

"And this will be my covenant with them when I take away their sins."
Romans 11:27 (English Standard Version)

Thought for today...

In today's society, we are familiar with the need to draw up a contract prior to embarking on certain ventures. A common example is a contract of employment, outlining a formal agreement between two or more parties to perform or not perform some action.

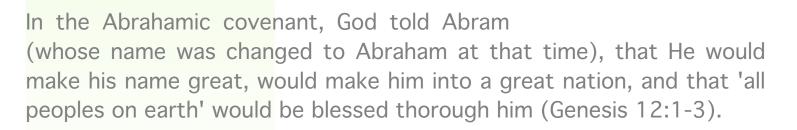
Those who have entered into any formal agreement by way of a

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contract will know that contracts may be broken if one party breaches its terms.

The Bible outlines a number of agreements (covenants), between God and His people.

In the Noahic covenant, God made a covenant with Noah, promising never again to destroy the earth or life on it with a flood, and gave the rainbow as the sign of the covenant (Genesis 9:8-13).



In the Mosaic covenant, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments and promised to make the Israelites a 'special treasure' to Him above all people if they kept His commandments (Exodus 19:5). Unfortunately, God's people failed to read the fine print, and repeatedly breached the terms of the covenant! (Jeremiah 31:32).

In the Davidic covenant, God promised David that through his lineage would come a son (Jesus) who will establish a kingdom that will last forever (Luke 1:31-33).

When Jesus shed His blood on the cross for the forgiveness of sins, a New Covenant was established, benefiting those who accept Christ's



gift of salvation as they put their faith and trust in Him. Instead of laws written on tablets of stone, the LORD says "... I will put my instructions deep within them, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." Jeremiah 31:33 (New Living Translation).

Consider for a moment the terms, conditions, stipulations and restrictions that form part of any contract that you may have in place right now. Our part in the New Covenant is not onerous; the requirement is that we believe! 'Through Him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.' Acts 13:39 (New International Version).

Despite our failures, God is a promise-keeper. 'He always stands by His covenant - the commitment He made to a thousand generations.' Psalm 105:8 (New Living Translation).

Perhaps you have been on the receiving end of a broken promise? Today, someone that you know is waiting for you to tell them about the promise-keeper.