

Culture or Covenant?

The greatest Story ever told has the power to radically reshape your individual story. Allow your story to get caught up and remade in God's Story.

We want every person to find Hope, Healing, and Purpose in their individual story as they daily engage God's Story

God's Story starts in a Garden (Gen2:15) and ends in a Garden (Rev2:7) thanks to Jesus' obedience in another Garden (Mk14:36).

Your story's purpose is found in this Story.

Culture or Covenant?

Forgetful or Thankful?

- *How have you grown in your thankfulness?*

Obedience or Obstnacy?

- You are responsible for you, and you do not operate in a vacuum.

Fire Insurance or Foundation?

- Ask not what your God can do for you...but what you can do for your God!

Surroundings or Sovereignty?

- *Whose life did you step into this past week?*

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The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and left untried.

- G.K. Chesterton

An Identity to Receive suzerian covenants

- 1) **Preamble** – identity & title of the triumphant king
 - I am YHWH your God
- 2) **Historical Prologue** – recounts the accomplishments of the king
 - brought you out of Egypt
- 3) **Stipulations** – spell out obligations of vassal to suzerain
 - the 10 words
- 4) **Depositing the Law** – in a "sacred" place with periodic readings
 - Deuteronomy 10:5; Deuteronomy 31:10-11
- 5) **Witnesses** – usually the respective gods
 - heaven & earth (Deuteronomy 32)
 - people & stones (Joshua 24)
- 6) **Blessings & Curses** – based on loyalty or lack of loyalty
 - Deuteronomy 27-28
- 7) **Oath or Ratification Ceremony** – binding symbol, usually a slaughtered animal
 - Cut off

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The king will "take"

- v11- your sons...
- v13- your daughters...
- v14- your livelihood...
- v16- your helpers...

Four things...

- v17- **you shall be his slaves.**