

Exchange Coats

Intro

- Previous session: covenant scope & terms
 - define the covenant's purpose
 - identify what's included in covenant
 - identify each party's role & responsibilities

General

- Exchanging coats represents giving of oneself, a shared identity — behavior, nature
 - coat, robe, outer garment represented person, the essence of who they were
 - Example: Joseph's coat
 - Gen 37:3-4, "Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made a richly ornamented robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him."
 - "richly ornamented" (Heb, *pas*): especially rich design, weave, ornamentation or color
 - Why did Joseph's brothers hate him?
 - Example: Jesus' parable of prodigal son
 - Lk 15:20, "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him."
 - How could his father recognize him from a great distance?

God's Covenant with Adam & Eve

- Gen 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him."
 - What is God's natural appearance?
- Ps 8:5-6 "You made him a little lower than the [*elohim*] and crowned him with glory and honor. You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet."
 - Heb, *elohim*: plural form of "God"; used for Almighty God and false gods
 - "crowned him with glory and honor"
 - When the angels appeared to the shepherds to announce Jesus' birth, whose glory was shining around the shepherds?

God's Covenant with Noah

(no scriptural reference to this aspect of covenant?)

God's Covenant with Abraham

- Gen 17:7, "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you."

God's First Covenant with Israel

- Ex 28:4 "These are the garments they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash. They are to make these sacred garments for your brother Aaron and his sons, so they may serve me as priests."
 - When were the priests to wear these garments?

God's Second Covenant with Israel

(no scriptural reference to this aspect of covenant?)

David and Jonathan's Covenant

- 1 Sam 18:3-4, "And Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as himself. Jonathan took off the robe he was wearing and gave it to David, along with his tunic, and even his sword, his bow and his belt."
 - What status did Jonathan have?
 - What kind of robe would he have worn?

God's Covenant with David

(no scriptural reference to this aspect of covenant?)

God's New Covenant with Christians

- In what way did God take on our identity?
 - John 1:1, 14 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. . . . The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us."
 - Who was the Word referred to in this passage?
 - Php 2:7 (speaking of Jesus), ". . . but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."
 - "made [himself] nothing" (Gk, *kenoo*): (1) to make empty, to deprive of content or possession; (2) to cause to lose power, be emptied, come to nothing; (3) to empty oneself, divest oneself of position

- What was Jesus' original nature?
- According to this verse, what did Jesus do with that nature?
- "nature" [of a servant] (Gk, *morphe*): (1) nature, character; (2) shape, visual form, external appearance
- What change does this describe?
- "likeness" (Gk, *homoioima*): similarity, likeness of form or appearance
- 2 Cor 5:21 "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."
 - What exchange of identity or nature does this describe?
- Why was it necessary for Jesus to become human?
 - Heb 2:14 "Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil."
- How do we take on God's identity?
 - Rom 8:29 "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."
 - "likeness" (Gk, *eikon*): (1) image, portrait; (2) likeness, having the same form; (3) representation, pattern
 - this doesn't use *homoioima* (Php 2:7, Jesus took our form/likeness)
 - Jesus changed from divine to human, so do we change from human to divine?
 - "that he [Jesus] might be the firstborn among many brothers"
 - "firstborn" (Gk, *prototokos*): (1) first one born, existing before others; (2) priority, preeminence or superiority over all others
 - If Jesus is the prototype, what does that mean for us?
 - Rom 13:14 "Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ"
 - "clothe yourselves" (Gk, *enduo*): (1) enter into or get into; (2) clothe or dress oneself (in the sense of getting into a garment); (3) endue with something
 - What is it we're expected to do?

- 2 Cor 3:18 “And we . . . are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”
 - “transformed” (Gk, *metamorphoo*): change essential nature of something; transfigure, change appearance (English, “metamorphosis”)
 - “likeness” (Gk, *eikon*): (1) image, portrait; (2) likeness, having the same form; (3) representation, pattern
 - What does it mean to be transformed into the Lord’s likeness?
 - “ever-increasing glory” (Gk, *doxa*, twice): literally “from glory to glory”
 - What does this mean to you?
- What does all this say about importance of becoming like Jesus?

God’s New Covenant with Israel

(no scriptural reference to this aspect of covenant?)

Marriage

(no scriptural reference to this aspect of covenant?)