

A COVENANT OF BLOOD

¹⁶ *See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.*

Isaiah 49:16

¹¹ *For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.*

Leviticus 17:11

¹⁴ *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 1:14

I. Exchange of coats

- A. The symbol of the identity and authority of a person group or tribe.
- B. Everything I have is now yours. I am no longer my own; I belong to you. All that I am is yours forever.

II. The exchange of weapons

- A. Bow, knife, spear, or sword; All my strength belongs to you.
- B. Your enemies are my enemies; your friends are my friends forever. If any enemy attacks you; they've attacked me.

III. The exchange of vows / The blood walk

- A. A bull, goat, or lamb was split down the middle and separated across from one another.
- B. Covenant partners would start back to back and walk a figure 8, symbolizing infinity, winding up standing face-to-face in the midst of blood.
- C. There they would make their covenant pledges, including curses if the covenant were broken, as well as an accounting of all their belongings.

IV. The exchange of names

- * As a symbol of my dying to being an individual, I would add your name to mine and you would add my name to yours. Two would become one.

V. The exchange of blood in the cutting of the covenant

- * The sacrificial knife would be used to cut palms and wrists. The arms would be joined; the blood would mingle. Two bloods and two lives become one blood and one life.

V. The mark of the covenant

- * Charcoal or another dark substance would be used to permanently mark the covenant scar. It would be a tattoo for all to see, in perpetuity, that you have a covenant brother.

VII. Covenant meal / Wine and bread

One loaf would be broken and fed to one another as each covenant partner took the other's life into themselves.

VIII. A covenant tree

- * A tree would be planted and sprinkled with the covenant blood as a permanent and eternal reminder of a covenant that would last through every generation.

IX. Only now could you call someone a friend. (John 15:15; Hebrews 9:12-14,22)

[Jhn 15:15 NIV] ¹⁵ *I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.*

[Heb 9:12-14, 22 NIV] ¹² *He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God! ... ²² In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.*

