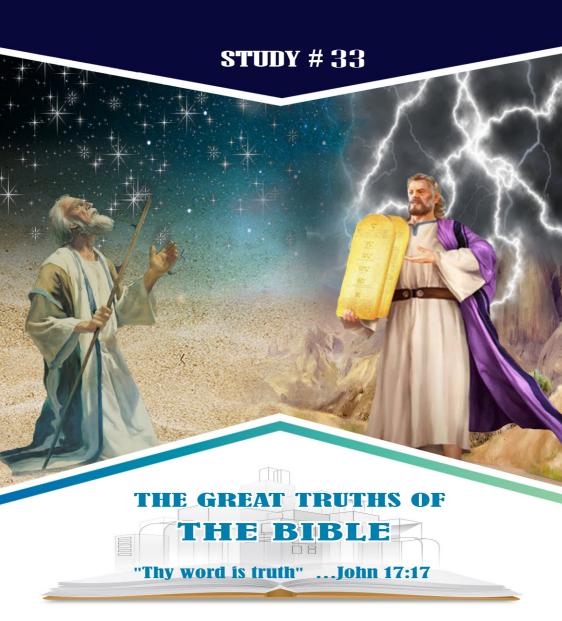
# The Study of the Covenants





PLEASE NOTE: Kindly refer to your Bibles for every scripture reference and read thoroughly.

MOST SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ARE QUOTED FROM THE AUTHORISED KING JAMES VERSION (KJV)

Today we shall study about God's <u>COVENANTS</u>.

God is a God who <u>MAKES</u> and <u>KEEPS</u> covenants!

WHAT is meant by these covenants?

A Covenant is a SEALED promise or AGREEMENT of GOD which can NEVER be broken for the period that it is made for.

We have many examples of "COVENANTS" or AGREEMENTS in our day to day life but perhaps the most PROMINENT EXAMPLE before us is the COVENANT OF MARRIAGE....



made between a man and a woman of FAITHFULNESS to each other until DEATH!

The FIRST covenant God made was with Noah after the Flood.

We read of it clearly in - Genesis 9: 9-11

And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you and with every living creature that is with you, of the fowl, of the cattle, and of every beast of the earth with you; from all that go out of the ark, to every beast of the earth. And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood to destroy the earth."

Yes! This is the covenant that God made with Noah promising.....NO MORE A FLOOD!

Now do you think God HAS KEPT THIS COVENANT?

ARE THERE NOT FLOODS occurring in many places
every year that claim so
many lives?



Did not God promise to Noah over here - ....NO MORE FLOODS!!

Then what happened?

Let us examine that scripture more closely -

Vs - 11- "....neither shall <u>all flesh, be cut off any more</u> by the waters of a flood."

In NIV we read - "never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood..."

Ah! There! God's promise and COVENANT was about NOT ALLOWING another GREAT FLOOD like in Noah's day to "destroy ALL flesh"!!

HE **NEVER SPOKE ABOUT** the 'smaller" floods in various places!

Now let us learn something more of the great "INVISIBLE GOD" - Our Heavenly Father in THAT chapter in the BOOK OF REVELATION -

#### **Revelation 4:3**

"....And there was a rainbow round about the throne in sight like unto an emerald."

Yes! That "throne" represents the HEAVENLY FATHER and we have already seen the SYMBOLIC meanings of..... "the four living creatures" and

.....the "twenty four elders" in this chapter.

Now we turn our attention to -

"....a rainbow round about the throne."

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

It refers to something about God and it is SYMBOLIC.

What is a "rainbow" a symbol of?
Let us read the answer in the scripture in -

**Genesis 9:12,13** 

"And God said, this is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you....I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall for a token of a covenant..."

Yes! The RAINBOW or "bow" was the TOKEN of the Covenant that God made with Noah.

But here in Revelation the **RAINBOW** is **NOT** a token of the covenant with Noah but is here..... **GENERAL SYMBOL** for **A COVENANT**!

Yes! This rainbow "round about the throne" shows that the HEAVENLY FATHER GOD ALMIGHTY is - A MAKER AND KEEPER OF COVENANTS -

Yes! Not only are covenants very important to Him but HIS COVENANTS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO US, as we are going to see.

THEY ARE THE BASIS and GUARANTEE of blessings to all mankind

Now what does the - "in sight like unto an emerald" mean?

An EMERALD is a green coloured stone and a rainbow has seven colours

VIBGYOR!!



So how can a "seven coloured" RAINBOW begin to look green?

#### SIMPLE

By looking at that rainbow through a green transparent tinted glass or lens!

Then the rainbow would have "seven" shades of green!

Yes! That is the thought the REVELATOR must have had in his mind - but remember,

THIS IS ALL SYMBOLIC!



SO WHAT DOES IT MEAN ?

GREEN is the colour of.....LIFE.



All the trees and plants that are living are green!

Thus this RAINBOW "round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald" is a representation of the FACT that all God's covenants are ..... DESIGNED TO GIVE LIFE. Among the many covenants of God that are recorded in the Bible we shall TODAY study THE THREE MAIN ONES.

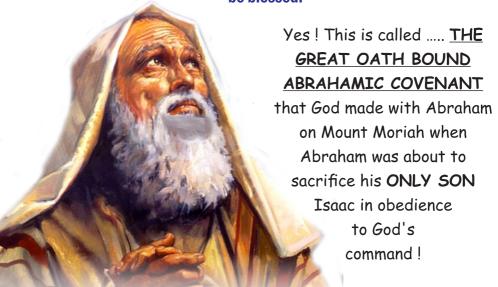
They are as hereunder -

### **COVENANT # 1**

The FIRST ONE we read the details of in -

Genesis 22:15-18

"By myself have I sworn saith the Lord.....that in blessing I will bless thee.... as the stars of the heaven and as the sand of the sea shore shall thy seed be..... and in thy seed shall ALL the nations of the earth be blessed."



## COVENANT # 2

The **SECOND COVENANT** we read the details of in - **Exodus 19:3-8** 

"....Now therefore if ye will obey my voice indeed and keep my covenant then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people

for ALL the EARTH IS MINE: and ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests and an holy nation."

Yes! This is called the LAW COVENANT that God gave to Israel through.....the MEDIATOR, MOSES!!

GOD DID NOT make this covenant with other peoples of the world OR EVEN WITH CHRISTIANS

as we read in -

#### Psalms 147:19,20

"He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgments unto Israel. <u>He hath not dealt so with any nation:</u> and as for his judgments, they have not known them. Praise ye the Lord."

## **COVENANT #3**

We read the details of THIS THIRD COVENANT in 
Hebrews 8:8-12

(Also in Jeremiah 31:31-34)

"Behold the days COME saith the Lord when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah......not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers...... For this is the covenant that I will make ......I will put my laws into their minds and write them in their hearts and I will be to them a God and they shall be to me a people......For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness and their sins and their iniquities will I remember NO MORE".

This is called.....the **NEW (LAW) COVENANT** to be made with <u>fleshly natural Israel</u> to **REPLACE** the <u>DYING</u> old law covenant.

The great **MEDIATOR** of this new covenant is to be Israel's Messiah (Malachi 3:1)

THE CHRIST "the messenger of the covenant whom ye delight in".



Having seen these **THREE** covenants we shall now study them separately.

Two of these covenants apply to the present SECOND WORLD but the third applies to the future and coming THIRD WORLD!!

## 1.The Abrahamic Covenant.

This was an OATH BOUND covenant and had NO
MEDIATOR and spoke of TWO classes of Abraham's seed
that would bless all nations as we read in -

#### **Genesis 22:17**

"That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; And thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;"

Now according to this COVENANT to Abraham which is popularly known as..... "THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT" it is clear that Abraham would have TWO TYPES OR TWO CLASSES of "seed" or children!



Now who are these TWO 'seeds' of Abraham? Let us see -



".....as the stars of the heaven."



These are the FIRST mentioned "class" of Abraham's children or "seed".

We see that they are **SYMBOLIZED** as

WHO COULD THEY BE ?

We find the answer in -

**Galatians 3: 7 / 29** 

"Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham."

"And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Yes! These TWO scriptures teach us that those ..... "of faith" and.....that "be Christ's" are the children of Abraham.



#### Yes! These are the CHURCH of JESUS CHRIST!

They are not natural children but are THE SPIRITUAL CHILDREN of Abraham.

For we read of this "seed" or the "stars of the heaven" class in -

Galatians 3: 16

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, and to seeds as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ."

Yes! This "seed" or the "stars of the heaven" class are to be - "Christ".

Yes! Jesus is the **HEAD** and the **BODY** to consist of 144000 as we clearly read in -



#### **Revelation 14:1**

"And I looked and lo, a lamb stood on the mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having their Father's name written in their foreheads."



 $^{ to}$  These 144,000 are the "body" of Christ!

They along with their **HEAD** Lord Jesus Christ will make up the

"new heavens wherein dwelleth righteousness"

....or the NEW INVISIBLE SPIRITUAL RULERSHIP of the Third World. (II Peter 3:13)

Thus ONLY when the CHURCH of 144000 is found, tested and ALL GLORIFIED, will this part of the Abrahamic Covenant be fulfilled !!



And what about THE SECOND "class" of the Abrahamic seed -



"the sand which is upon the seashore..."

This represents Abraham's EARTHLY and NATURAL "children" or SEED.

THEY ARE THE NATION OF ISRAEL.

According to this "Abrahamic Covenant" the NATION of Israel becoming the EARTHLY "seed" are to be used to "bless" ALL THE NATIONS of the earth.

#### AND WHEN WILL THIS BE?

We read the answer in -

#### Romans 11:26-29

"And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, there shall come out of Zion the deliverer and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.....For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance."

Yes! ALL ISRAEL IS TO BE "saved' and have their "eyes of understanding" opened!

But this is ONLY AFTER THE COMPLETION of the CHURCH as we read in -

#### **Romans** 11:25

"....That blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in."

Yes! This "blindness" of NOT being able to RECOGNIZE Jesus as their Messiah would continue till the



...... "fullness of the Gentiles be come in" or the 144000 be COMPLETE !

Then with the SPIRITUAL "seed" complete and.....the EARTHLY "seed" ready, the "blessings" will BEGIN to flow to

"all the nations of the earth"

.....with the establishment of the KINGDOM OF GOD visibly in Israel. (Isaiah 2:2,3)

And Israel of course will be led by the "ANCIENT WORTHIES" detailed in the 11th Chapter of Hebrews whose **HEADSHIP** will be as we read in -

#### Isaiah 1:26

"And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning...."

Yes! These "ANCIENT WORTHIES" will NOT ONLY lead and rule ISRAEL but ALSO we read of them in -



#### Psalms 45:16

"Instead of thy fathers shall be thy children, whom thou mayest make princes in all the earth."

Yes! They will go on to be the RULERS in "....all the earth."

Before we go on to study the next covenant - the LAW COVENANT, let us see a matter we find described in -

**Galatians 4:22-28** 

"For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid,

the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai , which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband.

Now we brethren, as Isaac was are the children of promise."

Here the Apostle Paul SYMBOLISES and typifies TWO
COVENANTS through AN ALLEGORY of Abraham's two
wives and their children -

The first wife represents the "ABRAHAMIC COVENANT" and she is SARAH and......her son ISAAC is the fruitage.

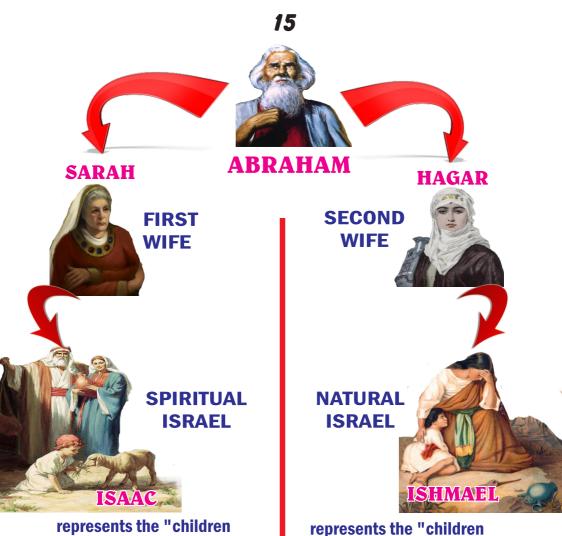
The second wife represents the next

Covenant we will discuss -

the LAW COVENANT and she is HAGAR and....her son ISHMAEL is the fruitage.

Yes! The children of Abraham through these two wives of his are the representation of the FRUTITAGE of these TWO Covenants!!

In the following page you will find a chart representing this matter.



of promise" of bondwoman"

## 2. The Law Covenant.

This is the **SECOND** covenant of God that we are going to study today.

This covenant was given to MOSES on Mount Sinai and

included THE TEN COMMANDMENTS and other laws numbering 3600 as enumerated in the Books of LEVITICUS and DEUTERONOMY.

The MEDIATOR of this covenant was Moses. We read about WHEN God gave this covenant in -

**Galatians 3:17** 

"And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect."

This law covenant was given <u>SEPARATE</u> from and.....<u>AFTER</u> the Abrahamic covenant!!

The Abrahamic covenant was the **ORIGINAL** Covenant and the Law Covenant was <u>ADDED</u> later (430 years later).

This law covenant given to Israel

HAD A PROMISE OF LIFE to

all who could perfectly keep

it as we read in -



#### **Leviticus 18:5**

"Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgements: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the Lord."

But NONE of the Israelites were able to gain this promise of LIFE AS THEY COULD NOT KEEP THE PERFECT LAW

as we read in -

#### **James 2:10**

"For whosoever shall keep the whole law, <u>and yet offend in one</u> point, he is guilty of all"



About this same matter the Apostle Paul writes in –

Galatians 3:11

"But that NO MAN is justified by the law in the sight of God....."

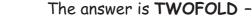
Here the Apostle Paul says this same thing showing how the perfect law could not be kept by the Israelites and .....THUS THEY COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED (made perfect) in the sight of God.

Then the apostle Paul goes on to speak of the "grace" that comes by faith in the "ABRAHAMIC COVENANT" for SPIRITUAL ISRAEL who are NOT under the law covenant.

All this understanding then brings us to THE IMPORTANT QUESTION which we read in -

#### **Galatians 3:19**

"Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator."





".....It was added because of transgressions, till the SEED should come to WHOM the promise was made....."

(that is till CHRIST came)

The 3600 laws served to bring to **RECOGNITION** and.....to **REBUKE SIN** which was increasing rapidly in Israel.

All the "DO NOT's....." HELPED IN A MEASURE to reduce the condition of "sin".



The Law provides **TYPES TO SPIRITUAL ISRAEL** as we read in -

#### **Hebrews 10:1**

"For the LAW having a SHADOW of good things to come....."

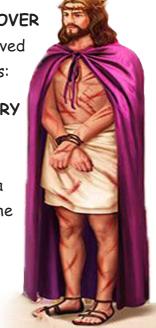
Yes! The LAW is full of TYPES and SHADOWS which teach great truths to SPIRITUAL ISRAEL.....THE CHURCH!

A few EXAMPLES we see are.....the PASSOVER LAW which was the first law Israel received recorded in the 12th chapter of Exodus:

This "Passover" and its regulations have VERY SPECIAL LESSONS to Christians

because the

"Passover lamb" had a representation which the Apostle Paul teaches us in -



#### I Corinthians 5:7

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us."

Yes! The "Passover lamb" REPRESENTED JESUS
CHRIST OUR LORD!

Then there is the law of the JUBILEE which is actually a TYPICAL PICTURE of deliverance and -

"...the times of restitution of all things." - (Acts 3:21)

of the 1000 year reign of Christ -in GOD'S KINGDOM ON EARTH.

Thus though this LAW COVENANT FAILED to bring LIFE to Israel it DID HELP to lead some to Christ as we read in -

**Galatians 3:24** 

"Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."

Yes! Some Jews <u>REALISED</u> their need for a **SAVIOUR** and thus turned to......and **FOUND** Christ!

BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN to the rest of the nation of Israel?

We read the answer in -

**Isaiah 45:17** 

"But Israel shall be <u>SAVED</u> in the Lord with an <u>EVERLASTING</u>

<u>SALVATION</u>: ye shall not be ashamed or confounded

world without end..."

OH! WHAT A "BLESSED" ASSURANCE!

#### BUT HOW WILL THIS BE ?!

To understand the answer we must now turn our attention to the study of THE THIRD COVENANT of God -



Now this "NEW COVENANT" is a "mystery" and "little known" to many and ALSO MISUNDERSTOOD by many Christians who have the idea that the church is now under

#### the new covenant!

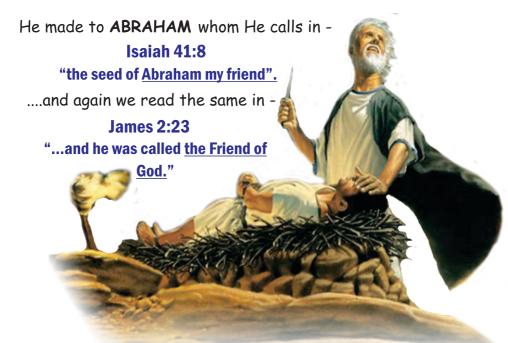
But this is **NOT TRUE** as we read very clearly in--Jeremiah 31:31-34

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

There ! It is VERY CLEAR that this NEW COVENANT is to be made with.....the nation of Israel and its TWELVE TRIBES |



For God will **NEVER** forget His promises that



AND ACCORDING TO THE OATH BY GOD HE WOULD SURELY SAVE ALL ISRAEL.



By establishing a **NEW COVENANT** with them which would bring them the .....FORGIVENESS OF THEIR SINS and.....the **RECONCILIATION TO GOD**.

All this will be in GODS KINGDOM - in the THIRD WORLD - for then the various nations of the earth will begin to SEEK
OUT AND COME TO ISRAEL as we read in -

#### Zechariah 8:20-23

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts; it shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people, and the inhabitants of many cities: and the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, let us go speedily to pray before the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts: I will go also.

Yea, many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; in those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a jew, saying, we will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you."



Yes! ALL NATIONS OF THE EARTH will SEEK of their OWN CHOICE to come under the "New Covenant" as we read in -

#### Isaiah 2:3

"And many people shall go and say....He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths; for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem."

Here we note those words -

"....He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths..."

#### WHAT ARE THESE - "His ways"?

They are the TERMS and CONDITIONS of the NEW COVENANT which all nations of the earth will begin TO GRADUALLY OBEY and become

....."Israelites indeed" and....."children of Abraham" and part of



.... "the sand on the seashore" class.

Like the LAW COVENANT the NEW COVENANT too is to have a mediator as we read in -

#### Malachi 3:1

"....And the Lord whom ye seek.....even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in....he shall come..."

Yes! JESUS is the MEDIATOR along with HIS BODY the church (Jude: 14).

> And what does this **NEW COVENANT** guarantee to the people? We read that answer in -

> > Hebrews 10:16,17

"This is the covenant I will make with them after those days, saith the LORD, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; and their sins and iniquities shall I remember no more."

Here it speaks of the NEW COVENANT that God will make with Israel - here referred to as.... "them".

Now what is meant by - "after those days"?

This refers to the PERIOD OF THE GOSPEL AGE when Israel would be cast out of favor after Jesus said the words -



"...your house is left unto you desolate" (Matthew 23:38)

This is for a period of what God calls "double" as we read in -

Jeremiah 16:18



Yes! That is the period when Israel faced much SUFFERING and PERSECUTION and they in the midst of these

JUDGEMENTS are symbolized as

.....the RICH MAN in the midst of the "flames" in

THE PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS in Luke 16:23.

Now let us try to understand what this **NEW COVENANT** will do as we read -



## "I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them." (Hebrews 10:16)

Interestingly in NIV this quotation from Jeremiah 31:33 reads -

"I will put my law in their minds, and write it on their hearts."

Also in the KJV, this quotation in Jeremiah 31;33 reads - "I will put my law in their inward parts and write it in their hearts."

Here the word "inward parts" is from the Hebrew word "qereb' (Strongs Hebrew # 7130) which means "the center part" or as translated in NIV as....."the mind".

IT CANNOT BE THE HEART because that comes in the latter part of the verse from another Hebrew word - "leb" (Hebrew Strong's # 3820)

Thus the verse is **BETTER** translated from the Old Testament quotation of

Jeremiah 31:33 - "I will put my law in their minds, and write it in their hearts...."

#### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



This represents that ALL will receive a CLEAR

INTELLECTUAL UNDERSTANDING of God's laws as
recorded in His word for we read in -

#### Habakkuk 2:14

".....for the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." This will be further ensured as at that time the LORD will -"...pour out His spirit upon all flesh."

> Yes! All will be able to UNDERSTAND and COMPREHEND God's laws!



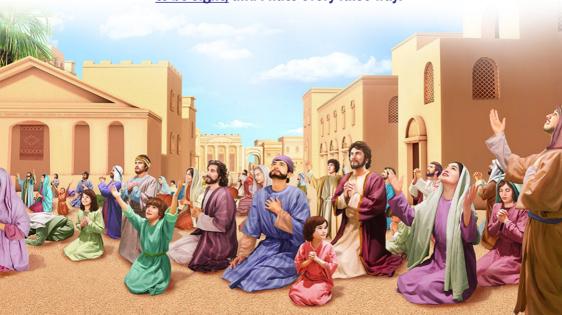
"....write it in their hearts.."

This is a reference to the **INTENTION** or....the **WILL**.

God's "permission of evil" would have given all the world including Israel such an EXPERIENCE in the RESULTS of evil and....the VAST CONTRAST between obeying God and disobeying God will be made....MANIFEST and RECOGNIZED and most all of the world of mankind and Israel will THEN VOLUNTARILY and HEARTILY seek the ways of God as we read described in -

Psalms 119:127,128

"Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea above fine gold. Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be sight; and I hate every false way."



Yes! THIS WILL BE....the ATTITUDE of the world of mankind at that time.

And again we read of the same described in -

**Psalms 119:112** 

"I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes alway, even unto the end."

Yes! And.....MANY WILL ALSO BE THE REGRETS expressed by the people as we read the same sentiments in -

Psalms 119:136

"Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law."

Yes! And again we read the same sentiments in -

**Psalms 119:5** 

"O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes."

Yes! Thus this "NEW (LAW) COVENANT will be a GRAND SUCCESS unlike the previous LAW COVENANT under the MEDIATORSHIP of MOSES!

This "NEW COVENANT" is TYPIFIED in yet another of Abraham's wives -

....one that very few are aware of !



Did Abraham have ANOTHER wife after SARAH?

Let us read the answer in -

Genesis 25:1

"Then AGAIN Abraham took a wife and her name was Keturah..."

Yes! This THIRD WIFE of his was called KETURAH and she represents THE NEW COVENANT.

#### How many CHILDREN did they have?

We read of the answer in -

Genesis 25:2

"And she bare him Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Median and Ishbak and Shuah."

Yes! SIX SONS IN ALL!

These represent the FRUITAGE of the NEW

COVENANT 
the WHOLE WORLD OF MANKIND.

The number "six" here represents THE WHOLE WORLD OF MANKIND in the present condition of SIN and DEATH and IMPERFECTION.

(Notice this same matter represented IN TYPE when Moses brought out the people of Israel from Egypt and their numbers described as "six hundred thousand"

- Exodus 12:37)

The "six" number could also represent the SIX CONTINENTS of the world upon which mankind are INHABITED -



Thus we have seen the WONDERFUL LESSONS in the COVENANTS of GOD.



