

What Is New Covenant Theology? – main notes

1. PAUSE! Reflect on speaking about these issues – God’s condescension!
 - a) Theology proper comes first and is primary over all, not covenants
 - b) 2 Pet. 3:16
2. What is NCT?
 - a) Barcellos: “a [non-monolithic] movement within conservative, Evangelical, and Calvinistic Baptist circles, which seeks to steer a middle road between traditional CT [over continuity] and Dispensationalist Theology [over discontinuity].”
 - b) What is a covenant?
 - c) Allure: Heavy emphasis on biblicism
 - i. NCT charges CT and DT of reading theology into the text
 - d) Two main areas of concern: ecclesiology (Israel/Church) and ethics (law/grace)
3. What are their main tenets?
 - a) Blake White
 - i. One plan of God centered in Jesus Christ
 - ii. The OT should be interpreted in light of the NT
 1. Allure: “Christotelic hermeneutic”
 - iii. The OC was temporary by divine design
 - iv. No tripartite division of the law
 - v. Allure: We are not under the law of Moses but under the law of Christ
 - vi. All in the NC have the Holy Spirit
4. What are their main scriptural references?
 - a) Jer. 31:31-34 – note: “I will put MY law and write IT” – NCT: not that of Moses
 - b) 1 Cor. 9:21 “in-lawed to Christ”
 - c) Gal. 6:2
 - d) Matt. 5:17-20
 - i. 5:21-48
 - e) Deut. 18:15-19
 - f) Gal. 3:7,9,26-29
 - g) Eph. 2:14-15
5. Response
 - a) Law and gospel for both Jew and Gentile
 - b) Is God in the OT at odds with Christ in the NT? Is Paul contradicting himself (Rom. 3:31 vs. 6:14)? Is David loving “the ministry of death” when he says he loves the law of the Lord (Ps. 119:97)? By no means!
 - c) Threefold use of the Law
 - d) Paul’s view of law of faith in Rom. 10: Jer. 31:31-33; Ezek. 36:22-32 (heart of flesh for stone); Daniel 9:9-16
6. Why does it matter?
 - a) History: new kid on the block, “sola scriptura” objection
 - i. What does this say of the character and power of God?
 - b) Ecclesiological identity
 - c) Hermeneutics
 - d) How shall we then live?
7. Recommended resources