**Lesson Four, Eternal Issues**

a mystery of God…

Heb 11:39-40 NASU

And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.

Covenants, birthrights, promises, oaths…

**Covenants**

[Adam] – promises, no spoken or said covenant

Noah – never destroy the earth & mankind again with a flood, rainbow is the sign

Gen 9:8-17 NASU

Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, “Now behold, I Myself do establish My covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you; of all that comes out of the ark, even every beast of the earth. I establish My covenant with you; and all flesh shall never again be cut off by the water of the flood, neither shall there again be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; I set My bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth. It shall come about, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow will 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 never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the cloud, then I will look upon it, to remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." And God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between Me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Abraham – LAND of Canaan

Gen 15:18-21 NASU

On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land,

From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates: the Kenite and the Kenizzite and the Kadmonite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Rephaim and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Girgashite and the Jebusite."

Promise: descendants as numerous as the stars

Gen 22:15-19 NASU

Then the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, " By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

Isaac

Gen 26:2-5 NASU

The Lord appeared to him [Isaac] and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; stay in the land of which I shall tell you. Sojourn in this land and I will be with you and bless you, for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath which I swore to your father Abraham. I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws."

Jacob

Gen 28:13-16 NASU

And behold, the Lord stood above it and said, "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants. Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed. Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Birthrights:

Isaac, Jacob, Joseph

Moses/Israelites at Horeb – Ten Commandments

Ex 19:3-6

Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: ' You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, **then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation**.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

Ex 34:10

Then God said, "**Behold, I am going to make a covenant**. Before all your people I will perform miracles which have not been produced in all the earth nor among any of the nations; and all the people among whom you live will see the working of the Lord, for it is a fearful thing that I am going to perform with you.

THE OLD COVENANT

Ex 34:27-28

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel." So he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.

Deut 4:25-40

When you become the father of children and children's children and have remained long in the land, and act corruptly, and make an idol in the form of anything, and do that which is evil in the sight of the Lord your God so as to provoke Him to anger, I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that you will surely perish quickly from the land where you are going over the Jordan to possess it. You shall not live long on it, but will be utterly destroyed. The Lord will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the Lord drives you. There you will serve gods, the work of man's hands, wood and stone, which neither see nor hear nor eat nor smell. But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you search for Him with all your heart and all your soul. When you are in distress and all these things have come upon you, **in the latter days you will return to the Lord your God and listen to His voice**. For the Lord your God is a compassionate God; He will not fail you nor destroy you nor forget the covenant with your fathers which He swore to them.

**Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and inquire from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything been done like this great thing, or has anything been heard like it? Has any people heard the voice of God speaking from the midst of the fire, as you have heard it, and survived? Or has a god tried to go to take for himself a nation from within another nation by trials, by signs and wonders and by war and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, as the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? To you it was shown that you might know that the Lord, He is God; there is no other besides Him. Out of the heavens He let you hear His voice to discipline you; and on earth He let you see His great fire, and you heard His words from the midst of the fire. Because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them. And He personally brought you from Egypt by His great power, driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in and to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is today. Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the Lord, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other. So you shall keep His statutes and His commandments which I am giving you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may live long on the land which the Lord your God is giving you for all time.**

Deut 29:1, 22-29 NASU

**These are the words of the covenant which the Lord commanded Moses to make with the sons of Israel in the land of Moab,** besides the covenant which He had made with them at Horeb.

…"Now the generation to come, your sons who rise up after you and the foreigner who comes from a distant land, when they see the plagues of the land and the diseases with which the Lord has afflicted it, will say, 'All its land is brimstone and salt, a burning waste, unsown and unproductive, and no grass grows in it, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which the Lord overthrew in His anger and in His wrath.' All the nations will say, ' Why has the Lord done thus to this land? Why this great outburst of anger?' Then men will say, 'Because they forsook the covenant of the Lord, the God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they have not known and whom He had not allotted to them. Therefore, the anger of the Lord burned against that land, to bring upon it every curse which is written in this book; and the Lord uprooted them from their land in anger and in fury and in great wrath, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.'

"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law.”

Josh 23:14-16 NASU

"Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the Lord your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, not one of them has failed. It shall come about that just as all the good words which the Lord your God spoke to you have come upon you, so the Lord will bring upon you all the threats, until He has destroyed you from off this good land which the Lord your God has given you. When you transgress the covenant of the Lord your God, which He commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, then the anger of the Lord will burn against you, and you will perish quickly from off the good land which He has given you."

THE DAVIDIC COVENANT

David – covenant to establish his throne forever

[2 Samuel 7:1-17 is the whole word]

2 Sam 7:16 NASU

Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.

THE DIVORCE: THE OLD COVENANT IS BROKEN

Broken Covenant:

God divorced Israel for breaking covenant:

Isa 50:1 NASU

Thus says the Lord,

"Where is the certificate of divorce

By which I have sent your mother away?

Or to whom of My creditors did I sell you?

Behold, you were sold for your iniquities,

And for your transgressions your mother was sent away.

Also in: Jeremiah 3:6-10 Jeremiah 11:1-17

THE PROPHECY OF A NEW COVENANT

God declares through Jeremiah of a new covenant coming:

Jer 31:31-37

**“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."**

**Thus says the Lord,**

**Who gives the sun for light by day**

**And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,**

**Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; the Lord of hosts is His name:**

**“If this fixed order departs from before Me," declares the Lord,**

**"Then the offspring of Israel also will cease from being a nation before Me forever."**

**Thus says the Lord,**

**"If the heavens above can be measured and the foundations of the earth searched out below,**

**Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel for all that they have done," declares the Lord.**

God explains the sin of the betrayal, and promises a new covenant in Ezekiel 16

In Hosea 6:4-10 and Hosea 8 God details the transgression of the covenant by Israel…

CONSEQUENCES OF A BROKEN COVENANT ON THE EARTH

Sobering consequences of a broken covenant:

Isa 24:4-6

The earth mourns and withers, the world fades and withers, the exalted of the people of the earth fade away. **The earth is also polluted by its inhabitants, for they transgressed laws, violated statutes, broke the everlasting covenant. Therefore, a curse devours the earth, and those who live in it are held guilty**. Therefore, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men are left.

Num 35:33-34 NASU

So you shall not pollute the land in which you are; for blood pollutes the land and no expiation can be made for the land for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it. 'You shall not defile the land in which you live, in the midst of which I dwell; for I the Lord am dwelling in the midst of the sons of Israel.'

**THE NEW COVENANT**

Matt 26:26-29

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for **this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins**. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

Mark 14:22-25

Luke 22:14-23

…And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is **the new covenant in My blood**.”

1 Cor 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in My blood**; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

2 Cor 3:4-6

Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2 Cor 3:13-16

But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

Gal 3:15-18

Brethren, I speak in terms of human relations: even though it is only a man's covenant, yet when it has been ratified, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it. Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as referring to many, but rather to one, "And to your seed," that is, Christ. What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, does not invalidate a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.

Heb 7:22

…so much the more also **Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant**.

Heb 8:1-9:22

**“…He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises**. **For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second…”**

…"BEHOLD, DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD, WHEN I WILL EFFECT A NEW COVENANTWITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH; NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERSON THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT; FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT, AND I DID NOT CARE FOR THEM, SAYS THE LORD. "FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: **I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS, AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS. AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. AND THEY SHALL NOT TEACH EVERYONE HIS FELLOW CITIZEN, AND EVERYONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, 'KNOW THE LORD,'FOR ALL WILL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST OF THEM. FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE**." …

**…When He said, " A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete**….

**…He is the mediator of a new covenant…**

…For a covenant is valid only when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives…

Heb 10:15-18

And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying,

**"THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD:**

**I WILL PUT MY LAWS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM,"**

**He then says,**

**"AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR LAWLESS DEEDS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE." Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin.**

Heb 12:18-24

**“…Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant…”**

Covenant with Noah and mankind:

Gen 6:17-19 Gen 9:8-17

Covenant with Abraham and his descendants:

Gen 15:12-21

Covenant of circumcision:

Gen 17:1-22

Birthright blessing under the covenant:

Gen 27:28-29 Gen 28:1-5

God reiterates the covenant to Jacob:

Gen 28:10-17

Jacob gives birthright to Joseph’s sons:

Gen 48:3-7 Gen 48:14-16 Gen 48:20 NASU

Jacob/Israel blesses his sons, the descendants of Israel:

Genesis 49

God remembers the covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob:

Ex 2:23-25 Ex 6:2-9

Covenant with Moses and the Israelites at Horeb:

Ex 19:3-6 Ex 24:3-8 Ex 34:10 Ex 34:27-28

The covenant of the Sabbath with the sons of Israel:

Ex 31:16-17

Consequences of people breaking the covenant:

Lev 26:14-46

Deut 4:9-14 Deut 4:23-40 Deut 5:1-5 Deut 7:7-16 Deut 8:18-20

[Covenant of peace with Phineas and his descendents:

Num 25:10-13

Covenant with sons of Israel in Moab:

Deut 29 Deut 31:16-22

Josh 23

Judg 2:1-5 Judg 2:20-23

God’s covenant with David:

2 Sam 7:1-17

God divorces Israel for breaking the covenant:

Isa 50:1-3

Jer 3:6-10

Violations to the Covenant:

Num 35:33-34

Isa 5:24-25 Isa 24:4-6

Jer 11:1-17 Jer 14:14-15:4 Jer 22:8-9

God declares through Jeremiah of a new covenant coming:

Jer 31:31-37 Jer 32:36-44

God declares David will have a man on the throne of Israel, Levi will have men stand before God:

Jer 33:14-26 Jer 50:4-7

God explains the sin of the betrayal, and promises a new covenant:

Ezek 16 Ezek 20:31-38

God declares He will join Israel and Judah again:

Ezek 37:11-28

Israel transgressed the covenant

Hos 6:4-10 Hos 8

Freedom to the prisoners by the blood of God’s covenant:

Zech 9:11-15

Jerusalem will be the flash point:

Zech 12

God’s covenant with Levi revisited:

Mal 2:1-9 Mal 3:1-7

**The NEW COVENANT: Jesus Christ:**

Matt 26:26-29

Mark 14:22-25

Luke 22:14-23

Acts 3:24-26 Acts 7:2-8

1 Cor 11:23-26

2 Cor 3:4-6, 13-16

Gal 3:15-18

Heb 7:22 Heb 8:1-9:22 Heb 10:15-18 Heb 12:18-24 Heb 13:20-21

Birthrights:

Isaac, Jacob, Joseph

Jacob’s birthright:

Gen 27:28-29 NASU

Now may God give you of the dew of heaven,

and of the fatness of the earth,

and an abundance of grain and new wine;

May peoples serve you,

And nations bow down to you;

Be master of your brothers,

And may your mother's sons bow down to you.

Cursed be those who curse you,

And blessed be those who bless you.

Jacob’s blessing:

Gen 28:1-5 NASU

So Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and charged him, and said to him, "… May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples. May He also give you the blessing of Abraham, to you and to your descendants with you, that you may possess the land of your sojournings, which God gave to Abraham."

Jacob gives birthright to Joseph’s sons:

Gen 48:3-7 NASU

Then Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, and He said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and numerous, and I will make you a company of peoples, and will give this land to your descendants after you for an everlasting possession.' **Now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are**. But your offspring that have been born after them shall be yours; they shall be called by the names of their brothers in their inheritance.”

Gen 48:14-16 NASU

But Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh's head, crossing his hands, although Manasseh was the firstborn. He blessed Joseph, and said,

"The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads;

And may my name live on in them,

And the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac;

And may they grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."

Gen 48:20 NASU

"By you Israel will pronounce blessing, saying,

'May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh!'"

Jacob/Israel blesses his sons, the descendants of Israel:

Genesis 49:1

King James

And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you **in the last days**.

New King James

And Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather together, that I may tell you what shall befall you **in the last days:**

Young’s Literal Translation

And Jacob calleth unto his sons and saith, 'Be gathered together, and I declare to you that which doth happen with you **in the latter end of the days**.

New American Standard

Then Jacob summoned his sons and said, "Assemble yourselves that I may tell you what will befall you **in the days to come.**

Complete Jewish Bible

Then Ya‘akov called for his sons and said, “Gather yourselves together, and I will tell you what will happen to you **in the acharit-hayamim**.

***acharit-hayamim***

acharit: Strong’s 319 achariyth “the last or end, hence, the future”

hayamim: Strongs 3117 yowm “a day”

***THE LAST DAYS***

Num 24:14

But now that I am going back to my own people, come, I will warn you what this people will do to your people in the acharit-hayamim.

Deut 4:30-31

In your distress, when all these things have come upon you, in the acharit-hayamim, you will return to Adonai your God and listen to what he says;

Deut 31:29

because I know that after my death you will become very corrupt and turn aside from the way that I have ordered you, and that disaster will come upon you in the acharit-hayamim, because you will do what Adonai sees as evil and provoke him by your deeds.”

Isa 2:2

In the acharit-hayamim the mountain of Adonai’s house will be established as the most important mountain. It will be regarded more highly than the other hills, and all the Goyim [nations] will stream there.

Jer 23:20

Adonai’s anger will not abate till he fully accomplishes the purpose in his heart. In the acharit-hayamim, you will understand everything.

Jer 30:24

Adonai’s fierce anger will not abate till he accomplishes the purpose in his heart. In the acharit-hayamim, you will understand.

Jer 48:47

Yet I will end Mo’av’s [Moab’s] exile in the acharit-hayamim,” says Adonai.

Jer 49:39

‘But in the acharit-hayamim, I will bring back the exiles of ‘Eilam,’ [Elam] says Adonai.”

Ezek 38:16

and you will invade my people Isra’el like a cloud covering the land. This will be in the acharit-hayamim; and I will bring you against my land, so that the Goyim [nations] will know me when, before their eyes, I am set apart as holy through you, Gog.’

Dan 2:28

But there is a God in heaven who unlocks mysteries, and he has revealed to King N’vukhadnetzar what will happen in the acharit-hayamim. Here are your dream and the visions you had in your head when you were in bed.

Dan 10:14

So I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the acharit-hayamim; for there is still another vision which will relate to those days.

Hos 3:5

Afterwards, the people of Isra’el will repent and seek Adonai their God and David their king; they will come trembling to Adonai and his goodness in the acharit-hayamim.

Mic 4:1

But in the acharit-hayamim it will come about that the mountain of Adonai’s house will be established as the most important mountain. It will be regarded more highly than the other hills, and peoples will stream there.

1 Cor 10:11

These things happened to them as prefigurative historical events, and they were written down as a warning to us who are living in the acharit-hayamim.

1 Tim 4:1

The Spirit expressly states that in the acharit-hayamim some people will apostatize from the faith by paying attention to deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.

2 Tim 3:1-2

Moreover, understand this: in the acharit-hayamim will come trying times.

Heb 1:2

But now, in the acharit-hayamim, he has spoken to us through his Son, to whom he has given ownership of everything and through whom he created the universe.

James 5:1-4

Next, a word for the rich: weep and wail over the hardships coming upon you! Your riches have rotted, and your clothes have become moth-eaten; your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat up your flesh like fire! This is the acharit-hayamim, and you have been storing up wealth!

1 Peter 1:18-21

You should be aware that the ransom paid to free you from the worthless way of life which your fathers passed on to you did not consist of anything perishable like silver or gold; on the contrary, it was the costly bloody sacrificial death of the Messiah, as of a lamb without defect or spot. God knew him before the founding of the universe, but revealed him in the acharit-hayamim for your sakes.

Jude 17-19

But you, dear friends, keep in mind the words spoken in advance by the emissaries of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah. They told you, “During the acharit-hayamim there will be scoffers following their own godless passions.” These are the people who cause divisions. They are controlled by their impulses, because they don’t have the Spirit.

Heb 11:39-40 NASU

And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.