

THE CURSE OF THE LAW

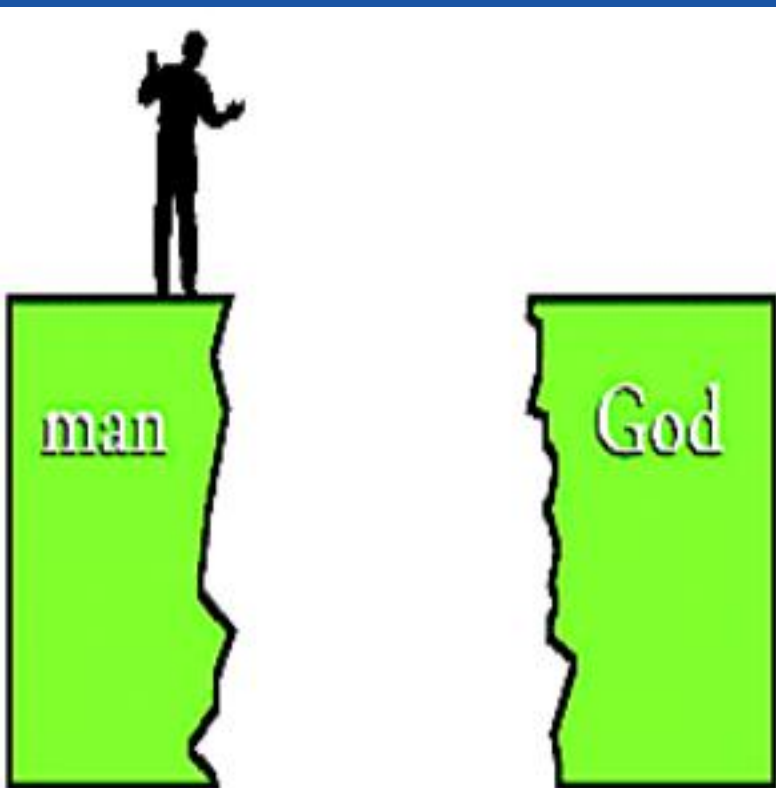
- God's threats to Israel are called "curses"
- Curses versus The Curse
- The Curse is the sum of the curses; equals destruction
- Can be individual or national
- Gal. 3:13 "*Christ redeemed us from The Curse of the Law.....*"
- Many denominations take this to mean that the Law itself is a curse! **WRONG!!**



THE LAW IN 3 PARTS



- 1) The list of Laws and commands
- 2) The list of curses
- 3) The list of blessings
- Curses are the penalties for violating the laws
- The Curse of the Law = condemnation, eternal separation from God
- The individual penalties (curses) that do NOT involve eternal separation **REMAIN** for the Believer



NO CONSEQUENCES FOR BELIEVERS?



- By either divine intervention or human government Believers will be disciplined for sins
- BUT.....NO eternal damnation for the Believer!
- 1) The Law is NOT a curse!
- 2) The curses for breaking the Law remain up to a point
- 3) The Believer is not subject to “The Curse” which is eternal death

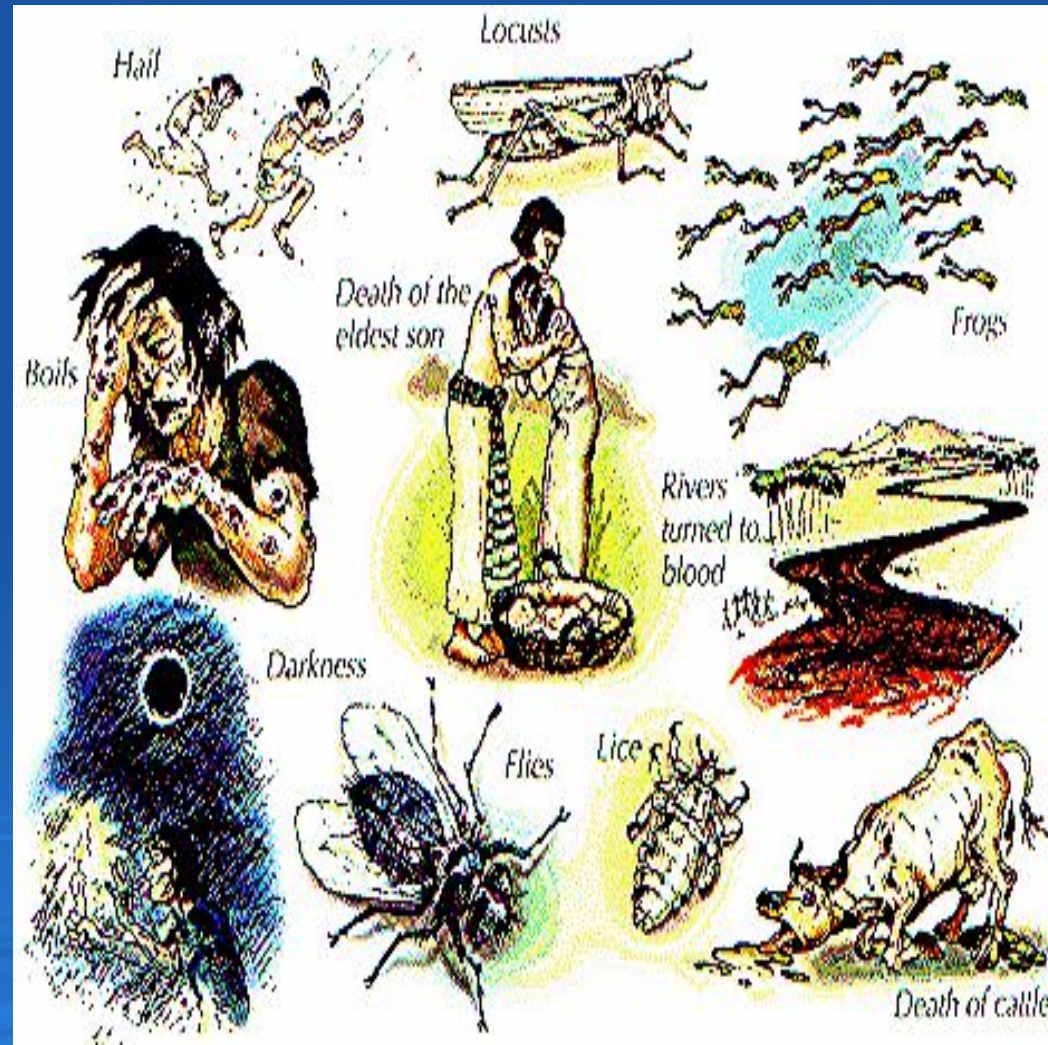
COVENANT RATIFICATION

- Israel currently in Moab
- 3 ratification ceremonies at 3 different places: Midian, Moab, and Canaan
- Each territory had its own “gods”
- YHWH wasn’t the “god” of any of these territories
- Hebrews subscribed to the belief of territorial gods
- *IL* = Canaanite for “highest god”
- *EL* = Hebrew for “highest god”



DEUTERONOMY 29: REDEMPTION HISTORY

- Many Israelites were eyewitnesses to the wonders in Egypt
- Oldest Hebrews now about 60 years old
- Age of accountability = age to serve in military (20)
- **GOD PATTERN:** Parent of a minor child could include them in the covenant
- However, once each child reached the age of accountability he/she had to declare for the covenant



YOU'VE SEEN BUT CANNOT SEE



- Vs. 3 says God has NOT given Israel a mind to understand
- Ears that don't **SHEMA**
- Is describing spiritual blindness
- Spiritual **AWARENESS** is a gift!!
- It takes divine intervention to give us the perception to understand the Word of God

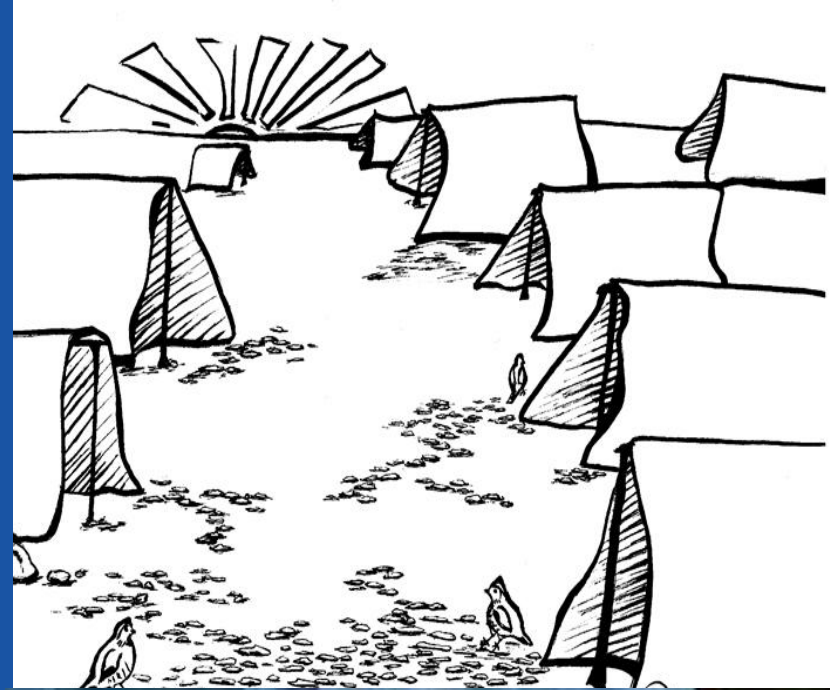
FAITH AND TRUST: THE UN-LOCK CODE

- Heart has the capacity for faith for those who seek it
- Man must desire to obey then God will help him to do it
- The Law was NOT given to Israel because they were faithful
- Gal. 3:2
- Receiving the Law a separate issue from comprehending the Law
- Holy Spirit is the church era unlock code



MANNA, QUAIL, AND WATER

- Vs. 5 NOT a diatribe against wine and *shekar*
- God provided ALL the staples of life
- Bread and wine were products of human endeavor
- Manna from Heaven (spiritual)
- Quail from sky (heavens)
- Water from earth (our realm)



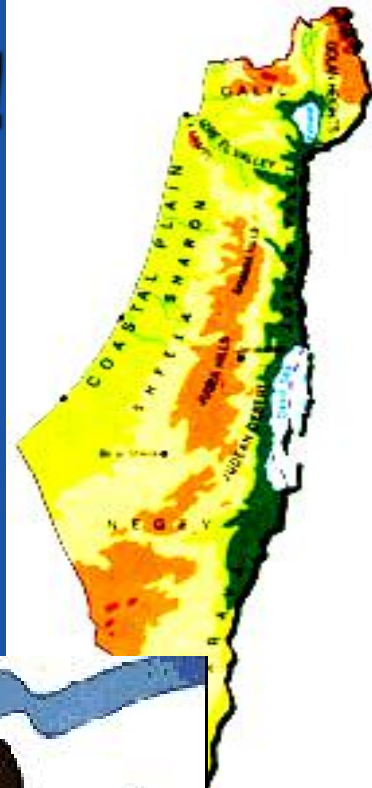
COVENANT RATIFICATION CEREMONY



- *Nitsav* = stand, present yourself
- Every and all segments of Israeli society were present
- *Berit ve-'alah* = a covenant guarded by curses
- Common terminology in that era
- Used by powerful kings in treaties with vassal states

ONLY ONE PROMISED LAND!

- Moses says Canaan is the land God gave to the Patriarchs
- Theodore Herzl, father of Zionism
- British offered Uganda as a Jewish homeland
- The Promised Land is a very specific place, Canaan, ordained by Yehoveh
- The covenant was offered to all future generations of Israelites
- New Covenant was offered to all future generations, not just Jesus' generation

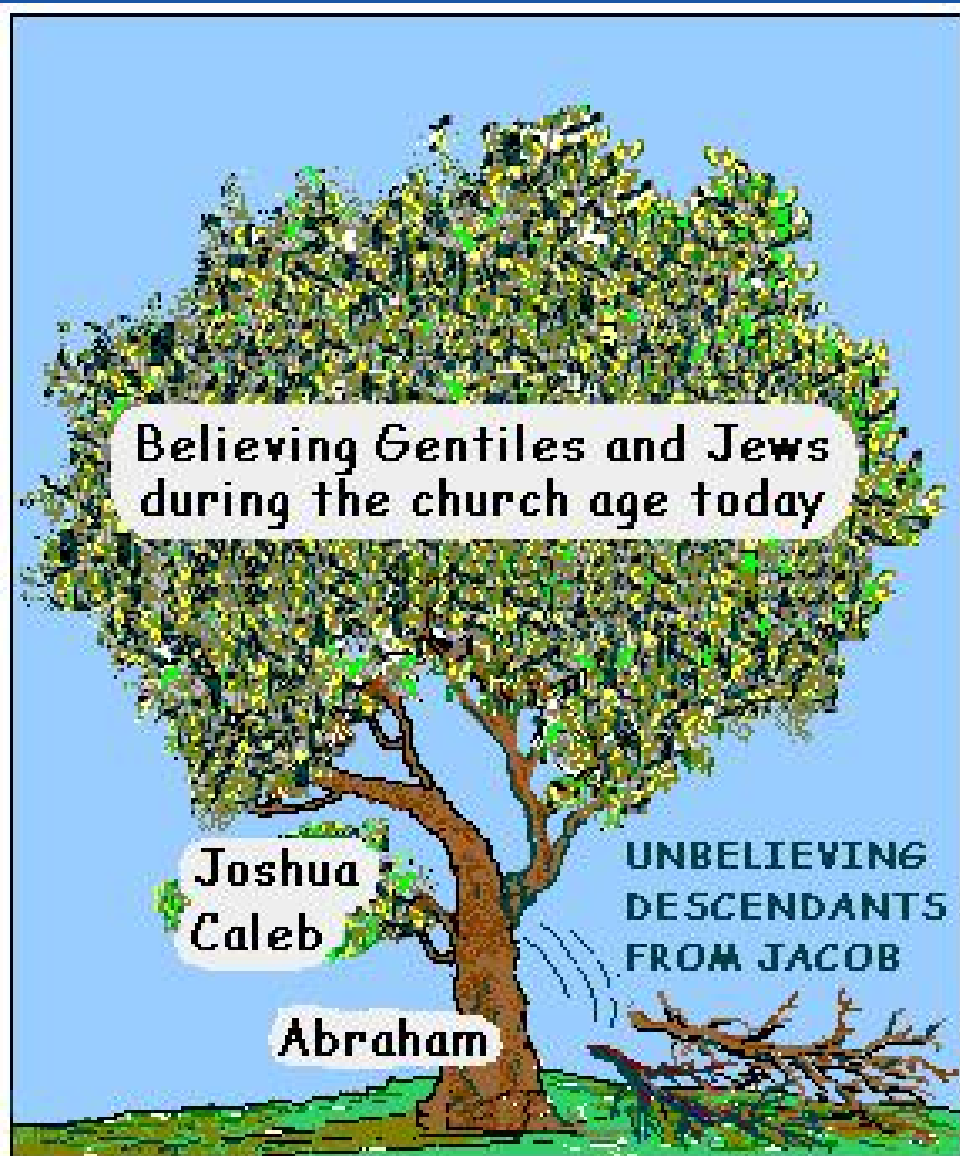


THOSE WHO FALL AWAY



- Vs. 15 Community must be on guard against those (of the community) who accept the oath and then go their own way
- Israel constantly suffered from idolatry
- But...rarely did anyone renounce Yehoveh, they just added some lesser gods
- Same pattern in the New Testament
- Matt. 7:22 ***“Lord, Lord didn’t we prophecy in your Name?.....I never knew you!”***

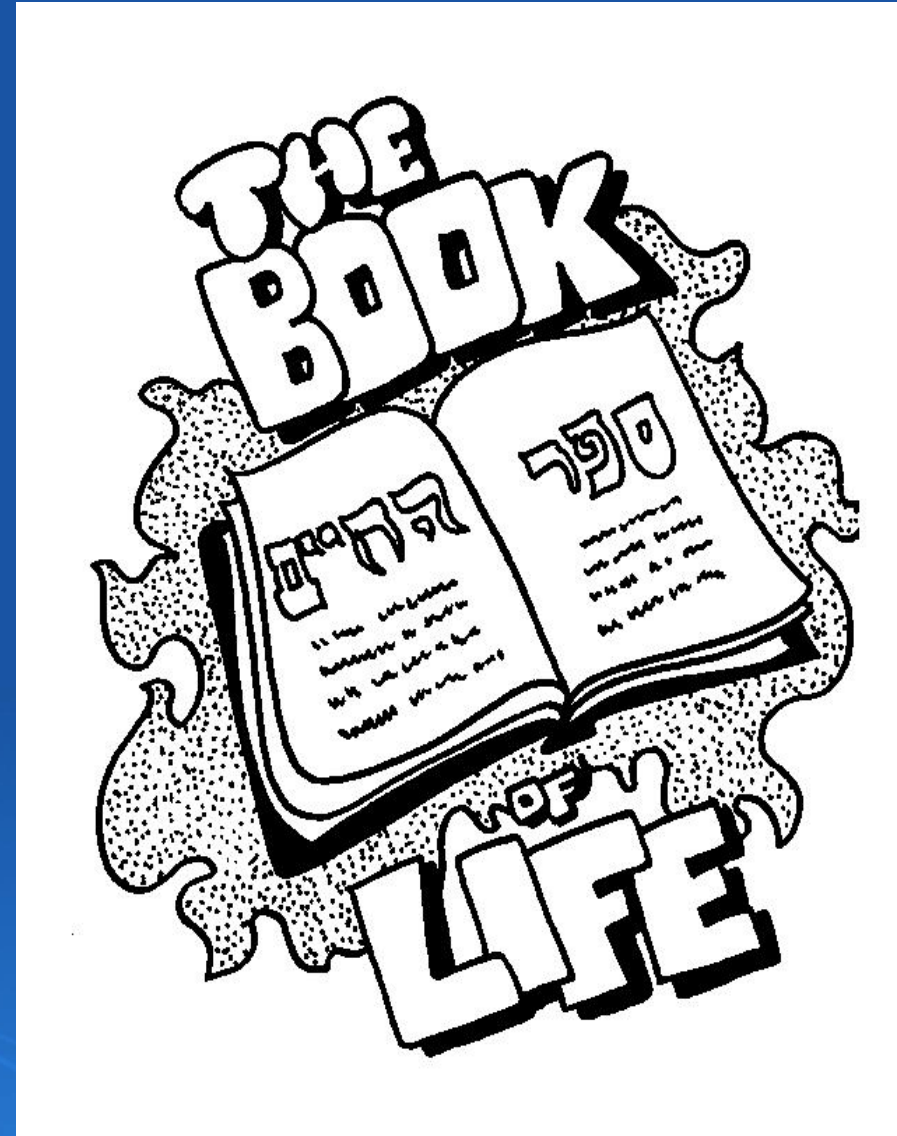
“...you too will be cut-off!....”



- Romans 11
- We cannot pray the sinners prayer and figure our obligations to God are fulfilled
- Following God's laws is NOT legalism
- Doing good deeds is NOT works justification
- UNLESS we do these things for self-justification

NAME BLOTTED OUT

- Name blotted out = eternal death
- One who joins the covenant and then falls away will suffer same fate as Golden Calf worshippers
- Lord will single people out for destruction
- God will deal with apostate people harshly as a sign and warning for others



PILLAR OF SALT

- Sodom and Gomorrah are illustrations of complete destruction that apostizers can expect
- While fleeing, Lot's wife looked back against God's instructions
- She became a pillar of salt
- Suffered the same fate as the cities of destruction
- Sulfur and salt used to make cities uninhabitable and fields unusable
- Better: A monument of salt

