

Covenant Theology Explained

Tracing the Bible's unified story of redemption from Eden to eternity.



A visual guide
to the biblical
framework.

Old Testament

- Animal sacrifices
- Dietary laws
- Focus on national Israel
- The Law of Moses

New Testament

- The global Church
- The indwelling Spirit
- Salvation by faith
- The grace of Jesus

**Two different stories...
or one magnificent, unified plot?**

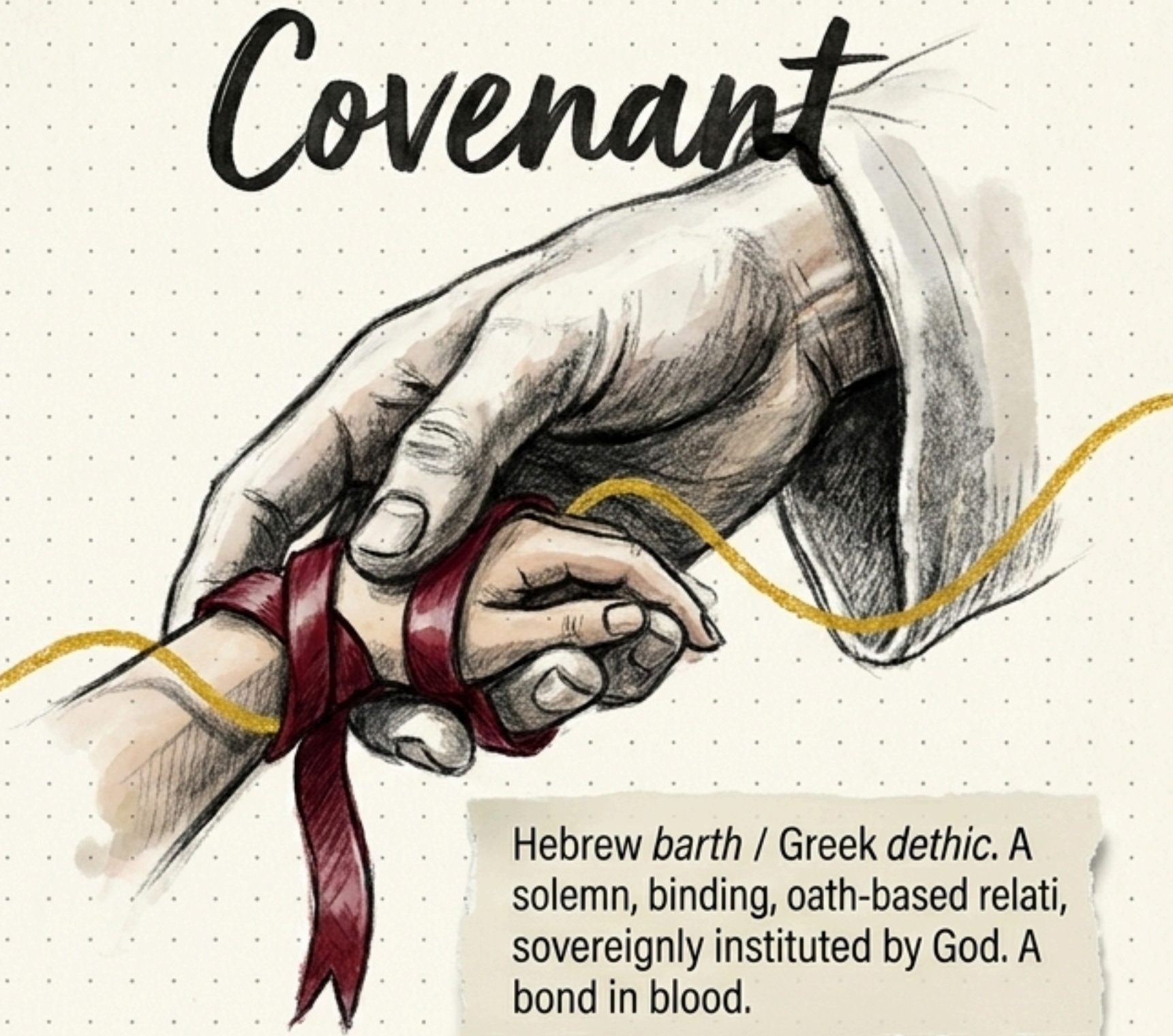
Ephesians 2:12
*...remember that you were
at that time separated from
Christ... strangers to the
covenants of promise...*

Contract



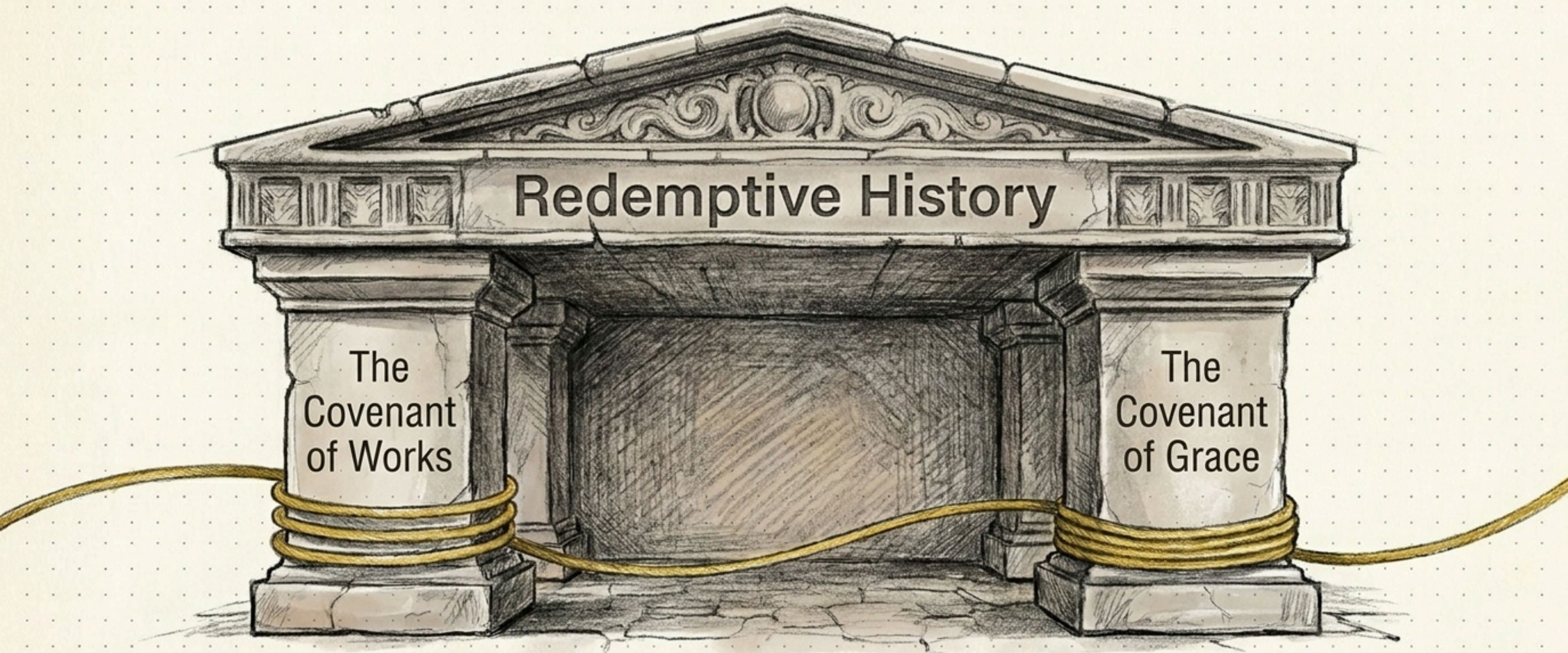
Transaction between equals.

Covenant

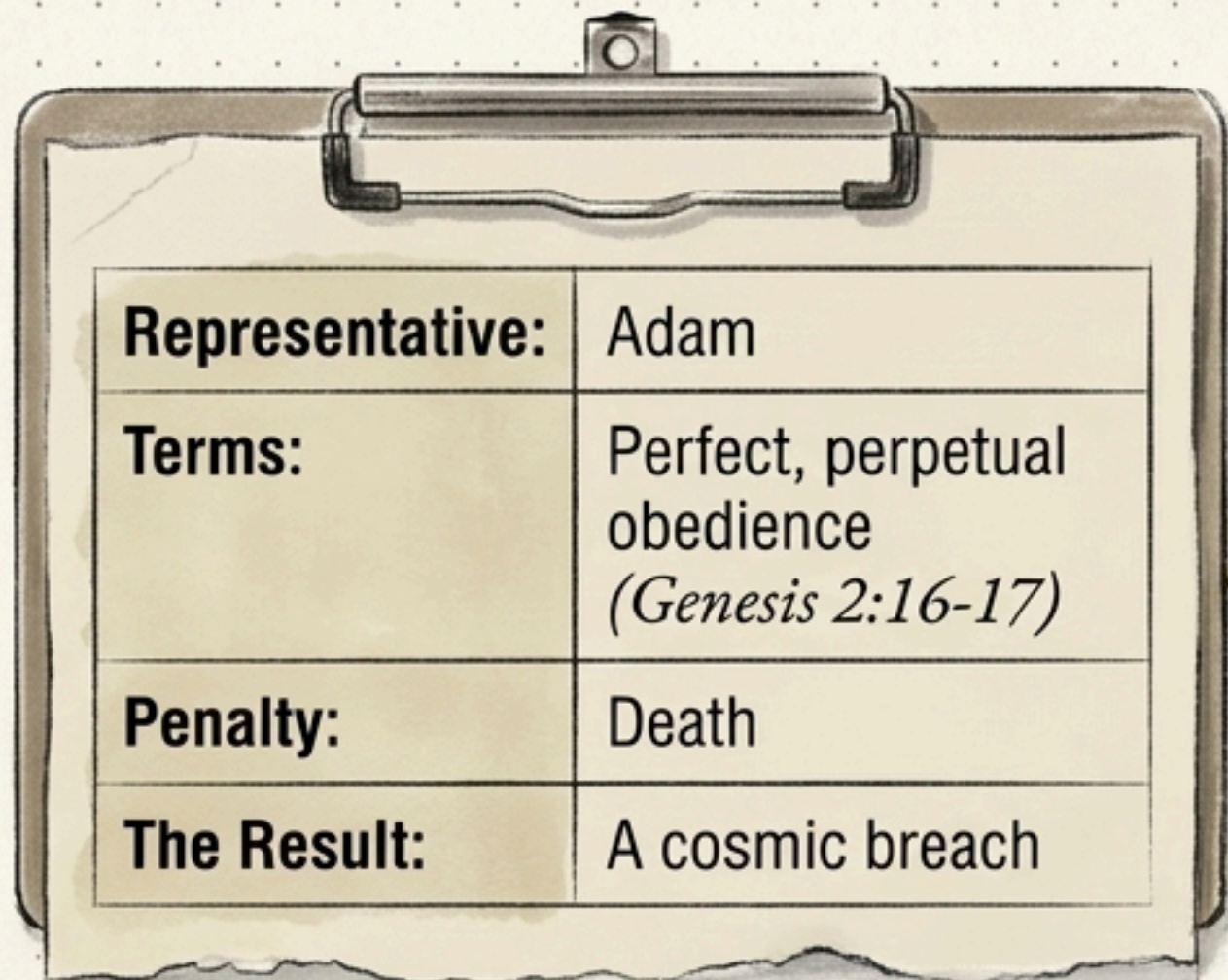


Hebrew *barth* / Greek *dethic*. A solemn, binding, oath-based relationship, sovereignly instituted by God. A bond in blood.

I will be your God and you will be my people.



Covenant theology organizes God's redemptive story around these two foundational arrangements. Every biblical event rests on this architecture.



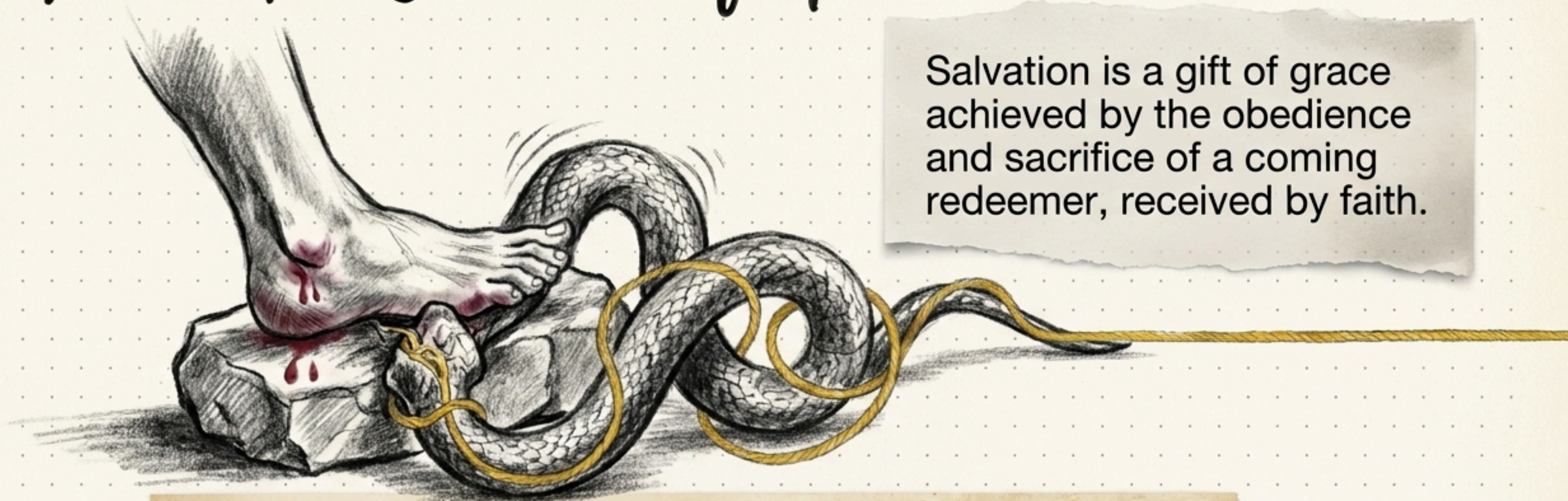
Representative:	Adam
Terms:	Perfect, perpetual obedience (<i>Genesis 2:16-17</i>)
Penalty:	Death
The Result:	A cosmic breach

Adam's breach introduced spiritual fracture, moral corruption, and death. This explains the universal human condition (*Psalms 51:5*). We inherit a nature bent away from God.

The **standard** is and always was **perfection**. Our own good works can never bridge the gap. We don't need improvement; we need **redemption**.



The Pivot: The Covenant of Grace



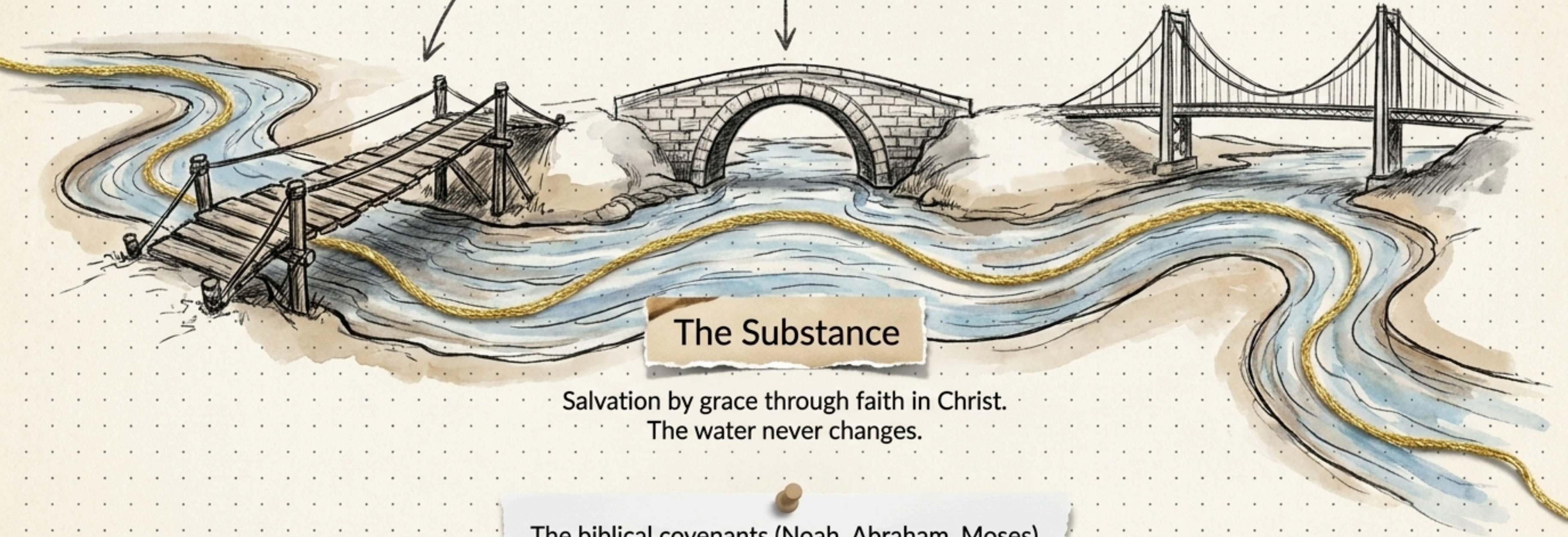
Salvation is a gift of grace achieved by the obedience and sacrifice of a coming redeemer, received by faith.

Genesis 3:15: I will put enmity between you and the woman... he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.

The first gospel. From this moment forward, the entire Bible is the unfolding revelation of one way of salvation.

The Administrations

Laws, ceremonies, and community shapes.
The structures change across history.



The Substance

Salvation by grace through faith in Christ.
The water never changes.

The biblical covenants (Noah, Abraham, Moses)
are different administrations of the exact
same substance of grace.
The vehicle changes; the water does not.



Noah: Preservation

Genesis 9. A covenant with all creation. It sustains the stage upon which redemption will play out.

Abraham: The Promise

Genesis 12-15. Unconditional promises of land, seed, and universal blessing.

Genesis 15:6 — And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

The Mosaic Administration: Tutors & Shadows

Exodus 19-24.

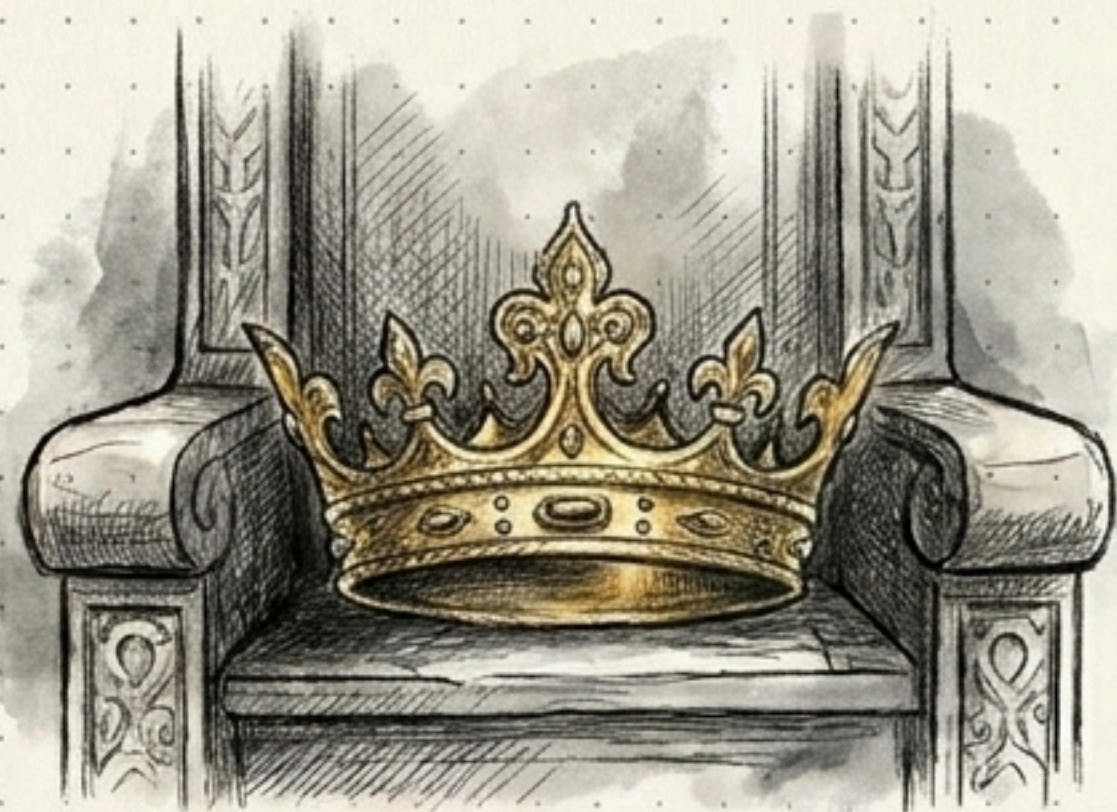
The Law did not cancel
the Abrahamic promise
(Galatians 3:17-19).



Function of the Law:

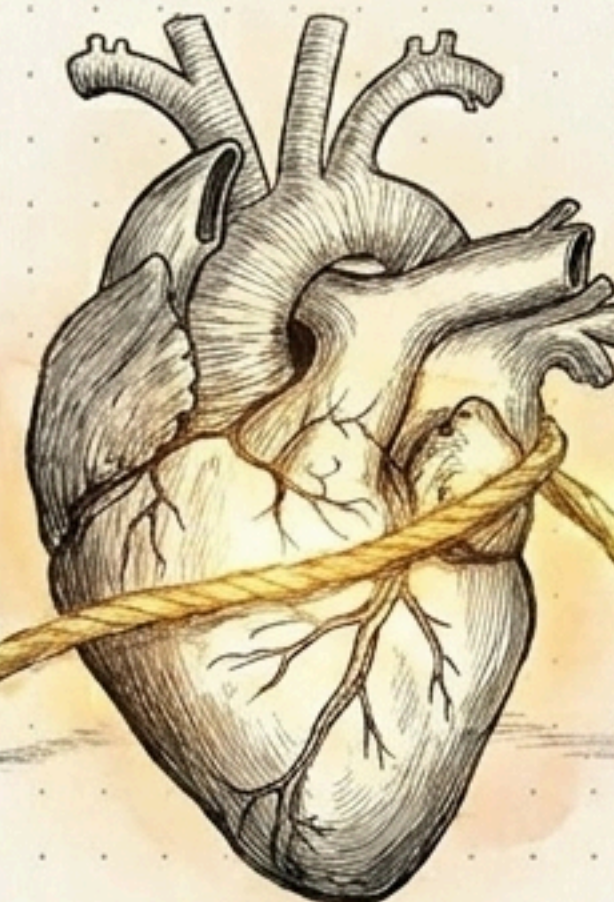
1. Acted as a tutor.
2. Revealed God's absolute holiness.
3. Defined sin precisely.
4. Vividly pointed forward to a perfect substitute via the sacrificial system.

Moses administered grace through types and shadows,
pointing to the coming solid reality.



David: The Royal Seed

2 Samuel 7. Narrows the promised seed of Abraham to an eternal kingdom and an everlasting throne.



The New Covenant: Full Administration

Jeremiah 31:31-34. The law written directly on hearts, complete forgiveness, and the indwelling Spirit. New in efficacy and immediacy, but fulfilling the exact same substance.

Adam → The Last Adam
(1 Cor 15:45)
who perfectly kept the
covenant of works we broke.

**Moses → The Greater
Prophet** (Deut 18 / Acts 3)
who fully reveals God.

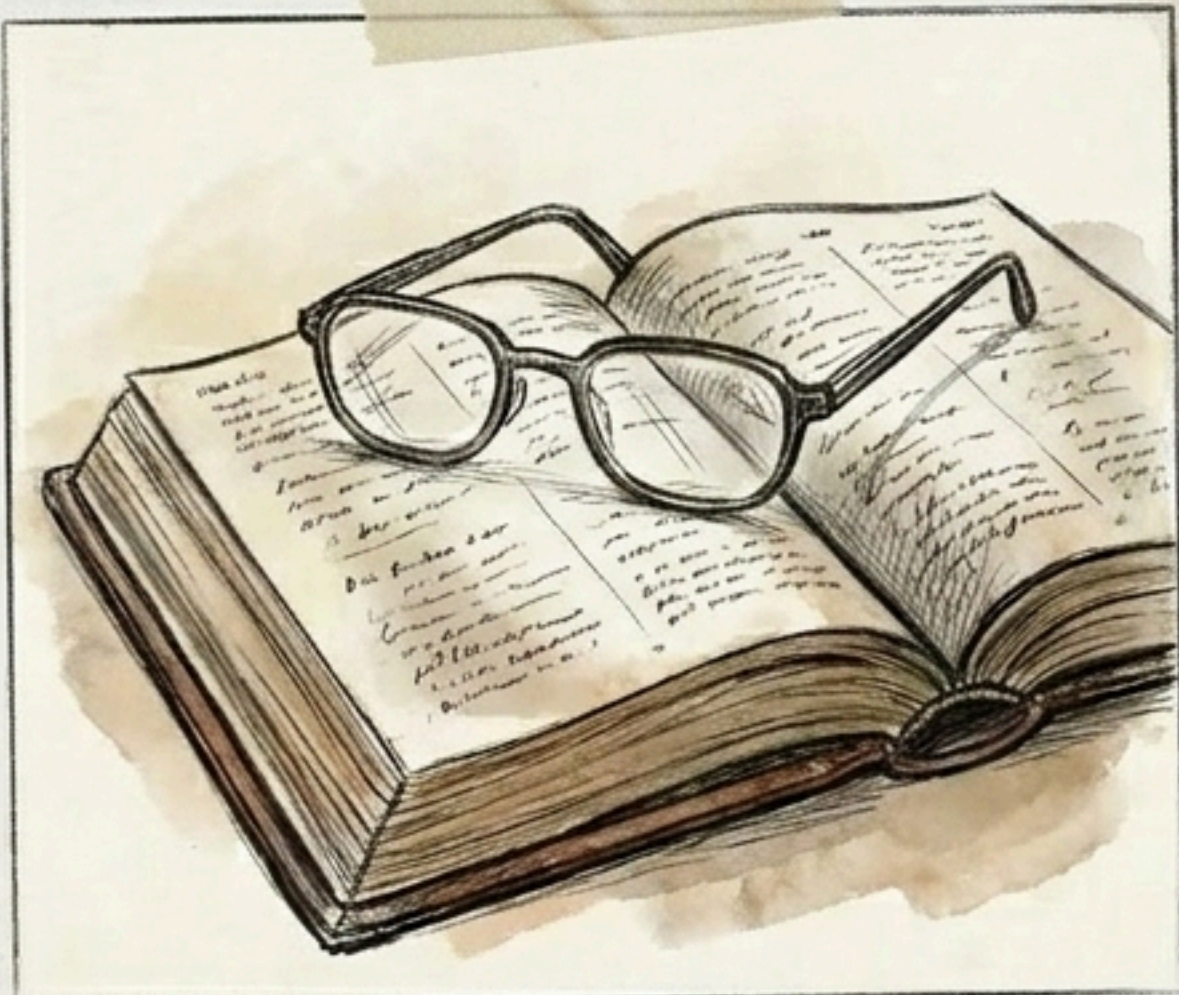


Abraham → The True Seed
(Gal 3:16) through whom
the whole world
world is blessed.

David → The Ultimate Son
(Matt 1:1) reigning on an
eternal throne.

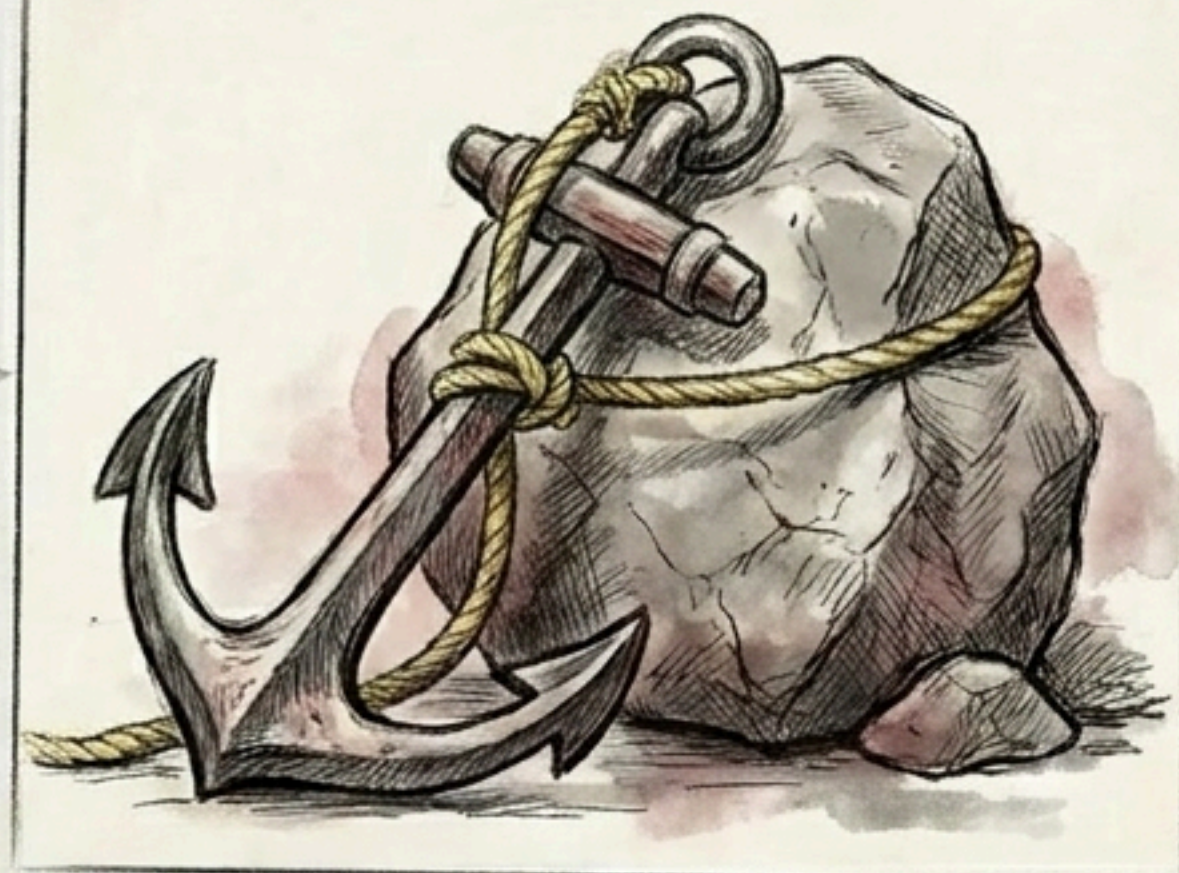
**Jesus is Lord is a covenant declaration.
He is the fulfiller of every promise.**

Jeremiah → The Mediator (Heb 9:15)
of the New Covenant in His blood (Luke 22:20).



Bible Reading

We don't read disjointed stories; we read a unified arc. When reading the Old Testament, ask: How does this point forward to, prepare for, or promise Christ?



Assurance

Your salvation does not rest on your shaky obedience. It rests on Christ's perfect obedience. You are secure because God is covenant-keeping (Hebrews 13:20).



The Church

The Church is not Plan B.
Believing Jews and Gentiles together
are the true heirs of the Abrahamic
promise (Galatians 3:29).
One people, one body in Christ.

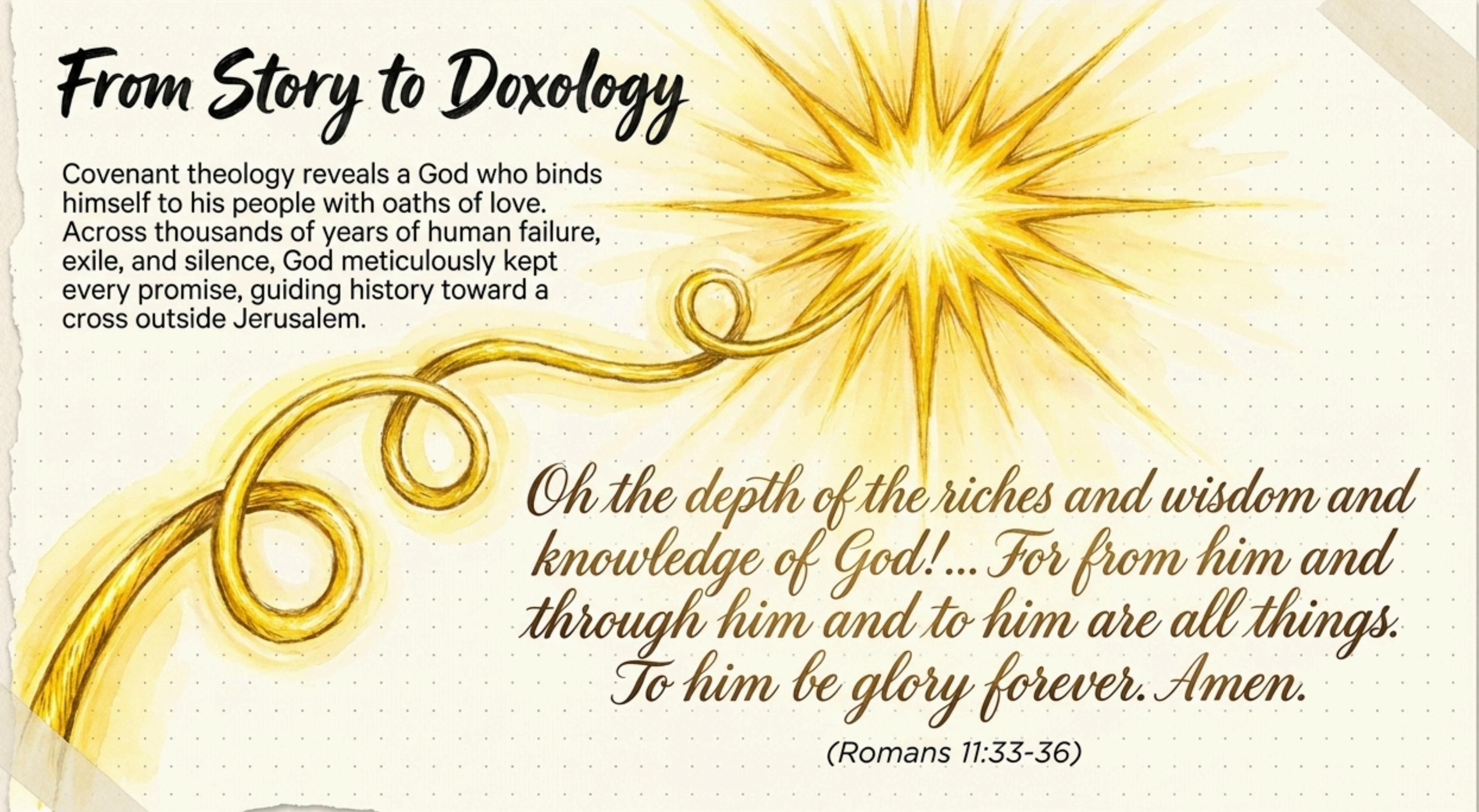


A Warning

Do not confuse the administrations. Taking
temporary, shadowy forms of Moses (civil penalties,
ceremonial purity laws) and applying them directly
to the New Covenant church misses what Christ
fulfilled. Live by the substance, not the shadow.

From Story to Doxology

Covenant theology reveals a God who binds himself to his people with oaths of love. Across thousands of years of human failure, exile, and silence, God meticulously kept every promise, guiding history toward a cross outside Jerusalem.



Oh the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!... For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

(Romans 11:33-36)