

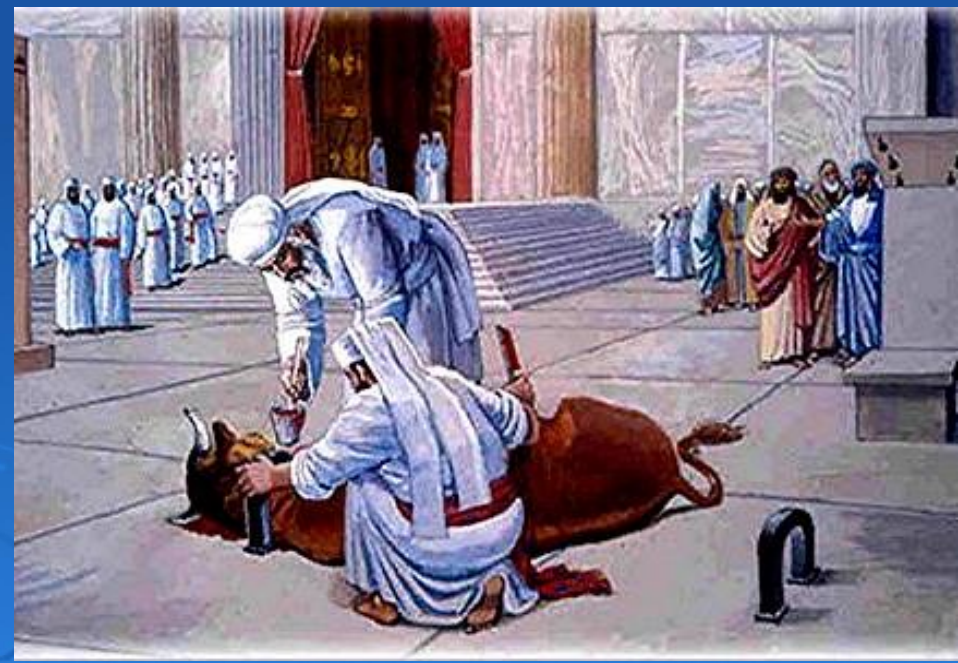
“THE PROMISE”

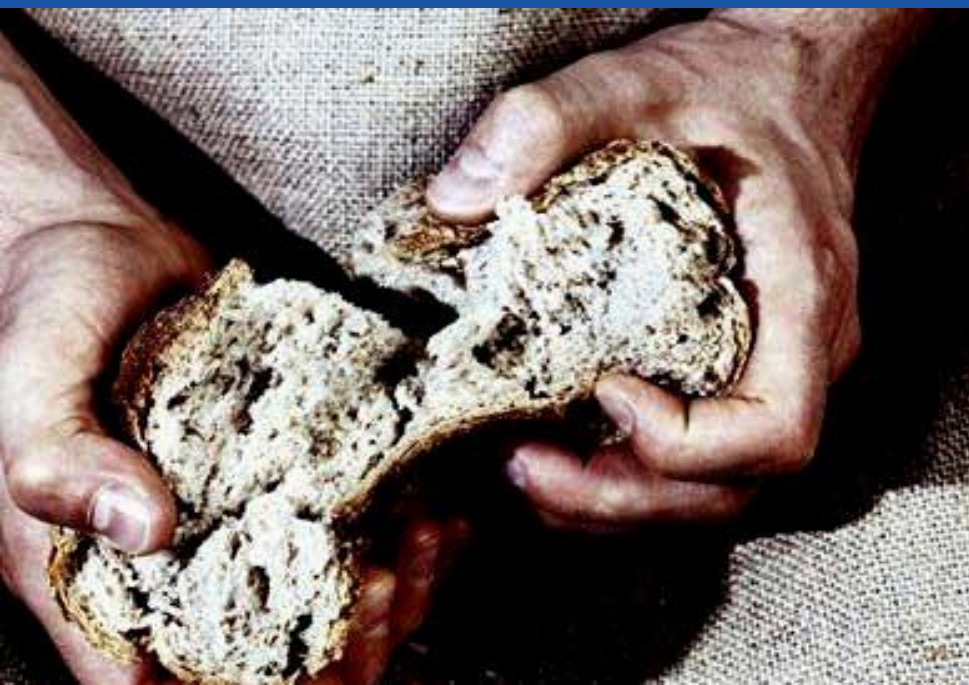
- Context of Acts and the entire NT is Second Temple Judaism
- “The Promise” is not referring to the new covenant in Christ
- For centuries it meant the Abrahamic Covenant
- Abrahamic Covenant was a promise, unilateral, only obligations were God’s
- New Covenant in Christ is NOT a promise, and is not unilateral
- Believer has obligations
- 1) turn from sins
- 2) return to God
- 3) be immersed



LAW VS. GRACE: THE FALSE DICHOTOMY

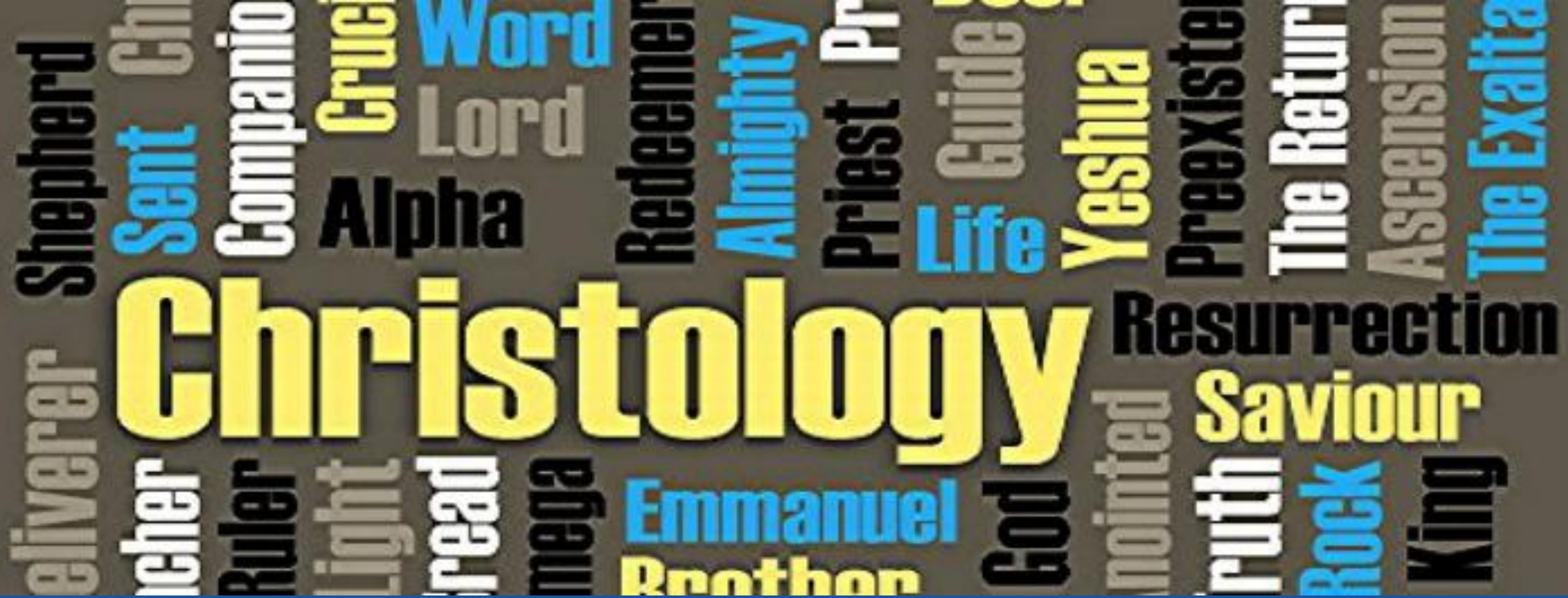
- Both the Mosaic Covenant and the New Covenant were based on grace
- Substitution of an innocent creature for the guilty human perpetrator
- Repentance of sinner required for both covenants for sacrifice to be effectual
- Repentance requires actual life changes





WHO RECEIVES THE PROMISE?

- Those who are near, local Jews
- Those who are far away, Diaspora Jews
- Later God dealt with Peter so that he got it that gentiles were included
- Breaking bread a Jewish mealtime tradition
- Is NOT associated with “Communion”



- Christology is a category of Systematic Theology that helps to define a particular denomination's doctrines
- Christology is part of Acts 3, but we also find Judaism and Torah principles
- Through healing the cripple, Peter gets a platform for preaching the Gospel

HEALING THE CRIPPLE



- Beggar sitting outside the Beautiful Gate
- Not allowed inside, because blemishes cause ritual impurity
- ***Tzedekah*** = charity
- Judaism saw ***Tzedekah*** as required to achieve merit
- Talmud, Baba Bathra: “...*giving....we may be saved from Gehinnom..*”
- Beggars seen as necessary so that charity could be given

A MESSIANIC PROPHECY FULFILLED

- *“In the name of Yeshua of Nazareth, walk!”*
- “Leaping” for the lame was prophesied in Isaiah chapter 35
- Not even a blemished Levite could enter the Temple precinct
- Now the cripple could go to the Altar and atone for his sins (the 1st time in his life!)



SICKNESS THE BODY

what SIN IS TO THE SOUL

- Depending on the denomination, sickness is or is NOT the result of sinning..... John 5
- Passage that seems to say sickness is not necessarily tied directly to sin John 9
- Sin is the lack of spiritual wholeness, sickness is the lack of physical wholeness
- Heaven is set apart from the Universe because the Universe lacks wholeness, and the lack of wholeness causes defilement
- Two circumstances are needed to cross over the barrier:
1) our physical death, 2) righteousness imputed to us by God



PRINCIPLE OF WHOLENESS

- The purpose of redemption is to restore wholeness to humanity
- When sin (spiritual) entered the world, so did sickness and death (physical)
- Altar sacrifices paid **ONLY** for sinful acts
- Christ covered it all
- Miryam Num.12:6 - 10

REALITY OF DUALITY

HEAVEN AND THE
SPIRITUAL WORLD

SPIRITUAL REALITY



PHYSICAL REALITY



HEALING TO WHOLENESS

- We get physically sick, because we are spiritually sick
- **Holoklerian** = Greek for sound well-being, complete health
- LXX calls an animal suitable for sacrifice **holoklerian**
- What do Believers do when we get sick?
- Bible generally negative towards healers and medicine
- Deut. 32:39 2Chron.16:12, 13 Luke 4:23

HEALING BY FAITH OR BY MEDICINE?

- In Peter's day Hebrews saw healing by physicians as part magic, part medicine, and not much miracle or faith
- About 100 B.C. doctors among Hebrews started to be seen as an extension of God's healing hand
- ***Sirach 38***
- Eventually both Judaism and Christianity accepted a prescriptive combo of prayer and medicine for battling illness

