

Recently the war has been intense so I thought that it would be good to reflect on the basis of our confidence that our victory is certain. If you will take the time to read the following words prayerfully and expectantly I am sure that you will discover renewed hope and life.

This morning, almost before my peepers were open, I was impressed with the words, "*Abraham was called the friend of God.*"

Jas 2:22-23 You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "and Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness," and he was called the friend of God.

Of course we know that the word "*friend*" is a covenant word. Abraham was in covenant with God. That was a good thing in his day when everyone understood that covenant meant [simply stated] that everything one was and owned, belonged to the other. All the power, influence, ability, life, and resources found in one person was now available and committed to the other through their covenant relationship.

Obviously, to be in covenant with GOD, - to be "*the friend of God*", - was an awesome thing! And it was God's doing.....this covenant thing. God outlined the promises and agreements and then God told Abraham to prepare the covenant sacrifice. Abraham heard and obediently did that part and then he fought off the birds of prey.....BUT GOD WALKED THROUGH THE PIECES. GOD MADE COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM! [Read Gen.15]

What a fabulous and glorious moment for Abraham and His seed after him! That was the Old Covenant and in that Old Covenant is the promise of a New Covenant which was destined to be a "*better covenant with better promises*" [Heb.8:6] But in Jeremiah 31 verses 31-34 God said, "*Behold, days are coming,*" declares the LORD, "*when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,*" declares the LORD. "*But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,*" declares the LORD, "*I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,*" declares the

LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

But this is only a part of what God said; consider these words where God speaks of the coming Messiah and reveals a glimpse of what **HE** would do. [Isa 49:6](#) He says, *"It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant [JESUS] to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; **I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**"* And at HIS arrival on earth Simeon prophesied that He, Jesus, would be [\[Luke 2:32\]](#) **A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO AND FOR THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel.**

The Covenant of God with Abraham is expanded [to the glory of Israel] to include the whole world and that covenant was and is initiated by the same God Who spoke with Abraham hundreds of years before. Back then, Abraham's **faith** and obedience enabled him to step into the covenant which God was initiating. Today it is **faith** that enables us to enter that New Covenant relationship and *friendship* with God. But this is not a covenant where God walks between the parts of sacrificed animals as He did for Abraham. This is a covenant where God, Himself, **IS** the covenant sacrifice - **hung between heaven and earth for all earth and heaven and hell to see.**

In this New Covenant God says, *"I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."* When Jesus was introducing this New Covenant He showed us that the difference was so huge that one needed to be actually born into a whole new realm – a spiritual realm. Consider His words, [\[Joh 3:5-8\]](#) *"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

In this covenant the participants operate in the spirit realm – the Spirit of God is indwelling – co-mingling with – the spirit of the believer. **This union is real and it is a now-present-tense reality.** In this union there is a sin-less-ness and a spirit-revealed-truthness which is alive to the ongoing purposes of God which

are [as promised] written on the heart. This is the nature of the “new creature” in the New Covenant; this is the reality of any man who is in Christ Jesus.

It is this covenant reality which enables us to live above the world, the flesh, and the devil because we are living in HIM and He in us. This is the nature of the New Covenant for those who are seated with Him in heavenly places even while they live here on earth.

Nearly 25 years ago we existed as a church without a name for several months. We had difficulty understanding what God wanted us to call ourselves. After several months, we understood that we were to call ourselves “covenant life fellowship”. We were and are called to live the covenant life, for that is what every child of God is called to live.

Covenant Life [or *covenant living*] is the purpose of the New Covenant. That *covenant living* is not just for a select few; it is for the whole world, because, [1Jn 2:2] **“He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world.”** Covenant Living is relational with the Covenant One – God Himself. He is the One who initiated our covenant, first in Christ and then in us. Jesus Christ became our **Covenant Sacrifice** and our **Covenant Keeper**; God has drawn us into HIM. We did not come to Him because we are smart, for as Jesus said, **“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him”** [Joh 6:44] We have come to Christ because **God drew us to Him and imparted to us His heart, whereby we cry “Abba Father....Daddy, Papa.....”** This brings me back to that awesome reality that “We are children of God who are *friends* of God.” ^{1 John 3:1-2} **“See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are.** **[PONDER THAT!]** *For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.* (2) *Beloved, now [NOW] we are children of God, and [if that is not good enough...consider this...] it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. But even now, as covenant-kids we begin to manifest the DNA of our Father.*

We are children of God – friends of God – in covenant with a COVENANT – KEEPING GOD! This is not because we are good or deserving, but because HE IS GOOD and He, in His goodness, has drawn us into Himself. **He, Himself, is within us teaching us, loving us, empowering us, and keeping us....** and that is what the New Covenant is about.

Covenant Life Fellowship is about covenant living with the ultimate
COVENANT KEEPER.

HE- HIMSELF - is the good news of the New Covenant.

Below is a link to a song which says nothing about covenant, but it is all about the New
Covenant. if you have about five minutes to watch it –andCan you see yourself
seated with Him at the end of the clip....which is really the beginning..... of
everything.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=He40CaX4VyY>

Love and blessings,
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