

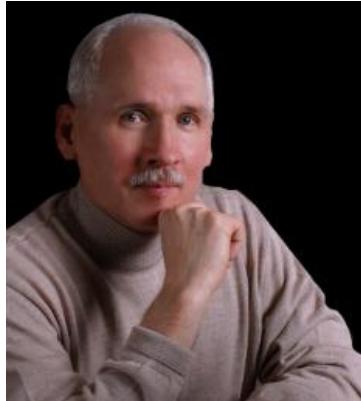
## The Second Covenant Faith of Jesus Christ

***Learn why your faith needs a covenant to be living.***





# What is Covenant?



What is Covenant, by Apostle Eric vonAnderseck is a Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week Ministries Publication. What is Covenant will prepare you to make a decision to come into covenant with God. Apostle Eric vonAnderseck's publications are setting the captives free and giving sight to the blind. The truth God has restored to the church through his ministry is like a wave of grace washing over the church.

**You can find Apostle Eric's free online courses at:**

<http://www.s8wministries.org/courses.php>

## Nine Easy Lessons to Guide You Into Covenant Faith

**Lesson 1 -- The Vow of Covenant:** The marriage contract is an excellent way in which God helps us to understand the vow of covenant. Learn why God compares being in covenant with Him to a marriage union. Learn how God takes ownership of your soul and learn to identify the token His gives to represent His love for you. Have you made a vow of covenant with God?

**Lesson 2 -- The Covenant Contract:** Learn what covenant relationship with God means by considering how a contract works. God set terms for our faith that must be understood and abided in. Do you know what the terms of the New Covenant are?

**Lesson 3 -- A Covenant of Blood:** To save us from the kingdom of Satan and translate us into His own kingdom and house, God had to set terms whereby He would bring us back to Himself. He made a covenant of blood. Learn more about the covenant of blood and why God elected blood to atone for sin. We can then understand why the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. What does it mean to accept the blood of the covenant?

**Lesson 4 -- 4 Steps to Covenant Faith:** Few Christians understand that God provided 4 steps for Abraham to come into covenant with Him and then, in the epistles, instructed the church in these same



# What is Covenant?

“steps of our father Abraham”. Learn the 4 steps to enter into covenant with God. Are you saved if you did not follow each of these 4 steps?

**Lesson 5-- God Has Always Been a Covenant God:** God has always been a covenant God. Both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament God uses the word “covenant” to let us know that which He has bound Himself to for our experience. Do you serve a denominational God or a covenant God?

**Lesson 6 -- God Seals Your Faith With the Token of the Spirit:** God gives a token to seal each covenant. What token does God give each Christian to let them know He has accepted their faith? The covenant token God gives you is not a ring, but the token is the Holy Spirit. Learn more about how God seals your faith with His Spirit.

**Lesson 7 -- The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is Evidenced by Tongues:** When God brings you into covenant with Him through the baptism of the Holy Spirit, evidenced by tongues, He is saying, “By this covenant I act.” If you want God to give life to your soul, to direct you in faith, and to sustain your faith, then the first step is to accept His conditions of faith, receive the token of the Spirit, and begin to pray in tongues. This vital truth has been hidden for generations and is now made known to the church today by God's living apostles.

**Lesson 8 – The Purpose of Tongues:** Learn why God gave tongues as a sign of the baptism and seal of your faith. What does the Spirit do when you pray in tongues? How often and how long do you need to pray in tongues? This vital truth has been hidden for generations and is now made known to the church today by God's living apostles.

**Lesson 9 – The Adoption:** Just as the Holy Spirit is the token that seals the vow of the marriage covenant with God, so too, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is again the token that seals our new birth into the family of God. Learn how that through covenant faith God takes the role of Father and accepts you into His family as His son or daughter.

**Lesson 10 -- Prayer For Salvation:** We welcome you to pray this prayer to communicate to God your desire to come into covenant with Him and your desire to learn everything you can about how to serve Him acceptably according to the terms He provided through Jesus Christ.



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# What is Covenant?

## Introduction

What is covenant? We are of course speaking of Jesus' New (or Second) Covenant. What is this New Covenant all about? What is its purpose? What does the Bible say about it?

We know that the idea of God making a covenant with man by faith might not be understood by everyone. What does it mean to come into covenant with God? What happens when you come into covenant with God? How is covenant faith different from other Christian faiths?

I would like to begin explaining covenant faith by talking to you about your desire for God. The Lord would say: "Take My Word unto yourself; for My Word is My gift to you." Paul wrote, "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God," Ephesians 6:17.

The Lord would also say: "I bear with you in this time of trial that in the time of temptation My comfort is your shield." Paul said it this way, "Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God," 2 Corinthians 1:4.

The Lord would also say: "Satan comes to confound the mind to drive it with the affairs of this life, but I give grace, peace, and wisdom, and I fill your soul with the substance of My kingdom." Paul wrote, "He (Jesus) said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me," 2 Corinthian 12:9.

We can see that God made faith an experience with Him. People want this experience, but there is a condition: you have to be

Your Desire for God!

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God made faith an *experience* with Him. Why aren't I experiencing this?



# What is Covenant?

joined to God in covenant. A union needs to take place between you and God in order for this experience to take place. What God says about you, what you know about God, what God does for you, what passes between you and God as friends describes a relationship--a covenant relationship.

## ***God Reveals How to Serve Him Acceptably in His New Covenant***

God reveals to us how this relationship takes place with knowledge and this knowledge is in His New Covenant. Though many seek to please God through the text (scripture), it is the text that points us to serve Him in His covenant, which requires submission of faith to remove the cloud of ignorance that sits as a mist on the mind. The imagination will not birth substance in the soul nor cleanse the conscience, but faith in His covenant sets forth a pattern of wholeness in the heart as the true mark of Christ.

### ***What is Covenant?***

What is covenant? Nine easy lessons will guide you through the covenant contract between you and God so that you will clearly understand what it means to come into covenant with Him, understand when this relationship begins, and understand the commitment you are making to God.

You will learn about the token of the Spirit that bears witness to your union with God and how God sustains His relationship with you. After you have completed the nine lessons you are invited to pray a prayer to exercise your faith and make a commitment to come into covenant with God to walk with Him.

WHAT IS COVENANT?  
9 EASY LESSONS WILL  
GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE  
COVENANT CONTRACT! ]

This Bible study course is written to aid a person to understand what it means to come into covenant with God. We know that the idea of God making a covenant with man by faith might not be understood by everyone. What does it mean to come into covenant with God? What



# What is Covenant?

happens when you come into covenant with God? How is covenant faith different from other Christian faiths?

## ***A Covenant Relationship***

Learn how covenant relationship with God is much like a marriage and why God uses that illustration in the Bible to teach us about our relationship with Him.

A marriage, as we know, is a celebration of the union of two people who have made a commitment to seal their love with vows to pledge themselves to each other. Their love is brought into a binding covenant of marriage, and the bond of their love is witnessed by a token that is given. This token is most often a ring.

[ LEARN HOW COVENANT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS MUCH LIKE A MARRIAGE AND WHY GOD USES THAT ILLUSTRATION IN THE BIBLE TO TEACH US ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.]

Entering into covenant relationship with God is much like that. Jesus is the Groom and the believer (you) is the Bride. God established the grounds for this union to exist, made promises of His commitment to you, and then provided a token as a witness of His love. This token is the Holy Spirit.

This course will guide you through the marriage contract (covenant) between you and God so that you will clearly understand:

- what it means to come into covenant with God, understand
- when this relationship begins, and understand
- the commitment you are making to God.
- You will learn about the token of the Spirit that bears witness to your union with God and how God sustains His relationship with you.



# What is Covenant?

This course is divided into five (10) lessons. After each lesson you are asked to answer three interactive multiple choice questions concerning what you have just studied. Click on the answer of your choice, and a dialog box will appear telling you if your answer is correct or wrong. All scripture quotations are from the King James version of the Bible.

I am confident that as you prayerfully study this course God will issue grace for your understanding and grant you an experience in Him for your spiritual growth.

If you have any questions, please submit your questions in the form provided, and a member of Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week spiritual government will reply as soon as possible.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 1 -- The Vow of Covenant

The Marriage contract is an excellent way in which God helps us to understand the vow of covenant. A marriage, as we know, is a celebration of the union of two people who have made a commitment to seal their love with vows to pledge themselves to each other. Their love is brought into a binding covenant of marriage, and the bond of their love is witnessed by a token that is given. This token is most often a ring.

From the beginning, the wedding ring was given as a token of possession, usually worn by the wife to symbolize that she was in possession of something valuable given to her by her husband.

Entering into the New Covenant relationship with God is much like that. Jesus is the Groom and the believer (you) is the Bride. God established the grounds for this union to exist, made promises of His commitment to you, and then provided a token as a witness of His love. This token is the Holy Spirit.

### ***Thy Maker Is Thine Husband***

Consider also Isaiah 54:5, “For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.”

God desires to give you a token that symbolizes that He has taken ownership of your soul and brought you into His care, thus setting the seal of His love upon your soul and His seal of approval upon your faith. He does not give us a ring does He? He gives us the token is His Holy Spirit. You will learn more about the token of the Spirit in What is Covenant: Lessons 6-8.

Just as the wife takes *a vow to build* the house of her husband, so also do we make a *vow to build* the house of God. What comes forth of this building is the fruit of the union. This is why Jesus set our focus of faith upon the fruit of the Spirit being formed in the inner man when He said, “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much FRUIT; so shall ye be my disciples.” (John 15:8)



# What is Covenant?

## To Keep the Vow of Covenant Requires Knowledge

Have you made a vow of covenant with God?

Most believers today are confused because they are not experiencing what the Bible describes a Christian should be experiencing once they made a faith decision.

The problem is that 99.99% of all conversion prayers ask the repentant sinner to "ask Jesus into their heart" and do not explain how to come into covenant with God. The sinner is not led into covenant faith, but into some form of the current Christian culture and becomes lost in the ebb and flow of false doctrine.



To keep the vow of covenant with God requires the knowledge of truth and the function of your priesthood and is the reason why a Christian needs to be instructed in the faith of Jesus Christ by living apostles today.

When Christians know only the "sinners prayer" but not the vow of covenant, they do not have His token of the Spirit and so the taste of grace, (first love) which God gave to draw them to Him begins to fade and they begin to cry out, "Where are you Lord?"

When you are in covenant with God, He sustains His relationship with you through your priesthood, which the Holy Spirit actively oversees as the anointing, to establish your heart in all the good things of Christ. Covenant faith works with the Spirit the holy fruit of Christ in you.

## Does God Really Consider His Covenant as a Marriage Contract?

When apostles no longer taught the church, the traditions of man seeped into faith and believers no longer thought about being in covenant with God or the terms that God set in place for our union with Him. Let us consider what the Spirit says in Jeremiah 3:14, "Turn, O



# What is Covenant?

backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am married unto you." So we see that God does indeed use the marriage contract to describe covenant relationship with Him.

## ***Yah But.....***

Many Christians are obviously baptized with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. I hear them saying, "Yah but....I am baptized and speak in tongues, am I in covenant with God?"

The answer is that to be in covenant with God requires the 4 steps you are going to learn about in lesson 4 and it requires knowledge of the terms God established for Christ to be formed in you.

Covenant knowledge is the whole machinery of God's kingdom. Without the machinery of stewardship, priesthood, and spiritual tools to exercise your faith through your cycles of growth your circumcision becomes uncircumcision because it is the knowledge and tools that join you to God through the Spirit.

If you are baptized in the Holy Spirit, but have not been instructed in the use of this divine token, nor have they been instructed in their priesthood, your love for Jesus is soon swept away into Baal's bed where Satan's false knowledge is allowed to solace the soul. Just as God identified the backsliding children of Israel as those who departed from Him so He identifies Christians today who say they know Him, but serve Baal. God is again calling them out of Baal's house and Baal's bed to mate with His Spirit only.

[“ I AM BAPTIZED AND  
SPEAK IN TONGUES, AM I IN  
COVENANT WITH GOD?”  
  
COVENANT KNOWLEDGE IS  
THE WHOLE MACHINERY  
OF GOD'S KINGDOM.]



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 2 -- The Covenant Contract

What is covenant? A covenant can also be understood as a contract established between two parties. Everything you do requires a contract. Whether you buy a house or open an account at a bank or go into business, there are always specified terms for services rendered and the expected reciprocation. The contract presents in a clear manner the terms both parties agree to abide by. The same thing is true about your salvation.

### ***God Reveals to us How to Serve Him Acceptably by Covenant***

Do you know what the terms of the New Covenant are? God reveals to us how to serve Him acceptably and this knowledge is in His covenant. Though many seek to please God through the text (scripture) it is the text that points us to serve Him in His covenant which requires submission of faith to remove the cloud of mist on the mind. The imagination will not birth substance in the soul nor cleanse the conscience, but faith in His covenant sets forth a pattern of wholeness in the heart as the true mark of Christ.

### ***Most Christians do not Know the Terms God Established for Their Faith***

The problem is that most Christians do not know the terms God established for their faith and become disappointed when God is not reciprocating His promise. In the absence of covenant the imagination molds a relationship with God that exists only in their mind and it played out in the emotions, but they are dead towards God.

It is important that you understand first how to come into covenant with God through the 4 steps of our father Abraham and then to also learn the terms God set for your faith to reflect Jesus Christ perfectly. It is only then that you will:

- learn how to serve God,
- walk in true holiness with Him,
- grow in His grace, and
- live the rewards of faith in Jesus Christ.



# What is Covenant?

You will also learn the difference between the terms of God for First Covenant faith through Moses and the terms of God for Second Covenant faith through Jesus Christ. You will also learn the difference between the Law of Moses, which confirms sin and brings condemnation for sin and the new law of grace and truth in Jesus Christ, whereby the Spirit confirms Christ and frees us from sin.

What is covenant faith? It is the lifestyle of the righteous. The sooner you learn about how to come into covenant with God through Jesus Christ and learn what the new law of grace and truth is, the sooner you will begin to experience all the things God promised in Christ.

- *Learn the difference between the terms of God for First Covenant faith through Moses and the terms of God for Second Covenant faith through Jesus Christ.*
- *Learn the difference between the Law of Moses, which confirms sin and brings condemnation for sin and the new law of grace and truth in Jesus Christ, whereby the Spirit confirms Christ and frees us from sin.*



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 3 - The Blood of the Covenant

What is covenant? To save us from the kingdom of Satan and power of sin and translate us into His own kingdom and house, God had to set terms whereby He would bring us back to Himself. He made a covenant of blood. God established early a testimony that the life of the body is in the blood.

“For it is the life of all flesh; the BLOOD of it is for the LIFE THEREOF: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.” Leviticus 17:14

### ***We Have Life Through the Blood of Jesus***

God did this to preach to us Jesus Christ, that when He would come we would have life through His blood. God elected blood to atone for sin and bridge the offense. We can understand God’s thinking, “Through sin I separated you from Me and now I have to bring you back to Me. I have to atone you to accomplish that.”

### ***God Elected the Smiting of Jesus to Release His Blood***

God elected the smiting of Jesus to release His blood. And so Jesus was smitten to release His blood which is His power of redemption. When Jesus was smitten and His blood released God said, “All those who believe in the record I am establishing in My Son, Jesus, I am releasing you from the offense.

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without SHEDDING OF BLOOD is no remission.” Hebrews 9:22

When Jesus shed His blood He was releasing us from the curse and penalty of sin while at the same time, releasing to us His life that we might live through Him. Isaiah prophesied of Jesus saying, “Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was



# What is Covenant?

BRUISED for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:4-5

## ***God Preaches to us the Smiting to Release***

God preaches to us this smiting to release in that an egg needs to be smitten for its life to be released for our breakfast table. An orange needs to be peeled to release its fruit, a coconut needs to be cracked to release its meat, and Jesus was smitten to release His life giving blood.

To be saved you must believe this testimony, that Jesus was smitten for your redemption to release you from the penalty of sin, to join you back to God, and to release His power of life to you.

“Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden underfoot the Son of God, and hath counted the BLOOD OF THE COVENANT, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?” Hebrews 10:29

## ***The New Testament (Covenant) Established in Jesus***

What is covenant? Covenant establishes Jesus Christ as our new tradition for faith. 1 Corinthians 11:25, “After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Jesus, at the last supper was transitioning the church from Moses to Himself. When Jesus took the bread and the wine it symbolized HIM. “You are to remember Me now – Not Moses.” I am your new tradition – bread is not your tradition – I AM your tradition. Moses is not your tradition – I AM your tradition – wine is not your tradition –I AM your tradition. He then went to the cross to shed His blood to seal the covenant in Himself.



# What is Covenant?

## **The Blood of the Covenant Cleanses From Sin**

"The blood of Christ cleanses us from all sin," I Jn.1:7. The liquid substance has no power in it. The power is in the covenant. The blood of Jesus purchased the covenant whereby God set the terms of our contact with Him.

The power is in what Jesus purchased for us through the shedding of His blood on the cross. Jesus was the Lamb provided for our sacrifice, that's why His blood was accepted and why God took Jesus' blood and sprinkled it upon all the tools of the New Covenant.

## **True Repentance**

From this we gain a true definition of repentance: it is a turning away from a former knowledge to embrace the covenant knowledge God provided in Jesus Christ for our contact with Him.

Repentance is an abandoning of our former confidence with religious and philosophical knowledge that confirmed who we are to turn and accept the one truth and covenant knowledge that confirms who Jesus Christ is.

Repentance is an act of the will under the influence of grace to acknowledge that there is no other way to God than through Jesus Christ; it is our willingness to set aside our former prejudices to follow Jesus in this new way of covenant faith.

Romans 2:4 reads, "...the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance." Know this: that God leads you to repentance by giving you grace, but seals your repentance by giving you the Spirit. Read Lesson 4: 4 Steps to Covenant Faith to find out more about the importance of God sealing your repentance with the Spirit.

*Repentance is an abandoning of our former confidence with religious and philosophical knowledge that confirmed who we are to turn and accept the one truth and covenant knowledge that confirms who Jesus Christ is.*



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 4 -- 4 Steps to Covenant Faith

Now that you understand why God uses the word “covenant” to explain to you the need for your faith to be acceptable to Him according to the terms He set for it, I’d like to explain to you the 4 Steps to Covenant Faith, which the Spirit points out to us in Romans 4:12. These 4 steps are the same 4 steps that Abraham used to come into covenant with God and that is why the Spirit calls them “the steps of that faith of our father Abraham”.

“Who also walk in the STEPS of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.” God first showed Abraham these steps to covenant faith to set the pattern for us now who believe in Jesus Christ. (Romans 4:12)

The 4 steps of covenant faith are: (1) Grace, (2) Faith, (3) Righteousness, and (4) the Seal (the baptism of the Holy Spirit).

Let’s now look at how Abraham followed this same pattern. From the book of Genesis we understand that God called (grace) Abram out of his father’s house, and Abraham obeyed (faith), and God declared him (righteous) and then showed he accepted Abraham’s faith by the token of circumcision (the seal). (Genesis 12:1, Hebrews 11:8, Romans 4:11, Genesis 17:7-11).

These are the same vital steps that you will take to come into covenant with God. So let’s review how these steps apply to your salvation in Jesus Christ.

**STEP ONE -- GRACE:** You heard the word of truth. God makes Himself known to us by means of His knowledge and

### 4 STEPS TO COVENANT FAITH

“Who also walk in the STEPS of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.” (Romans 4:12)

The Spirit of the Lord reveals through the 4 steps of Abraham what takes place when you come into covenant with Him.

- What are the 4 STEPS to covenant faith?
- Why is Abraham called the father of faith?
- How is your repentance sealed?
- Why did Jesus breath on His disciples saying, ““Receive ye the Holy Ghost”?
- When does covenant relationship with God begin?



# What is Covenant?

He inspires His knowledge by His grace to call you out of the world unto Himself. Grace is the voice of God you heard calling you and revealing to you, “This is Christ! Embrace Him!”

**STEP TWO -- FAITH:** You trusted and believed and made confession of faith. You obeyed the voice of God’s grace, yielding your will to the knowledge He gave you to embrace.

**STEP THREE – RIGHTEOUSNESS:** Your faith was a response to God’s grace, which meets God’s expectation perfectly. This is why God declares you righteous. Your faith is the perfect measure of His Son, Jesus Christ.

**STEP FOUR – THE SEAL:** God sealed your faith with the Holy Spirit (token) of promise. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the sign that God has made a covenant with you. This spiritual circumcision is walked out daily in your spiritual growth.

The Spirit of the Lord reveals through the 4 steps of Abraham what takes place when you come into covenant with Him. He explains that after you hear the word of truth, after you believe and accept the testimony of Jesus Christ, then God seals your faith with the Holy Spirit, which is a sign of the covenant. God brings His love for you into a binding covenant of marriage, and the bond of His love is witnessed by a token (sign) of the Holy Spirit.

Apostle Paul confirms this to be true. He wrote, “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.” (Ephesians 1:13)

## *Your Repentance is Sealed*

Your repentance must be sealed by the Holy Spirit in order for God to begin the work of healing your soul. It is the work of the Spirit that daily brings the life of Christ to the soul. This is what the apostles meant when they preached “repentance unto life”! “When they heard these things (that the Gentiles were baptized with the Holy Spirit as evidenced by tongues), they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.” (Acts 11:18)



# What is Covenant?

When faith is not sealed by the Spirit a believer experiences repentance unto death. In other words, the work of the Spirit is absent from faith and the initial repentance does not produce the life of Christ in the soul. A believer continues to live in condemnation and turns to

repentance rather than the Spirit to find the life of Christ. Without the seal of the Spirit the Christian life is one of struggle against sin rather than the expected increase of the virtues of Christ.

## ***Jesus Breathed on His Disciples***

The gift of life is the most valuable gift of all. This is why Jesus breathed upon His apostles saying, “Receive ye the Holy Ghost,” John 20:22. Jesus was prophesying to them of the baptism of the Holy Spirit they would receive on the day of Pentecost when God would bring them into covenant with Him. This is God’s mind: “My Spirit shall be in them, and I will give them My life.”

Jesus, knowing this is what the Father planned to do, breathed on them as a sign of that which they would receive on Pentecost. There was a prophesy in that act. God was saying, “I will breathe My life anew in you. As I breathed into Adam at the beginning, and he became a living soul, so when I breathe in you again I will give you new life in Myself.”

When the day of Pentecost was fully come, the scriptures say that the Spirit of God came upon them and they spoke with tongues (Acts 2:4), thus fulfilling the sign that Jesus gave. God gave them the token of His love and power.

It is at this point, when they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, that covenant relationship began. And so it is with you. Your covenant relationship with God begins with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It cannot begin without this token. When God gives you the Holy Spirit, He is acknowledging your faith and setting His seal upon it.

**Always remember:** Just as the wedding ring is a sign of the covenant of marriage, the Holy Spirit is the witness to your union with God, and it is by the Spirit that God will sustain His relationship with you.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 5 -- God Has Always Been a Covenant God

What is covenant? There are many covenants God made with man. God has always been a covenant God. Both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament God uses the word "covenant" to let us know that which He has bound Himself to for our experience. A covenant describes the boundaries to which God has restricted Himself for the purpose of providing redemption and establishing the grounds (which He set) to prove faith.

**The Rainbow Covenant of Noah:** God made a covenant with Noah promising, "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth. (Genesis 9:13-16).

Here we see that God remembers His covenant based on the token He selected, in this case, the rainbow. The rainbow put God in remembrance of His promise and put man in remembrance of God.

**The Abrahamic Covenant:** God made a covenant with Abraham and promised to make of him a great nation. He promised to be Abraham's shield and reward (Genesis 15:1). "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord

God has always been a covenant God!

NOAH

The Rainbow Covenant

ABRAHAM

The Abrahamic Covenant

MOSES

The Mosaic Covenant

JESUS CHRIST

The Covenant of Jesus Christ

**Did you know:** There are 33,000 different Christian denominations in the world today. All of them claiming to be the true Christian faith. But God is a covenant God, not a denomination God.

You will not find the truth in a denomination, but you will find the truth in the New (Second) Covenant teachings of Jesus Christ.



# What is Covenant?

appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

2 And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.”  
(Genesis 17:1-2)

**The Mosaic Covenant (First Covenant):** God made a covenant with the people of Israel through Moses, the steward of His house. Moses went up into the mount of the Lord to receive God's commandments for the people. This is why Moses is called the law giver. “And he (Moses) took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words.” (Hebrews 24:7-8)

**The Covenant of Jesus Christ (Second Covenant):** God swore by Himself to bring man back to Himself by the sacrifice of Himself. The covenant must be in Him—in His blood by His new terms. Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant as we read in Hebrews 12:24, “And to Jesus the mediator of the NEW COVENANT, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.”

## **Hebrews 8:8,13**

8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a NEW COVENANT with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

13 In that he saith, A NEW COVENANT, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

A covenant describes the boundaries to which God has restricted Himself for the purpose of providing redemption and establishing the grounds (which He set) to prove faith. We now have new terms, new commandments, and a new law in Jesus Christ. To be in covenant with God according to the new terms means that we need to learn these new commandments of Christ and learn how to walk in them to please God.

**Did you know:** There are 33,000 different Christian denominations in the world today. All of them claiming to be the true Christian faith. But God is a covenant God, not a denomination God. You will not find the truth in a denomination, but you will find the truth in the New (Second) Covenant teachings of Jesus Christ.



# What is Covenant?

## *The Transition From Moses to Jesus*

In the book of Galatians God identifies two major covenants He made with man. God assigns Moses to the First Covenant and assigns Jesus Christ to the Second Covenant. To help us make clarifications about the transition God was making from Moses to Jesus, God also identifies the Second Covenant the New Covenant and the First Covenant as the Old Covenant.

The course Covenant Faith is made available to you on this site to assist you to continue your studies of these two major covenants to learn how God separated them and to learn how to

place your faith in Jesus only. God is a covenant God and has always let man know the covenant which He has bound Himself to for our experience.

## *The Covenant Has Words That Must be Heard, Learned, and Obeyed*

Deuteronomy 29:1,9,12

1. These are the words of the covenant, which the Lord commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb.
9. Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.
12. That thou shouldest enter into covenant with the Lord thy God, and into his oath, which the Lord thy God maketh with thee this day.

From Deuteronomy chapter 29 the Lord makes us to understand that the covenant has “words” that must be heard, learned, and obeyed. From these scriptures we also understand God’s will, that we “enter” into covenant with Him and “keep” covenant with Him.

To enter into covenant with God you must accept the testimony of Jesus Christ, that He is the Son of God, the Messiah, our Savior, that He is the one that was prophesied to come to seal our faith and make us complete in Him, and that it is His sacrifice that blots out our transgressions, that He shed His blood to seal the New Covenant in Himself, and that He rose again from the dead to oversee and empower the covenant in Himself.



# What is Covenant?

To enter into covenant with God you must agree to express your faith within the boundaries of the knowledge God established to build the house of Jesus Christ. To understand what this “building” is all about we need to go back to the symbolism of marriage and see how the Lord uses that in scripture to teach us about our union with Him.

Just as the union of the husband and wife is blessed by the fruitful womb to increase the house of the husband, so it is by our union with Christ in faith, that the fruit of Christ is formed in the inner man. God is in expectation of Christ being formed within. This is the commitment you are making to God. (John 15:8) (Galatians 5:22-23).

If you can understand that the purpose of your union with Christ is for fruit bearing, then you can understand the purpose of God baptizing you with the Holy Spirit.

To enter into covenant with God you must agree to express your faith within the boundaries of the knowledge God established to build the house of Jesus Christ. To understand what this “building” is all about we need to go back to the symbolism of marriage and see how the Lord uses that in scripture to teach us about our union with Him.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 6 -- God Seals Your Faith With the Token of the Spirit

When you come into covenant with God, He gives you a token that seals His love to you. The token God gives you is not a ring, but the token is the Holy Spirit. God shows us this pattern in the book of Acts where the apostles and disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues (Acts 2:4).

Just as a ring is a reminder to the wife that she belongs to her husband, the Holy Spirit, engrafted into the heart of a believer, is a reminder that we belong to God. A ring is a visible symbol of love, which reminds the bearer of the pledge upon which the union is built. The Holy Spirit is a living memorial of Jesus' love for us, His Bride. Every time you pray in tongues it is a living reminder of God's pledge to you that He would give new life to your soul.

In addition, the ring has always been an emblem of refreshment and renewal, for as the precious metal turns again upon itself, so a good marriage is said to turn upon itself to refresh and renew the bond of love. How beautifully this illustrates covenant faith. The bond we have with God is renewed and refreshed daily at the altar of Christ where we worship Him. As we draw upon His grace, the Spirit of God continues to renew and refresh us in the life of Christ.

### **When Does God Give us His Token of Love?**

When does God give us His token of love? After you heard and after you believed, then you are sealed. Let's look at how the Spirit of the Lord brings this out through Apostle Paul in his epistle to the Christians at Ephesus:

Ephesians 1:13-14, “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were *sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise*. Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

### **The Token of the Spirit is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

Now it is time to make the connection between the “token” of the Spirit and the “baptism” of the Holy Spirit. In Acts chapter 1 we see Jesus preparing His disciples to receive this



# What is Covenant?

token from God. He commanded them, “that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be *baptized with the Holy Ghost* not many days hence” Acts 1:4-5.

Now we can see that Jesus gives a name to God’s promise to seal our faith and give us a token of His presence. Jesus calls it a “baptism” of the Holy Ghost. He explains, “You shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost. You will receive this promise of the Father that I have been telling you about over and over again. Don’t leave! Stay! Wait for it! You cannot go on and serve Me without it.

This is My plan, that I be joined to you through this power of the Holy Spirit. This is My plan, that I breathe new life into you through the Holy Spirit. This is My plan, that I form my fruit in you by My Spirit. My Spirit used to be ‘WITH’ you, and you experienced Me that way, but now My Spirit must be ‘IN’ you for you to experience Me in a new way.”

The Spirit of God being WITH a person can manifest His presence, but NOT heal the soul, not bring the soul into covenant with God. Remember all that the disciples experienced with Christ, the Spirit being WITH them, but not yet IN them. Jesus said, “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth WITH you, and shall be IN you” (John 14:16,17).

Remember the beautiful psalms David wrote from his experience with God. The Spirit being not IN him, but WITH him: "If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, when men rose up against us" (Psalm 124:2). David experienced the deliverances that God provided for him. He knew the Spirit of God because God was WITH him, but the Spirit was not IN him.

God’s plan never changed. This is God’s plan for you: For Him to share Himself with us, He must be IN us. It is that simple!



# What is Covenant?

## Which Way Now?

When God baptizes you with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ will then be in you, and God's covenant sealed unto you. God designed the baptism of the Holy Spirit for covenant contact. Covenant is the door that is open to you in Christ for many wonderful things to now take place, which could not take place if you remained outside of covenant. It is through covenant contact that we experience these things:

1. God tests our faith
2. God establishes relationship
3. God receives fruit
4. We gain trust
5. We are brought into God's care
6. We are preserved in His framework of truth
7. We experience the circumcision of the heart

Let's look a little further to see God's spiritual provision for you. When God baptizes you with the Holy Ghost (witnessed by tongues) these things are taking place:

**1. God separated you from the world unto Himself.** You are now in covenant with God. Hebrews 8:6: "But now hath he (Jesus) obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises."

**2. You are now born again.** When God places His Spirit into you, He is causing a spiritual rebirth. You are born of the Spirit. John 3:6-7: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." We can understand that what you learn now is about how to co-labor with the Spirit that the Christ-likeness might be manifested in you.

**3. You are now a child of God.** When God places His Spirit into you, He is adopting you into His family. Romans 8:15: "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."



# What is Covenant?

Galatians 4:5: "To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." Ephesians 1:5: "Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will." We can understand that what you learn now is about how to walk as a son of God, how God's nurtures a relationship with you.

**4. God gives you an eternal inheritance.** When God places His Spirit into you, it is an eternal bond. Your faith has eternal rewards. Ephesians 1:13,14: "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory." We can understand that what you learn now is about how to keep your eyes on the hope that God placed before you.

**5. You are baptized into the Body of Christ (to function in the priesthood).**

1 Corinthians 12:13: "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." We can understand that what you learn now is about how to minister to God, serve Him, and your brethren in the fellowship of His love and Word. This is done through your priesthood.

Now that you have seen what God provided for you by sealing your faith with the baptism of the Holy Spirit, you need to be equipped with knowledge to know how to grow in the life of Christ. Arm yourself with knowledge and with the spiritual tools of Jesus' covenant to keep yourself in the will of God, to keep yourself growing in His grace, increasing in knowledge, and abounding in love.

This is My plan, that I be joined to you through this power of the Holy Spirit.  
This is My plan, that I breathe new life into you through the Holy Spirit. This  
is My plan, that I form my fruit in you by My Spirit. My Spirit used to be  
'WITH' you, and you experienced Me that way, but now My Spirit must be  
'IN' you for you to experience Me in a new way.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 7 -- The Baptism of the Holy Ghost is Evidenced by Tongues

In this series of lessons “What is Covenant” you are receiving covenant definitions, an overall understanding of what covenant means to God, and the specific 4 steps a person takes to come into covenant with God (grace, faith, righteousness, and the seal) and how important these steps are to God.

You are also learning about the token God gives to confirm the righteousness of your faith—the token of the Spirit. In this lesson we are going to look at the specific evidence God gives that lets you know that you have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The book of Acts states that 120 disciples assembled together to await the fulfillment of Jesus' command to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the token of His love for them. How did they know whether or not they received this promise from the Father? If there was no evidence of them receiving this token they would have been waiting indefinitely.

By the scriptures the Spirit tells us plainly what took place: “And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all *filled with the Holy Ghost*, and *began to speak with other tongues*, as the Spirit gave them utterance,” Acts 2:1-4.

### ***Proof Positive the Spirit is IN You***

It is clear that Jesus provided proof positive that the baptism of the Holy Spirit was given and received, that the Spirit of God, being with them, was now in them, for they spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. These disciples of Christ were the first to come into covenant with Him. They were now converted to Christ. They were the first to receive this sign and token of God's love for them. Now the covenant was sealed to them.



# What is Covenant?

God made a vow, “By this covenant I will act.” We have proof positive that God did act, that God was personally involved with their lives.

Everything we read in the epistles about victory in Christ, walking in righteousness, being holy as God is holy, being free from condemnation, being led of the Spirit, knowing the riches of God’s spiritual blessings, walking in confidence with God, being that person of faith that is used of God, and about finding that peace and joy that Jesus promised, is all a result of first having receiving this seal of the Spirit and token of tongues, and learning how to use it.

## ***Do You Fail to Experience The Power of the Resurrected Christ?***

Many people think that they are in relationship with God simply because they made a confession of faith in Jesus Christ, but then become disappointed when changes do not take place in their life. They then try to seek a secondary work of the Spirit and yet still fail to experience the power of the resurrected Christ.

Let's look at this again: When God brings you into covenant with Him through the baptism of the Holy Spirit, evidenced by tongues, God is saying, “By this covenant I act.” If you want God to give life to your soul, to direct you in faith, and to sustain your faith, then the first step is to accept His conditions of faith, receive the token of the Spirit, and begin to pray in tongues.

God made a vow, “By this covenant I will act.” We have proof positive that God did act, that God was personally involved with their lives.”

## **DO YOU FAIL TO EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTED CHRIST?**

- Are you in a relationship with God just because you confessed faith in Jesus Christ?
- Why does Satan want to keep you from receiving the Holy Spirit?
- How does the lie of Satan lose its power?

Learn to take confidence in God!



# What is Covenant?

## ***Why Satan Wants to Keep You From Receiving the Holy Spirit***

Jesus said that Satan is a liar. So we know that when God says one thing, Satan will work a lie to speak to man something else. In the area of tongues, Satan wants to seal a believer's lips so they won't receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He tells them that tongues are not for them. It may be for other people, but it is not for you.

Looking at what God said about the world being in darkness when Jesus came, we can understand what darkness is, it is the lie of Satan. When someone lies to us about a certain matter, we are ignorant concerning the truth, we are in the dark. When we are told the truth by someone else concerning that matter, we say we are enlightened and the lie loses its power.

For the lie of Satan to lose its power in our lives, we need to be enlightened by the truth, which is found in the knowledge of Christ. That is why "By His knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many," Isaiah 53:11.

## ***You Can Take Confidence in God***

You can take the same confidence in God's plan as the 120 disciples that gathered on the day of Pentecost to receive the token of God's love. The disciples walked into the room seeking the promise of the Father, waiting for the token from heaven, and walked out of that room in possession of it. You can be just as sure that when God gives you that same token that you will have the same experience. You too will speak in tongues.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 8: The Purpose of Tongues

How much do you know about the change that needs to take place inside of you? Did you know that Satan etched his philosophy in man and that these scars are the wounds of the soul? Just like a scar on your arm or your leg is a lingering sign of injury, the scars on your soul are the lingering signs of the injury Satan inflicted upon you.

Every injury carries a memory that produced a thought pattern in you. The injury hurt so much you were determined not to experience that again. So now your thought patterns are about shielding yourself from more injury.

Think of your soul as a house and Satan as an arsonist. He set fire to your house and when you come into covenant with God, the Holy Spirit puts the fire out and begins the work of restoring and rebuilding your house.

We can see why Satan resists tongues with his lie that it is not for you, thereby sealing your lips. He does not want the healing to begin.

### ***The Spirit Must Effect the Change***

When you come into covenant with God, God inscribes His knowledge in your heart to begin the renewal process. But the Spirit has to be there to effect a change. This is the primary purpose of your union with God—for this change to take place. Your thinking changes from Satan's lie to God's truth, from Satan's perspective to God's perspective, from the expectation of Satan's promise to the expectation of God's promise by covenant.

Satan's lie develops a thought pattern that revolves around what you think about yourself, the world, and God and how you expect to obtain your peace by the immediate gratification of the flesh. This thought pattern changes as we accept God's knowledge and begin to pray in tongues.



# What is Covenant?

## ***The Process of Change is Called Regeneration***

The process of this change and the fruit of it is called “regeneration” (Titus 3:5): God’s goal is to form Christ in you. Jesus said, “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples” John 15:8. God determined to know us by the fruit He would form within us by the work of His Spirit, and He determined that we would know Him by this same work.

Just like man digs in the earth for its treasures of gold, silver, diamonds, and precious jewels, so God also expects to one day draw from our souls the treasures of His kingdom, that fruit of the Spirit Paul wrote about: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (Galatians 5:22-23), which is the virtue of Christ.

Just as there is a process that takes place for gold, silver, and precious jewels to be formed in the belly of the earth and a process to extract it, there is a process for Christ to be formed in the soul of man. The process begins with tongues, and that’s why tongues is called a “tool” of the Second Covenant and is necessary for all.

## ***The Connection Between Tongues and the Work of the Spirit***

We will now make the connection between tongues and this work of the Spirit by reading Romans 8:26-28, “Likewise the Spirit also *helpeth our infirmities*: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (this is what the Spirit is doing as you pray in tongues).

And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”

So then, forming Christ in your inner man is a work of the Spirit that begins when you are baptized with the Holy Spirit and begin to pray in tongues. It is a work that continues daily as you continue to use this precious tool that God gave you.



# What is Covenant?

## All Believers Follow the Same 4 Steps

God planned for the joy that is in Him to be in you. For it to be possible for God to share His joy with you He sent the Holy Spirit with tongues so that when you applied yourself to this spiritual tool you would benefit from it.

Now we can understand why all believers experience the exact same 4 steps to enter into covenant with God, why all receive the same token as a sign of the covenant and pledge of God's promise, and why all speak in tongues as a result. Even though we are all unique, and God will work in us according to our individual needs, the process is the same for us all. We all pray in tongues for this is the tool God designed to bring healing to your soul and form Christ within.

The tool of tongues, as it forms Christ within also builds you up in the faith. That is why you experience such great edification every time you pray in tongues. Apostle Jude, when writing to the church, put Christians in mind of this, which they had all received from God, saying, "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost," Jude 1:20.

God planned for the joy that is in Him to be in you. For it to be possible for God to share His joy with you He sent the Holy Spirit with tongues so that when you applied yourself to this spiritual tool you would benefit from it.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 9: The Adoption

What is covenant? God has many things to teach us about what it means to come into covenant with him and what happens when He gives us the token of the Spirit. Just as God uses marriage to illustrate the fruit He desires to come forth of His union with us (Christ being formed in the inner man), so He also uses the illustration of family to show us His position as “father” and “parent” to show us the manner of His love, which is to nurture, chasten, and train us in His ways that we may, by this process, take on His likeness.

God is our heavenly Father, and by faith in Jesus Christ, we are born again into His spiritual family to take residence in His house of faith now; And by that same token we are later invited to take residence in His eternal abode. The promise of eternal life is to those who follow the due process of the adoption, and each person seeking entrance into the family of God must follow the same 4 steps of our father Abraham to qualify as sons and daughters of God. Having said all that, let's look at how the Spirit of the Lord brings that out through the writings of the Apostle Paul.

### **Romans 8:15-17**

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs, heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

### **Galatians 4:5**

To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

### **Ephesians 1:5**

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

Just as the Holy Spirit is the token that seals the vow of the marriage covenant with God, we are instructed in Romans 8:15-16 that this same token (Holy Spirit) effects the new birth into



# What is Covenant?

God's house. So then, we are born again into God's house and kingdom at the time God baptizes us with His Spirit. Know this: You must have the Spirit of God in you for God to claim you as His own.

## ***The True Christian Experience***

**The pattern of God's truth is clear:** When you are baptized in the Holy Spirit the Spirit of God enters into you. This is when God adopts you as His child; this is what it means to be born again. This is the true Christian faith and the true tradition of Christ and of His Spirit.

Don't let these different analogies of covenant (marriage and family) confuse you. God is bringing to your understanding many things about His relationship with you: your union with Him, your transition from the kingdom of darkness into His kingdom, your eternal inheritance, the promise of life in Jesus Christ, your position as son or daughter in His house, how you are to labor with the Spirit, and how Christ is to be formed in your heart.

Your free courses with Second 8th Week Ministries will help you learn all about the Second Covenant and answer any question you might have about covenant faith. Every day, as you pray in tongues, the Spirit of God is searching the soul for the damage done by Satan and making intercession for you concerning the healing that needs to take place. Pray in tongues every day, increasing your prayer time as much as possible. Set a goal to pray in tongues an hour a day.



# What is Covenant?

## Lesson 10 -- Prayer for Salvation

It is wonderful to enter into covenant with God. Did you know that when you are in covenant with God He says that you are the apple of His eye, even as He said of Israel, “He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of His eye” Deuteronomy 32:10.

As God led the children of Israel through the waste howling wilderness into the promised land, so will God bring you through the waste howling wilderness of this world, into the eternal abode of His house in heaven. And just as God said to the children of Israel that they were the apple of His eye, so He will say to you that you are now the apple of His eye.

What does that mean, to be the apple of God’s eye? It means that you are the center of God’s attention. You have caught His eye because faith pleases God. His thoughts are towards you constantly, and His desire is to care for you, to protect you, and to strengthen you. He is desirous to oversee His work in you in every detail, for He is in expectation of what will come of His marvelous union with you. His purging and cleansing, and restoring your soul will result in a Bride that is pure and full of the virtues of Christ.

You don’t need to know everything right now about new covenant faith. All you need to do is respond to God’s grace and come into covenant with Him. Repent of sin and accept His invitation. He will forgive your sins, cleanse you and prepare you for glory. God’s house is yet empty and He wants to fill it with His children.

## Covenant Faith: Three Simple Steps to Making a Decision To Follow Christ

Everyone comes to a point in their life where they want to know more about God. Some people say they want to get closer to God. Some say they sense something missing in their faith. Others say they are desperately trying to fill a void in their life. However you say it, God has been ministering to you and calling you to Him for a long time.



# What is Covenant?

You may have tried different religions or churches, looking for God. Or maybe you tried to find God in nature. But no matter what you tried, you always came back to the same place of emptiness, feeling there should be something more to life.



Regardless of how much life or religion has disappointed you, God was there time and again, encouraging you not to give up. He was there telling you that He would help you. There is a Psalm that says, “Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy,” Psalm 64:1. And another favorite is, “Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust,” Psalm 16:1.

So, here you are. All those moments of intervention on God’s part (His grace) has brought you to this point where your faith is about to embark on the final journey home.

Covenant Faith in Jesus Christ is that journey. It is vital that you understand what happened when Jesus shed His blood, and what His death and resurrection means to God. God wants to save, heal, and deliver you. God wants to remove you from Satan’s kingdom of darkness where you were spiritually

imprisoned by his lies. God invites you to have a personal relationship with Him in His kingdom, where He will accept you as His child and free you of the hold Satan has on you. God’s invitation is to free you to Him.

Covenant Faith is a simple faith to walk. You’ll learn what it means to become a Christian, and how it is possible to please God and live the kind of life He wants you to live every day. You’ll learn how easy it is to have a personal relationship with God as you walk in your spiritual priesthood. The truth of Jesus Christ will be broken down for you in ways you never





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thought possible. God will begin to answer many questions that you had about Him and the purpose of your existence.

Let's now go through a few steps that will guide you to make a faith decision to follow Jesus Christ in the new way of His covenant.

## ***Step One: Understand Where You Are Spiritually and How You Got There***

For most, life's journey is not an easy one. It is much like being on a ship, drifting through thick fog; you feel lost and uncertain of your future. Every time the waves threatened to capsize your ship you cried out, "God, where are you?! I can't see through this fog, and the waves are too high for me! Help me!"

This cry the soul makes for God is desperately repeated thousands of times every day. The Psalmist said, "Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation," Psalm 27:9.





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## *What the Bible Says About Man's Condition*



Man's separation from God is a direct result of Adam having accepted Satan's promises. Satan gave Adam knowledge for his mind to work with that was a direct contradiction to the things God had told Adam. God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and Satan said, "Yes, but . . . if you eat of this tree you will get what you want."

Satan offered Adam knowledge (promise) that worked with what Adam wanted and by that knowledge, Satan taught Adam how to work around what God had said. In this way Satan took captive Adam's mind, and this is why all

Adamites today are prisoners to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

This is what God said: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die," Genesis 2:17. God breaks sin down for us: Sin is the kingdom of Satan that Adam joined himself to by reaching for Satan's promise. There is no life in Satan's kingdom, only death.

Nothing about sin has changed since the garden. Satan continues to promise liberty, but his promise is a bondage to our self image, which brings uncertainty, works doubt in the heart, and causes man to live in fear.

Knowing these things makes the choice for life easy. Choose life by choosing to enter into God's kingdom by coming into covenant with Him.

## *Step Two: Recognize the Voice of God Calling You*

**Did you know:** Everyone has heard the voice of God calling them out of Satan's kingdom many times. This call is the most wonderful and sweet thing imaginable. It is like a call home, a



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longing to be with God, a knowing that you were created for something other than what you are now experiencing.

God's call to you is special. But it's only when you stop and listen that you can hear Him more clearly. You may be wondering, If God has been calling me all my life. why has it been so difficult to find him? The reason for this difficulty is that Satan has been there too.

Every time you heard God calling you, Satan was there hanging around, listening, just like he did in the garden when God spoke to Adam. Satan designed many spiritual paths hoping you would choose one and get lost, looking for God's purpose in the wrong place.

This is why some think God's call is a call to spirituality and begin to search into everything spiritual, while others think it's a call to find themselves and begin a journey of self discovery.

It's hard to find God's true spiritual path of the covenant when Satan volunteers to be our path finder. It's like taking a trip to a faraway place. You're trying to find your way to the tourist center when this man walks up to you and tries to sell you an all-inclusive package to visit the wonderful and exotic places that only he knows about.



Everything sounds adventurous and exciting, and you trust this guy because he appears to know what he is talking about. But you haven't seen the posters around town warning tourists not to trust themselves to this murderer and thief.

In the same way, when people hear the call of God, Satan is there to send them on another journey far away from God. How do you know that is true? Because you come back to the same struggle, the same questions, the same emptiness, and the same disappointments. Does this describe your condition today?



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## ***God's Call Into Covenant With Him***



A call into covenant is a call into Christ for the salvation of our souls. The Bible says that God created man in His image and likeness: “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness,” Genesis 1:26. When Adam accepted Satan’s knowledge, he lost the likeness of God and gained Satan’s mindset.

Just as a father would be disappointed in a son who follows another path, because the father no longer sees in his son an image of himself, so God, in the same way, is disappointed with man.

When He looks at man’s soul he does not see a likeness of Himself. What does he see? He sees the likeness of Satan. This is the likeness man gained after Adam’s fall: “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23.

Jesus knows this to be true. This is why he referred to Satan as the “father” of the sinner (John 8:44). All sinners shall have their portion in the lake of fire because that is Satan’s destiny. Nothing of Satan can be allowed into God’s kingdom.

To change this, God provided man with a way back to Him. God gave man a chance to regain the likeness of God. God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the sins of the world, thereby offering forgiveness by a covenant of blood.

### **John 3:16**

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”



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## **Hebrews 13:20-21**

“Now the God of *peace*, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting *covenant*, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

## **2 Corinthians 3:18**

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same *image* from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

God is calling to you to believe the testimony of Jesus Christ, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior. He is the one who was prophesied to make reconciliation for the sins of the world, to blot out your transgressions, and to join you back to God through Himself.

Jesus shed His blood to provide the terms or grounds of the Second Covenant to sanctify your faith, that your faith may be pleasing to God.

Jesus rose again from the dead to establish a new priesthood in Himself, a living priesthood of knowledge to establish your communion with Him by this knowledge, that God might change you into His image by the power of the Holy Ghost.

You must believe this report and be baptized with the Holy Spirit, evidenced by speaking in tongues. It is by this engrafting of the Holy Spirit in you that you gain His likeness.

## ***Step Three: Make the Decision to Come Into Covenant With God***

Jesus said, “him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out,” John 6:37. God makes it easy for you to come to Christ that God might establish His testimony in you. All you need to do is respond to His grace and accept His invitation. If you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins, and if you desire God’s forgiveness of sins, I invite you to respond to His grace by praying this prayer right now.



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## PRAYER

Almighty God, I humbly come before your throne of grace. I believe the testimony of Jesus Christ; that He is the Messiah, the Savior, that He is the one who was prophesied to come to seal our faith and make us complete in Him, and that it is His sacrifice that blots out our transgressions. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died to make reconciliation for the sins of the world to join me back to You through Himself.

I believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood to provide the terms or grounds of the Second Covenant to sanctify my faith, that my faith may be pleasing to You. I believe that Jesus rose again from the dead to establish a new priesthood in Himself, a living priesthood of knowledge to establish my communion with You by this knowledge that I might be changed into His image by the power of the Holy Ghost.



I ask that You forgive me for walking contrary to your covenant for I ignorantly worshiped what I did not understand. It is You that put a difference between truth and error, darkness and light, and I choose to leave the kingdom of sin and enter into your kingdom.

I am tired of living by Satan's lies, and I desire to walk on the true path of faith in Jesus Christ whereby I can regain your likeness. I accept your knowledge of faith and ask that You baptize me in the Holy Spirit and assist me to pray in tongues.

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Praying this prayer will prepare your heart for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Remember that receiving the Spirit, evidenced by tongues is your entrance into covenant faith. Please set aside



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time each day to worship God by praying in tongues. We suggest that each believer spend a minimum of an hour a day praying in tongues. If that is difficult for you at first, begin where you can and ask the Lord to assist you to increase your prayer time.

You are now ready to learn all about the New Covenant God made with you through Jesus Christ. You are ready to begin to live the salvation experience God planned for you. Remember that salvation is a process of healing. God wants to remodel your soul and restore it to the holiness of Jesus Christ.

## ***FAQ -- New (Second) Covenant Faith***

**Q.** What if I am Already Baptized in the Holy Spirit. Am I in covenant?

**A.** Hearing about the Second Covenant faith you might be saying, “Hey, I am already baptized with the Holy Spirit, and I speak in tongues. That means that I am already in covenant with God.”

As we learned in the lesson, *What it Means to Come Into Covenant With God*, the baptism of the Holy Spirit and visible sign of tongues is the symbol of God’s eternal love for you and promise of life through Jesus Christ. But you also, by accepting the testimony of Jesus Christ, have agreed to serve God according to this contract of marriage that Jesus sealed in His blood.

If you have not been properly instructed in the doctrine of Christ you would not know what God is expecting of your faith, nor will you be able to express it. Some teach that it does not matter what your beliefs about Christ are as long as your love for God is real and sincere. That is not true. It is necessary for you to know the whole truth of Jesus Christ in order for the work of His redemption to take place in your heart.

You may be baptized in the Holy Spirit, but because of improper instruction in doctrine, you would not understand the proper use of the tool of tongues, or make the necessary connection to your priesthood. What you don’t know about your faith cripples your faith, and if you mix things into your faith that should not be there, that also cripples your faith.

This is a good time to introduce to you what “wholesome” doctrine means. It means that all the ingredients necessary for you to know God and take on the likeness of Christ must be present.



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An illustration would help us to understand this better. If you were to order an apple pie from the dessert menu, and the waiter brings you a plate of crust, your first reaction would be, “There seems to be something missing from this pie – where are the apples?”

You would not be able to taste the apples if the apples are missing. Apple pie is not the same without the apples. What if the waiter brought you a slice of apple pie that was burnt to a crisp? It’s burnt so bad that it’s charred. Would you eat it?

What if the pie looked beautiful, and after the first bite you wanted to wash your mouth out with water because it was prepared with something extra; a large amount of lemon mixed into

the pie filling made the pie very sour. Or maybe it was prepared with a cup of salt instead of a teaspoon. Would you eat it? Would you be pleased? Of course not!

Now let’s take that and apply it to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Imagine that God is sitting at a table in your restaurant, that He has ordered the pie from your menu, and that you had a hand in baking it. First you serve God the pie with no apples, and He does not want to eat it because the apples are missing. Then you serve Him the pie that is charred, and He does not want that either. Then you serve Him the pie that has been soured, and then the pie that is too salty. With each service He smiles, but refuses to eat.

In each instance there was something wrong with the pie, either because an ingredient was missing, or the ingredients were not measured properly, or something was added that should not be present in the pie, or the proper environment for the baking of the pie was not observed, and therefore, it charred.

The pie is Jesus, and the ingredients, measurement, and proper preparation of the pie is truth. Just as in the natural, it is true in the spiritual: all the ingredients necessary for you to know God, and for God to form the likeness of Christ in you, must be present in truth for it to be wholesome. Anything of man that is added to truth, or anything of Jesus that is missing, has a direct influence upon faith.

Many are baptized with the Holy Spirit and do speak in tongues, but there are many things of Christ that are missing from their faith and many things of man’s tradition that have been added to faith. As in the natural, so in the spiritual: the result is that your faith no longer reflects Jesus Christ, and God is not pleased.



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It is so important that you start your faith off right, with the right kind of doctrine, the right ingredients of truth. To begin studying the doctrine of Christ and learn more about how God wants you to serve Him, begin the first course Covenant Faith, which is free online on this site. Feel free to navigate through the many courses and lessons to enjoy the full table of knowledge God is offering to restore the church to the true faith of Jesus Christ—covenant faith.

## Free Online Courses offered by Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week Ministries

Course offering synopsis -- <http://www.s8wministries.org/courses.php>

Covenant Faith -- <http://www.s8wministries.org/course.php?id=1>

Tools of the Covenant -- <http://www.s8wministries.org/course.php?id=2>

Apostles Today Series 2 -- <http://www.s8wministries.org/course.php?id=3>

The Altar of Christ --- <http://www.s8wministries.org/course.php?id=7>

Priesthood and Prophecy -- <http://www.s8wministries.org/course.php?id=11>

The Elements of the Gospel -- <http://www.s8wministries.org/course.php?id=13>



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## About Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week Ministries

Now is the time of restoration spoken of in Hosea 6:1-3. Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week® Ministries is a global outreach ministry dedicated to fulfilling God's vision for the church and the world in this time of restoration by providing the true bridge of hope in the covenant of Jesus Christ.

### ***Vision for Revival***

God's vision for revival is the complete restoration of the true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and the return of the church to His covenant knowledge. There is no other truth than that which God provided through Jesus Christ. There is no other Saviour, but

Jesus. God is calling all Christians to embrace the original truth and covenant for which Jesus shed His blood.

Revival is a call to the church to come to order. Revival rarely follows man's agenda, as God moves in unexpected ways and goes to the very foundation to root out and to pull down those things of man that crept into the church. Revival always starts with a shaking. Lately, God has been revealing that He is shaking pulpits, shaking churches, and shaking those who sit in the pews. Shaking is good. It is the answer to many, many prayers to God to do a work in hearts.

Many Christian leaders recognize this shaking, and they are saying, "I find in myself this desperation, this sense that something is not right, but I don't know what it is...this dissatisfaction with my current spiritual status. There is this vague indefinable something that has lost the clarity, the crispness of oneness with Jesus." ~Barbara J. Yoder

Source: <http://www.charismamag.com/index.php/prophetic-insight/30434-what-is-this-revival-were-looking-for#ixzz1GmmAwyp9>

As we have just read, when God sends revival He first prepares hearts for repentance. It is clear, that as God reveals hearts, He is defining His perspective of revival. Revival is a call to change. Knowing they have compromised faith, many, as Ms. Yoder, are saying, "I am coming to the place where I sense some state of compromise, of coming into agreement with so much—not just in the church, but in me—that is not really born of



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God.” Does this describe your condition? Are you dissatisfied with your current spiritual state?

When God says that He is shaking pulpits, He is saying that He wants to unsettle the church, to shake the tight grip it has on the tradition of man and the wisdom of this world. As God begins to shake the pulpit, the confidence of the people begins to shake. Everywhere the shaking is taking place, believers are heard to say that they experience an inner sense that something is not right. God wants the church to understand that their focus is no longer on Jesus, but the things of this world.

God’s vision of revival is to bring the church back to the true fountain of living waters. God’s vision of revival means bringing the church back to our first love, the true covenant knowledge and priesthood of Jesus Christ, where faith pleases Him.

Just as God brings a repentant sinner to a point of admission by grace, concerning the state of his soul, so God also is bringing the church to a point of admission by grace, concerning the state of their souls.

Just as the state of the sinner is the result of years of embracing Satan’s promises, so it is with those God is shaking in the current Christian culture. The condition of vagueness of faith is the result of many years of following after Satan’s promises instead of God’s covenant promises in Christ.

This is what God is bringing to the attention of the church.

God’s vision for revival is the restoration of the full and uncompromised covenant knowledge of Jesus Christ, a restoration of His priesthood, a restoration of His government, and a restoration of His spiritual tools. This is the jubilee of the church. By God’s grace and the work of the Spirit we can minister this word to hungry hearts, providing ourselves as ready vessels of Christ to act as the bridge of hope to the world.

## Vision

by Peter Bolduc

Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week Ministries

While reflecting on the countless thousands of man-made doctrines, which infect modern Christendom, the Lord gave me a vision of an extremely high, thick stone wall that went on beyond the horizon in both directions.



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The wall was going across a field of rolling hills. My perspective was an aerial view, about 200 feet above the wall, looking out to the horizon. On the left side of the wall were endless roads and paths of various widths. Each dead-ended into the wall.

In what appeared to be at the middle of the wall was a very small, very narrow path that led up to the wall and passed through a narrow gate and continued on to the horizon on the other side of the wall.

**Reflection:** Being created by God, each Adamite has an internal desire to know and have a relationship with God. Man, left to his own understanding, attempts to fellowship with God in many different ways. But there is only one path that leads to God, and that path is the covenant, which Christ came to establish in Himself.

## ***What is the Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week?***



The Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week is man's appointment on God's calendar of events. Watch the 2-Part video:

<http://www.s8wministries.org>

The Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week is a revelation that God gave to Enoch about the end time revival and restoration of the church. God promises to visit His church to restore her to the purity of the true gospel of Jesus Christ. There are 5 things to watch for as the Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week unfolds:

1. Beginning of Sorrows
2. Jubilee of the Priesthood
3. Gathering of Israel
4. Separation of Wheat and tares
5. Restoration of the Church
6. Day of Visitation
7. Hour of Temptation



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- Learn why God gave this time line to the prophet Enoch.
- What does the Bible say about Enoch?
- What does the Bible say about the church of the 6<sup>th</sup> week?
- Why is the 8<sup>th</sup> Week split in half?

Because God appointed the Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week as a time of restoration, it is also a time of temptation for the church. God is testing hearts and challenging the current Christian culture to change. Whom will you serve? The Jesus of tradition? Or the Jesus of covenant? The Jesus of your imagination? Or the Jesus that died for your sins?

## The Founders of Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week Ministries

Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week Ministries was born in the heart of God. Before there were human vessels to carry out God's plan there was a desire in God's heart that the true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and Word of His grace be restored to His people; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house (Isaiah 42:7).

Just as a fire begins with an ember, God's work began with Eric vonAnderseck and his wife, Maria. God used these two embers to light the fire of His glory all over the world, in the hearts of those who love Him.



Apostle Eric (top left) and Teacher Maria (bottom left) and representatives of the growing, global network of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers of the Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week®.

[www.s8wministries.org](http://www.s8wministries.org)

Eric answered the apostolic call of God upon his life in 1977 and Maria was soon after confirmed into the government of God as a teacher. God raised up a leader in Apostle Eric to be an equipped of His government. Today, the 5 callings of God's spiritual government are restored and the true Body of Christ is emerging.



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There are many apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers God has called to join Apostle Eric and Teacher Maria to complete His work. Together, they are the Apostles Today Network of the Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week.

## ***Bridge of Hope***

Together, the Apostolic Stewardship of the Second 8<sup>th</sup> Week is God's bridge of hope. There is a lot of hurt in the world today because of those who said they are of God, but spoiled the faith of the people. God declares, "Many pastors have destroyed My vineyard, they have trodden My portion under foot, they have made My pleasant portion a wilderness" (Jeremiah 12:10).

A young man in his mid 20's recently asked, "Why is it that I feel dead? I feel dead in myself. I have no feelings of life in me." The problem is, false knowledge will not produce the substance of life in you. So, the knowledge of the world this young man was using was actually numbing his emotions. We can be sure that being of a young age he found a lot of things to pour his emotions into, but it left him feeling empty inside and dead towards God.

The knowledge of this world is like a corpse—it is dead. There is no substance in the knowledge of the world that we can use to reciprocate to God, whereas in the knowledge of God, the substance is there, and it reciprocates. The knowledge of God produces faith, and faith is a reciprocator—it responds. A corpse does not respond.

Satan promises that his knowledge will bring life and that you will feel full and complete and whole and abounding in hope, but it can only deliver temporal fulfillment. The soul knows its Maker and will never be satisfied with anything less than God Himself.

**Never forget:** The knowledge of this world cannot produce the substance of Christ—it cannot produce Christ. The knowledge of this world cannot leave any substance in the heart for faith. And this is why the heart feels empty and void of life. This is why many people ask, "Why is it that I feel dead in myself? I have no feelings of life within me."

On the other hand, the knowledge that God gives will produce substance because it was designed that way. By His divine power we reciprocate His likeness. This is what the soul craves. God raised up a team of men and women to bring healing and restoration. There is now a clear path to this knowledge. We see the excitement growing: As the knowledge of the mystery of Christ is restored to hearts and minds, each Christian becomes a source of life for others. We are witnessing the miracle of life taking place.



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“I experienced a spark of life, which I have not experienced in 17 years since confessing Jesus as my Savior.” ~Lynn (*Bible School graduate, BA*)

“When there are many voices. . .there’s not a settling, there’s not a foundation. . .you read a book from this one or that one about faith—there’s no true knowledge of the thing [faith].”  
~Francis (*Bible School graduate, BA, Masters*)

## **Free Online Courses**



It's true that nothing can satisfy your longing for God, but Jesus Christ; for God planned to engage with you in fellowship with the knowledge of Christ.

The courses, videos, audio files, charts, and illustrations, are all designed to help you learn how to know God in the fulness of Jesus Christ, to serve Him with perfect faith, and grow in the likeness of Christ.

*Emile Annandale and Apostle Paul Odendaal  
Apostles Today Apostolic Ministerial Team*

In times past, when the church filled herself at the table of the world, she thought she was full, but her belly was empty. Satan was offering the church substance (knowledge) that did not give life to the soul. Christians thought they knew God by what they saw—a miracle here, a healing there, outbursts of emotions, testimonies of God’s intervention—they did not know the dangerous place of compromise, which they were in, until God began giving them dreams and visions to prepare them to make their way back to covenant faith.

You will find God’s building blocks of faith easy to learn. From the 12 elements of the gospel to the 9 tools of Jesus’ covenant, to the altar of your priesthood, you will learn amazing things about covenant faith that will fill your heart.

Start our **free** online Bible Study Courses today: [www.s8wministries.org](http://www.s8wministries.org)