

## **Hebrews 12:22-29**

### **Covenanting With the Lord**

#### **Introduction:**

We began our series stating that we cannot live without Covenants. It seems like every time we open our mouth we make or sadly break a covenant. When we agree, commit, contract, and promise we are covenanting. On the other hand we can and sometimes do renege, deny, neglect or reject what we have said we would do.

The Bible speaks of Covenanting in various ways. For one covenanting begins with the Lord Himself. God the Father covenants with His Son to save all those whom He had given to the Son. John 17:24

*Three ways we Covenant:*

1. *The act of saving faith in Jesus Christ*
2. *The Biblical practice of public covenanting*
3. *The Personal covenants of believers*

#### **I. Confessing Faith is Covenanting with Christ**

##### **A. Commitment to Christ is described with many words:**

1. Coming – Matt. 11:28
2. Receiving – John 13:20
3. Being accepted – Ezek. 20:41
4. Believing – John 9:38
5. Confessing – Rom. 10:10
6. Seeking – Acts 17:27
7. Repentance and Faith – Acts 20:21

##### **B. Baptism before Faith**

1. Proving our baptism – (Thomas Manton) II Cor. 9:13
2. God is speaking to our children's souls – Psa. 35:3; Lam. 3:24; Psa. 16:2

#### **I. Public Covenanting**

##### **A. The various Reformed Confessions of Faith (Westminster 1648, Canons of Dort 1619, Belgic 1561, Heidelberg 1563, Westminster's Shorter 1647 and Larger Catechisms 1648)**

##### **B. Ordination Queries for Pastors, Elders and Deacons**

1. Enrollment in heaven – Heb. 12:23
2. False believers should not negate public covenanting

##### **C. Peter's public confession – Turn To: Matthew 16:13-19**

1. Peter's unsteadiness – Matt. 16:21-22

#### **II. Personal Covenanting**

##### **A. Enhances the Christian life ( William Guthrie)**

1. RPCNA Constitution

##### **B. Biblical examples:**

1. Jeremiah's call to God's people – Jer. 3:4
2. Zechariah's gospel message – 13:9
3. Apostle Thomas – spontaneous confession – John 20:28
4. Job's covenant with his eyes – Job 31:1
5. Marriage Covenant – Song of Sol. 6:3
6. Joshua's commitment of his household – Josh. 24:15

##### **C. Troubles and Temptations:**

1. Asaph's confession – Psa 73:25-26
2. David defending himself against King Saul – Psalm 57:1
3. David prepares his soul for worship – Psa. 9:1-2
4. God's people covenant basically because He will not forsake them – Psa. 9:10

##### **D. Prayer – Heb. 4:16**

**E. Filled with the Spirit – Gal. 5:24,25**

**F. Pastoral blessing – Heb. 13:20-21**

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