

# Keeping Our Covenants

Rom. 1:31

## Introduction:

- A. Covenant: "A binding and solemn agreement made by two or more individuals, parties, etc."
- B. Christians should be careful with all promises and agreements – written, oral, implied.
- C. Three outstanding covenants of Christians that need constant attention.

## Discussion:

### I. Our Covenant With God. (Heb. 8:6)

- A. God has covenanted to provide spiritual blessings in Christ. (Eph. 1:3).
  - 1. To save us from sin and its eternal consequences. (Matt. 1:21; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38)
  - 2. To make us his own peculiar people. (Tit. 2:14; 1 Pet. 2:9).
  - 3. To providentially care for us.
    - a. Never leave or forsake us. (Heb. 13:5; Matt. 6:33)
    - b. No temptation beyond our ability to resist. (1 Cor. 10:13).
  - 4. To give us an entrance into heaven. (2 Pet. 1:11)
- B. We have covenanted to obey him in worship and service.
  - 1. Committed to obey all things commanded. (Matt. 28:18-20).
  - 2. Committed to serving righteousness. (Rom. 6:17-21).
  - 3. Committed to discipleship - student and follower.

### II. Our Covenant With Spouse. (Mal. 2:14)

- A. Marriage is three-party covenant: Husband, wife and God. (cf. Matt. 19:6).
  - 1. Man and wife may try to release each other, but God is still in picture.
  - 2. Life-time contract.
- B. Each Spouse covenants to provide privileges and to fulfil responsibilities
  - 1. Need to remember promises made in wedding ceremony.
  - 2. Mutual love and respect. (Eph. 5:25; Tit. 2:4).
  - 3. Mutual companionship and help for life.
  - 4. Mutual acceptance and respect for respective positions.
    - a. Husband accepts and wife honors his headship. (Eph. 5:22,23).
    - b. Wife accepts and husband honors her subservency. (1 Pet. 3:5-7).
  - 5. Mutual physical gratification. (1 Cor. 7:3-5).

### III. Our Covenant With The Local Church.

- A. Responsibility to join ourselves to local church (Acts 9:26) - a covenant.
- B. Benefits each receives from local church in this arrangement.
  - 1. Edification. (Eph. 4:11-16).
    - a. From worshipping together.
    - b. From working together.
    - c. From teaching done.
  - 2. Financial help if become destitute. (cf. 1 Tim. 5:16).
- C. Responsibilities each has to local church in this arrangement.
  - 1. To attend assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
  - 2. To supply talent according to ability. (Eph. 4:16).
  - 3. To support the work financially according to ability. (1 Cor. 16:1,2; 2 Cor. 8,9).
  - 4. To be dependable in all these responsibilities.
    - a. Irregular attendance hinders edification.
      - (1) Because of neglect.
      - (2) Because of constant visiting away.
    - b. Irregular giving hinders planning the work.

## Conclusion:

- A. Let us be more diligent in holding up our end of covenants or bargains.
- B. Let us not give our word lightly nor break it lightly.

