

Stephens, GregGod, The Covenant and the Contradiction

6. The Eden Covenant

Copeland frames the whole Bible as covenant, sparked by a personal revelation on a flight that believers, as Abraham's seed (Galatians 3:29), inherit everything God promised. The chapter then walks through the 'Eden Covenant': God created the universe out of love and His WORD, made Adam and Eve in His image with dominion, and sealed a covenant with them. Their sin broke it, handing authority to satan, but God's design ensured one man's righteousness (Jesus, the Second Adam) could restore what one man's sin lost.

Key takeaways

- Covenant is the key that unlocks the Bible: what is God's became Abraham's, and through Christ is now ours.
- God's love and the power of His spoken WORD are the driving force behind every covenant.
- God made humanity in His exact image, breathing in His own life and giving the gift of speech as a tool of dominion to rule the earth as kings and priests.
- The Eden Covenant carried THE BLESSING and one condition: do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

- Eve was deceived by misquoting God's word; Adam, not deceived, chose to sin and so was charged with breaking the covenant.
- The Fall cost life, innocence, love, and authority—satan gained rule over the earth, and creation turned against man.
- God sealed the covenant by blocking the tree of life, preserving it for the future and pointing to redemption through a tree—Jesus, the Second Adam.
- The 'Go Deeper' section stresses the Bible is one seamless story: Old and New Testaments are linked covenants, all promises fulfilled 'Yes' in Christ.

Passages worth keeping

“Yes, it meant that one man's sin could condemn us all. But it also meant that it would take only one man's righteousness to redeem us.”

The chapter's core logic for why God gave the covenant to innocent Adam.

“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen.”

Anchors the claim that every biblical promise belongs to believers through Jesus.

How it connects

The chapter reads the whole redemption story backward from Eden: the first Adam's fall by a tree is answered by the Second Adam's cross, one tree lost, another regained (Revelation 2:7; 22:14).

Scripture referenced

- **Galatians 3:29** -- Believers are Abraham's seed and heirs—the revelation that started it all.
- **Galatians 3:13-14** -- Christ redeemed us from the curse so Abraham's BLESSING comes to us.
- **Genesis 1:26-28** -- Man made in God's image, blessed with dominion—THE BLESSING of the Eden Covenant.
- **Isaiah 51:1-4** -- The 'Eden Covenant' passage; God turning our lives back to the Garden.
- **Genesis 2:16-17** -- The one covenant condition—the forbidden tree.
- **1 Corinthians 15:45-50** -- Jesus as the Second/last Adam who restores what the first lost.