8</sup>And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. <sup>9</sup>So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. <sup>11</sup>But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. <sup>12</sup>And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. <sup>13</sup>Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: <sup>14</sup>That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith” (Galatians 3: 6-14).*

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When God made the promise of a son to Abraham, it took twenty-five years for that promise to be fulfilled. In all those years, Abraham believed. By natural standards, he and Sarah were too old to have children. In addition to their age, Sarah was barren in her womb. But Abraham did not look at their physical circumstances. He believed God.

We must realize that there are things in the physical realm that we cannot change. We should not focus on those things. We should not focus on those problems that seem impossible to us. We should focus on God's promises. We should believe what God has said in His Word. As in the case of Abraham and Sarah, God is able to override the natural circumstances in our lives.

We should not try on our own to help God out like Sarah did. Sarah did not fully understand God's promise, so she asked Abraham to have a baby with her maidservant, Hagar. In the culture of those days, it might have been acceptable for Sarah to receive Hagar's baby as her own since Hagar was her maidservant.

If we try to help God out, we may only be creating more problems for ourselves. If you search through history, you will discover that Hagar's baby, Ishmael, is the root cause of most of the problems between the Jews and the Arabs, even up till today. Ishmael was the result of a human work and not a spirit work. The flesh always wages war against the spirit. That flesh child, Ishmael, is the reason Israel is at war today.

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The encouraging part of Abraham and Sarah's story is that even though they made a mistake, God did not give up on them. God still kept His promise. When you make a mistake in life or commit a sin, please do not turn away from God. Sometimes, our guilt becomes a cloud over our lives that prevent us from growing. Plants cannot grow under a cloud. They must be exposed to sunshine.

We cannot grow and be productive spiritually if we are under the clouds of guilt and condemnation. We should expose ourselves to God's sunshine so we can grow. If you are under the guilt of some sin today, I encourage you to confess that sin and allow the blood of Jesus to cleanse you and restore you.

Galatians 3:7 says that if you believe God, then you are a child of Abraham. You are a seed of Abraham. God's promises to Abraham and his seed belong to you. Abraham's faith connected him to the endless source of God's provision. If we have the God kind of faith, we will always acknowledge God as our Shepherd. We shall not lack anything. Money will not be a problem for us.

Most people think that the only way to make money is to labor for it. They think they have to depend on their own blood, sweat and tears to make it in this life. That is the way of the unsaved world. The children of God have a better way. God has a better way for us to make money. It comes through our covenant connection. Instead of working hard, we can work smart.