

10/04/2026

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL Section Review**

## **Generations: From Canaan to Jerusalem**

### **September: From Nomadic Tribes to Settled People**

The conquest of the land was decisive and final with the help of Rahab who hid the spies surveying the land. God told Joshua to be courageous in both his personal conduct and his administration.

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By Paul T. Bennett Church School Superintendent

# Generations: From Canaan to Jerusalem From Settled People to Judges

## A Covenant Renewed

# Joshua 24:18 – 27

# Covenant vs Contract

## Covenant

- A RELATIONAL promise made by people or parties to another person or party
- Defines how a relationship **BEGINS** and how it will function

## Contract

- A LEGAL, MUTUAL agreement between people or parties
- Defines how a relationship **ENDS...** and whether contract terms have been met

# Covenant vs Contract

## Covenant

- **Permanent, Unconditional** – Does not have a defined end date but could have ending terms.

## Contract

- **Temporary, Conditional...** has an end date and is based on performance and results and usually payment terms

# Covenant vs Contract

## Covenant

- The one who makes the covenant is responsible for keeping their promise REGARDLESS of what the other person does
- Example: Marriage

## Contract

- A contract can be voided if EITHER party violates their term of the contract
- Example: Leese, Work contract

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# Covenants of the Bible

**Adamic**

**Noahic**

**Abrahamic**

**Mosaic**

**Palestinian  
(Land)**

**Davidic**

**New**

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## \*Context Text



### **DEUTERONOMY 29:1 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> These are the terms of the covenant the Lord commanded Moses to make with the Israelites while they were in the land of Moab, **in addition to the covenant he had made with them at Mount Sinai.**

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## \*Context Text

### **JOSHUA 24:1 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.



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## \*Context Text



### **JOSHUA 24:13 (NKJV)**

<sup>13</sup> I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.'

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## \*Context Text

### **JOSHUA 24:14 (NKJV)**

14 "Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of [d]the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord!

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# Lesson Text

## JOSHUA 24:18 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> And the Lord drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God."

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# Lesson Text

## JOSHUA 24:19 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> But Joshua said to the people,  
**"You cannot serve the Lord,** for  
He is a holy God. He is a jealous  
God; He will not forgive your  
transgressions nor your sins.

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# Commentary: Prophetic Warning

- Joshua's role with the people was like Moses.
- Just as Moses led the people out of Egypt, Joshua led the people into Canaan.
- Just as Moses challenged the people to a time of choosing, Joshua also challenges people to choose who they will serve

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# Commentary: Prophetic Warning

- On the people's first response, Joshua though issues a warning and a challenge, reminding them that they cannot serve God – as if he knows what the future will bring, just as the people in Moses' day abandoned God after leaving Egypt and were left to die out in the desert. This is why God's role in covenants so important

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## Lesson Text

### JOSHUA 24:20 – 21 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good.”

<sup>21</sup> And the people said to Joshua, “No, but we will serve the Lord!”

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# Lesson Text

## JOSHUA 24:22 (NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> So Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord for yourselves, to serve Him." And they said, "We are witnesses!"

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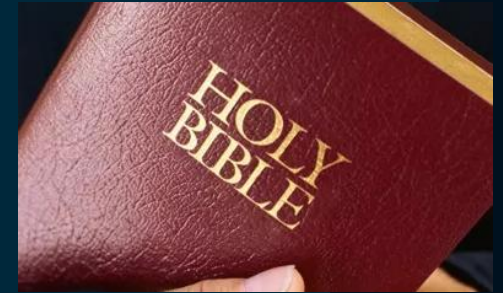


## Lesson Text

### JOSHUA 24:23 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign gods **which are among you**, and incline your heart to the Lord God of Israel."

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# Lesson Text

## JOSHUA 24:24 – 25 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> And the people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!” <sup>25</sup> So Joshua made<sup>[a]</sup> a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

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# Lesson Text



## JOSHUA 24:26 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup> Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord.

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# Lesson Text

## JOSHUA 24:27 (NKJV)

<sup>27</sup> And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the Lord which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God."

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# PALESTINIAN COVENANT

- In the Land Covenant, God makes several promises:
  - First, God promised to gather the scattered Israelites from all over the world and to bring them back into the land He had promised to their ancestors (Deuteronomy 30:3-5)

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# PALESTINIAN COVENANT

- In the Land Covenant, God makes several promises:
  - Second, God promised to regenerate the Israelites of that time and their descendants by circumcising their hearts so that they would love Him totally (Deuteronomy 30:6)

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# PALESTINIAN COVENANT

- In the Land Covenant, God makes several promises:
  - Fourth, He promised that the Israelites would obey God and that God would prosper them in their obedience  
(Deuteronomy 30:8-9)

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# PALESTINIAN COVENANT

- But just as the people in Moses' day had to choose, the people before Joshua had to choose, and he gave them the chance to turn away
- It is also evident that some of the promises were not fulfilled in those people and may be fulfilled in a future time

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# PALESTINIAN COVENANT

- The promise to the land is a hot topic in modern times with the Nation State of Israel and God gave the people commands on how to interact with the people in the land after their exile (**Ezekiel 47**)

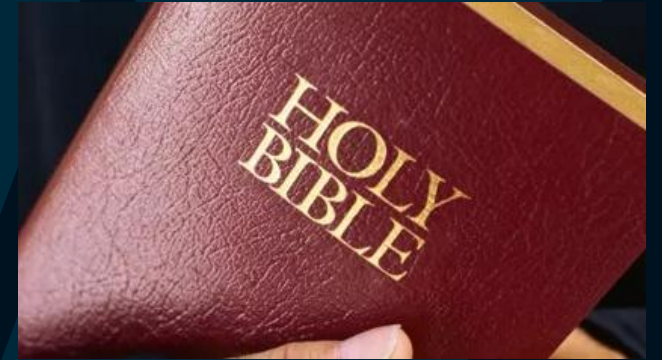
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# Commentary: Moving Forward

- We will see in Judges that the covenant promises made by the people to God would begin to wane and God would send various judges govern their affairs and to rescue and restore the people from their oppressors

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# Scripture References



# Refer to lesson texts

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# *Church School Creed*

Our Church School must grow & grow  
And we must help to make it so  
Every member a Christian  
Every Christian a worker  
Every worker trained  
A worker that will not be ashamed  
This we ask in Jesus' name

-AMEN

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# *Church School Benediction*

We have come

We have studied

We have learned

So until our next coming together

To study God's word

May His rich blessings reside with you

And may His Grace be eternally yours

-AMEN