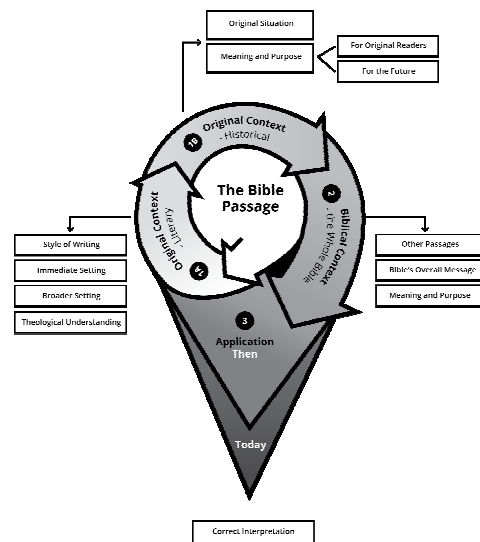


Promise to Fulfillment: Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

Introduction

The purpose of this unit is to:

- Consider further the significance of the covenants in God's salvation plan.
- We'll specifically look at Jeremiah 31:31-36. This passage is core to the *New Covenant*.



Covenants

- What we have looked at in each of the core passages of this course are the significant covenantal passages in God's salvation plan.
- In Genesis 15 we looked at a core passage (alongside Genesis 12 and 17) concerning the *Abrahamic Covenant*.
- In Exodus 6 and 19 we looked at two core passages concerning the *Mosaic* (sometimes called the 'Sinai') *Covenant*.
- In 2 Samuel 7 we looked at a core passage concerning the *Davidic Covenant*.
- And today we look at Jeremiah 31:31-36, a core passage concerning the *New Covenant*.
- Covenants are promises, agreements made between two or more parties and they help govern the way each respond to the other as they live together. Covenants are built more of trust than they are on law (although often they will also be bound by law). And so today we have marriage covenants where promises are made between a man and woman, before many, and under God.
- Covenants can be made between equals, such as the covenant that you see between Jacob and Laban in Genesis 31. Covenants can also be made between unequal's – and the covenants we see in the Bible between God and his people are shining examples. As we have seen, often the covenants in the Bible hold God himself accountable in what he promises for his people.

The Bible Interpretation Model Task

Your Task: To work through the Bible Interpretation model and present back to the class your findings and conclusions

Promise to Fulfillment:
Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

The Bible Passage

Read Jeremiah 31:31-36.

- What do you initially see in the passage?

Original Context**Literary Context**

- Our questions:
 1. What is the Style of Writing of Jeremiah 31:31-36?

2a. What is the immediate setting? (what we find right before us in the passage)

2b. What is the broader setting?

Make sure you look at Jeremiah 5:20-6:30.

3. Are there words that require a theological understanding?

Promise to Fulfillment: Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

Historical Context

- Our questions:
 1. In what situation, or for what situation, was the passage originally written?

2. What was the meaning and purpose (of the passage) in the original setting?

- Next step is to look at the *Biblical Context* and then *Application*.

Biblical Context

<i>Historical Beginnings</i>	<i>The Prophets looking forward</i>	<i>The Promises being fulfilled</i>	<i>The New Creation</i>
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Beginning → **Expectation** → **Fulfillment** → **Consummation**

Promise to Fulfillment:
Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

1. Any other passages in scripture that will help us understand our passage (Jeremiah 31:31-36)

Historical Beginnings

Remember your cross references and remember the previous covenants.

The Prophets looking forward (Expectation)

You might want to consider the following passages:

Psalms 89:3-4, 19-37

Isaiah 42:1-7

Isaiah 49:5-13

Zechariah 8

Promise to Fulfillment:
Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

The Promises being fulfilled (Fulfillment)

You might want to consider the following passages:

Luke 1:67-79

Luke 22:14-23

Philippians 3:12-4:1

Hebrews 8:8-12

Hebrews 9

Promise to Fulfillment:
Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

The New Creation (Consummation)

You might want to consider the following passages:

Hebrews 12:18-24

Revelation 21, 22

2. What is the Meaning and Purpose of our Passage (Jeremiah 31:31-36)?

- What is the *Meaning* and *Purpose* of our passage for every age?

Promise to Fulfillment:
Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

Application

- So then, how should we apply Jeremiah 31:31-36?

1. The Application Then – what was asked of this original hearer.

2. The Application Today – what is asked of us as the reader.

➤ *QUESTIONS/COMMENTS??*

➤ *Close in Prayer*

For next Week: Read PTC Unit 9.

Promise to Fulfillment:
Unit 8 – The Covenant of Grace

Appendix 1 – Jeremiah 31:31-36 (NIV 2011)

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah.
³² It will not be like the covenant
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,”
declares the LORD.
³³ “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel
after that time,” declares the LORD.
“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.
³⁴ No longer will they teach their neighbour,
or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest,”
declares the LORD.
“For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more.”

³⁵ This is what the LORD says,

he who appoints the sun
to shine by day,
who decrees the moon and stars
to shine by night,
who stirs up the sea
so that its waves roar—
the LORD Almighty is his name:
³⁶ “Only if these decrees vanish from my sight,”
declares the LORD,
“will Israel ever cease
being a nation before me.”