

Let Us be
Carried On
to Maturity

Scripture Reading:

Hebrews 5:8-6:1

II Peter 3:18

We now move from the OT covenants to Israel (super-promises), to the three covenants that God has provided for the Church:

- The New Covenant for the Church, which provides
 - Eternal Life = Christ IN the NT grace believer
- The 4th Abrahamic Covenant, which provides
 - Resurrection Life = Our position in Christ
- The Eternal Covenant, which provides
 - All 3 tenses of salvation =
 - Past = Freedom from the penalty of our sin
 - Present = Freedom from the power of our indwelling sin nature
 - Future = Freedom from the presence of sin

In order to understand and practice the provisions of these 3 covenants for the NT grace believer, we need to allow ourselves to be:

Carried on to Maturity

- Heb 6:1

Grow in Grace and experientially know Christ

- II Pet 3:18

The Provision of Those Three Covenants through Paul

The New Covenant FOR THE CHURCH

- **I Cor 11:25**
 - The continual reminder of our New Covenant
- **II Cor 3:6**
 - Our New Covenant provides LIFE
 - Cf Gal 2:20, I Jn 5:11,12 – plus many supporting NT Scriptures

The 4th Abrahamic Covenant

- **Gal 3:16, 27, 29 - plus many supporting NT Scriptures**

The Eternal Covenant

- **Heb 13:20-21**

Peter's Promotion and Protection of the Salvation Based on Those Three Covenants - II Peter 3:13-18

- Peter's exhortation to grow in grace and experiencing the Life of Christ in us requires:
 - # 1 - Realizing our Lord's longsuffering provides initial and present-tense salvation - I Pet 3:15a
 - Paul has written about this "longsuffering salvation" – II Pet 3:15b
 - Cf Eph 2:8-9 = ...having been saved by grace, through faith, with continuing results... = past, present, future-tense salvation

Peter's Promotion and Protection of the Salvation Based on Those Three Covenants - II Peter 3:13-18 (continued)

- Some of these things are “hard to be understood” (vs 16)
- The “unlearned and unstable twist to their own ruination”
- Rom 16:25
- Maturing growth takes time, therefore requiring
longsuffering of God's part AND on ours

Peter's Promotion and Protection of the Salvation Based on Those Three Covenants - II Peter 3:13-18 (continued)

- # 2 - Be aware of being influenced by this twisting of Scripture (leading to your own fall from stability) in present-tense salvation of living by grace (vs 17)

CONCLUSION

- In order to “allow yourself to be carried on to maturity” (Heb 6:1):
 - Grow in the grace of God that has provided our salvation, which involves:
 - The New Covenant for the CHURCH - Christ IN YOU
 - The 4th Abrahamic Covenant – YOU IN Christ, and
 - The Eternal Covenant – between the Father and the Son in eternity past, which provides for ALL 3 tenses of our salvation
 - Then grow in experiencing this knowledge of our salvation day by day
 - This maturing process will require a lifetime!