

THE BOOK OF

NEHEMIAH

God who keeps his covenant of love

GOD WHO KEEPS HIS COVENANT OF LOVE

³² “Now, therefore, our God, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love, let not all the hardship seem little to you that has come upon us, upon our kings, our princes, our priests, our prophets, our fathers, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until this day.

In the NIV it says “our God, the great God, mighty and awesome, who keeps his covenant of love”

WHAT IS A COVENANT

“A covenant is a solemn agreement, sometimes confirmed by sacrifice or by sharing in a meal, by which two or more parties commit themselves to the rights and responsibilities demanded by their relationship and their agreed course of action, and accept the serious consequences of breaking faith.”

WHAT IS A COVENANT

Covenant History

1. The Covenant with Creation: Genesis 1-3
2. The Covenant with Noah: Genesis 6-9
3. The Covenant with Abraham: Genesis 12/15/17/22
4. The Covenant at Sinai: Exodus 19-24
5. The Covenant with David: 2 Samuel 7/Psalm 89
6. The New Covenant: Jeremiah 31-34/Isaiah 54/Ezekiel 33-39

WHAT IS A COVENANT

“God promised centuries before Christ that the old covenant wouldn’t last forever.”

“This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Jeremiah 31:33)

THE SIGNING OF THE COVENANT

The leaders sign it (9:38-10:27)

1. Nehemiah the governor and Zedekiah (10:1)
2. The priests (10:2-8)
3. The Levites (10:9-13)
4. The leaders of the people (10:14-27)

The rest of the people sign it (10:28-29)

THE PROMISES OF THE COVENANT

“A declaration or assurance that one will do something or that a particular thing will happen.”

“Binding offers or commitments on the part of one person or people to another. The value of such promises depends upon the reliability and trustworthiness of the person who makes the promises.”

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THE PROMISES OF THE COVENANT

Do you see Gods covenant as a contract?

| Category | Contract | Covenant |
|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Occasion | Expected benefit | Desire for relationship |
| Initiative | Mutual agreement | Stronger party |
| Orientation | Negotiation Thing-oriented | Gift Person-oriented |
| Obligation | Performance | Loyalty |
| Termination | Specified | Indeterminate |

Do you see Gods great covenant of love?