1. Review – last week
	1. There are several principles or concepts that help understand what it means for us
		1. Covenant seal – it was the physical mark left by the cutting of the covenant
			1. Left a scar identifying that they were in covenant
			2. A sign of ownership or belonging to each other
			3. Circumcision is the mark of the covenant God made with Abraham
			4. The Holy Spirit in us is the mark of the new covenant we have through Christ
		2. The covenant meal
			1. Done to memorialize what they had entered
			2. Consisted of bread and wine
			3. Abraham with Melchizedek – Gen 14
			4. Jesus changed the Passover meal into a covenant meal – My blood in a new covenant
2. Covenant Concepts Continued
	1. Covenant Heads
		1. Under the terms of all covenants, the rights and privileges of the covenant did not just apply to the two parties who cut it
			1. They cut the covenant as representatives of the entire family or tribe
			2. Known as the covenant head or representative
			3. Only the two had to go through the ritual of intermingling blood, etc.
			4. But the covenant applied to every member even though not yet born
			5. All the rights in the covenant were based on what covenant heads had done and their only qualification was that they were members of the tribe
		2. Jonathan and David are an example
			1. Jonathan & David cut a covenant – **1 Sam. 18:1-4**
				1. Follows immediately David’s slaying of Goliath
				2. “Made a covenant” in Heb. Means “cut a covenant” – vs. 3
				3. “Was knit” in Heb. = QASHAR means to be bound or tied together
				4. Exchanged robes, swords, bows and girdles – vs., 4
				5. Probably scratched wrists but cannot prove from Word
				6. They both entered the covenant - **1 Sam. 23:18** – “So the two of them made a covenant before the Lord...”
				7. They were representing their families
			2. Saul and David are opposites and David unlikely to enter a covenant with Saul’s family
				1. Saul, Jonathan’s father, tried to kill David
				2. David was a man after God’s heart, but Saul opposed to God’s will
				3. Cannot really be in covenant unless two agree – Amos 3:3
				4. But David saw that Saul had a son who was not like Saul’s family and served God
				5. Although Jonathan’s qualities were not in his family, they would be treated on basis of the covenant because Jonathan had entered it for them
			3. Jonathan had a son, Mephibosheth, who was born to reign as king – **2 Sam 4:4**
				1. When Saul & Jonathan died, his family greatly feared what David would do to them
				2. Fled and took Mephibosheth to wilderness of Lodi bar (without pastures)
				3. Mephibosheth dropped and became totally lame (both his feet)
				4. For years family told him that David was enemy and they feared the day when David found them
			4. As David becomes established as king, he remembers his covenant with Jonathan
				1. Wants to know if Jonathan had any children

**2 Sam. 9:1-13**

Wants to show kindness for Jonathan’s sake

“kindness” = CHECED, Hebrew word for covenant love

Used 240 times in the OT – steadfast love and devotion

* + - * 1. Sent for Mephibosheth

He must have expected death

2 Sam. 9:8 – Meph.’s response

Saying if you only knew what I have though and said about you

I deserve to be as dead as a dog

David’s response – 9:7

Showing kindness (checed) because of his father’s covenant

Covenant made before Mephibosheth was born

Therefore, Mephibosheth could have nothing to do with benefit

* + - 1. David gives to Mephibosheth all benefits of covenant made with Jonathan
				1. 9:7 – treat him as one of the family
				2. 9:9-13 –
				3. Although Mephibosheth was totally helpless and dependent, he is treated as part of king’s family because of the covenant his father made with king = covenant head
			2. All Mephibosheth had to do was receive what David offered
				1. To receive he had to die to or give up who he was before in Lodibar
				2. Had to accept covenant and become one with king
			3. Covenant head meant that child of that head born after covenant was made and a member of that family that hated the king, was received as a member of the king’s family though he had hated the king as was totally dependent (no value of his own)
			4. “Mephibosheth” = HEB – one delivered from shame
1. The new covenant through Christ
	1. We are partakers of a new covenant
		1. Heb. 8:6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.
		2. Although he is comparing new covenant to Mosaic covenant, not the Abrahamic, it shows Jesus came to establish a new covenant
	2. Relationship of new covenant to Abrahamic covenant
		1. In covenant God made with Abraham He entered into as much of a union with him as He could
			1. Abraham did not have God’s righteous nature, but righteousness had to be imputed to him
			2. When god cut the covenant, He had to do it symbolically with a furnace and burning lamp – Gen. 15:17
				1. God could not physically cut the covenant
				2. It was best He could do
		2. God intended for that covenant to make do until God could actually enter into the covenant Himself
			1. Original covenant made with Abraham and his seed
				1. **Gen 22:18** – “seed” is singular masculine
				2. That seed is Christ
				3. **Gal. 3:16** Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, *“And to your Seed,”* who is Christ[[1]](#footnote-2)
			2. It is through Christ that we are partakers of this covenant
				1. **Gal. 3:27-28** (NASB) 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.
				2. Our union with Christ joins us to one of the covenant heads
			3. New covenant does not replace original, but improves it
	3. Jesus has cut the new covenant with the Father and He is our covenant head
		1. He is our Covenant Head
			1. **Heb 7:22** – He has become the guarantee (Covenant Head) of a better covenant
			2. **Heb 8:6** – “mediator” = covenant head
		2. This new covenant is represented by the covenant between Jonathan and David
			1. As with Saul’s house, there was not one man who served or followed after God
			2. God sent His only son to become a man in the family that was His enemy
				1. He was of that family but different
				2. Jesus was in the world but not of it
				3. He was the Jonathan of the human race
			3. God entered into covenant with Jesus who stood as the covenant head for the human race
			4. We are in the position of Mephebosheth
				1. Our natural family is the enemy of the king
				2. We did not seek a relationship with the king, but we feared and hated Him
				3. On our own we are lame and feeble
			5. Yet because of the covenant entered between the Father and Jesus, we are treated as if we are Jesus
				1. Father treats me only on the basis of the covenant between Jesus and Him
				2. Jn 16:27 “For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.
				3. World treats us as it treats Him – Jn 17:14 “I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”
				4. My participation in the covenant is not based on what I’ve done or not done, but on what my covenant head did
			6. As with Mephebosheth, we each have to die to who we were to become who he has made us to be
				1. Take up your cross –
				2. Lose your life to gain it
				3. Phil 3 – Paul counted all his accomplishments as trash to know Him and be “found in Him”
		3. Jesus actually cut the covenant with the Father
			* 1. Shed His blood
				2. Had covenant meal as memorial
				3. God was actually doing with Christ what He could only do symbolically with Abraham
	4. Results of the new covenant
		1. Because our covenant head has actually entered into covenant with God our benefits are actual
			1. Abraham’s union was symbolic
			2. We have been made actually one with God
			3. Why it is a better covenant with better promises
		2. Our part in the covenant is secure because it rests on the finished work of our covenant head
1. [*The New King James Version*](https://ref.ly/logosres/nkjv?ref=BibleNKJV.Ga3.16&off=3&ctx=s+or+adds+to+it.+16%C2%A0~Now+to+Abraham+and+h). (1982). (Ga 3:16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)