

PEOPLE OF THE COVENANT

EPHESIANS 2:10-19

JEWISH PRAYER BOOK

“But we draw near to Thee because Thou didst privilege us to be **the people of Thy covenant**, the **children of Thy friend** Abraham with whom Thou didst make a covenant of Mount Moriah, the **descendants** of his only son, Isaac, who was bound upon the altar in readiness to offer himself as a sacrifice to Thee, the **community** of Thy first born Jacob, in whom Thou didst take delight, calling his name Israel and Jeshurun.”

“It is therefore, incumbent upon us to thank Thee and to praise Thy name. **We are indeed fortunate.** How goodly is **our portion**, how pleasant **our lot**, and how wonderful **our heritage.**”

JEWISH PRAYER BOOK

Ben Zion Bokser

We are fortunate, for ours is **the privilege to proclaim** twice daily, morning and evening:

Hear, O Israel, the **Lord is our God,**
The **Lord is One.**

Praised be His glorious kingdom, forever and ever.

Thou didst exist before the world came into being, and Thou hast been the same since the world came into being. In this world and in the world yet to come, Thou are and wilt remain supreme in sovereignty.”

My Aim for Being Here at Hope EFC, To Get Everyone to Think – “REALITY!”

- **To Get Everyone to Think - “REALITY!”**
- **To Establish in You TWO Questions:**
 - **Is this real?**
 - **What is this reality?**
- **WHY this Goal?**
 - **Because to walk by truth,..**
 - **Is to walk by your Understanding of Realities.**

EPHESIANS 2

11 Therefore remember that formerly you, **the Gentiles** in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” which is performed in the flesh by human hands— 12 remember that you were at that time **separate** from Christ, **excluded** from the commonwealth of Israel, and **strangers to the covenants** of promise, having **no hope** and **without God** in the world.

COVENANT

In Hebrew, *berith* means primarily "a cutting," with reference to the custom of cutting or dividing animals in two and passing between the parts in ratifying a covenant. ([Gen. 15](#); [Jer. 34:18,19](#))

In the New Testament the corresponding word is *diathece* (diatheke), which is frequently translated *testament* [S.BD]

COVENANT b

There are various covenants found among men. A covenant, in its most general sense, is a solemn promise between two parties.

Each covenant has two sides:
the burden and the benefit.

Both parties are bound by the terms of the covenant.

However, a covenant defines a Relationship:
it reveals that a relationship exists

This is the point in Eph. 2, **for the Gentiles, there was NO Relationship with God.**

EPHESIANS 2b

13 But now **in Christ Jesus** you who formerly were far off **have been brought near by the blood of Christ.**

(The real reason we celebrate Christmas.)

10 For we are His **workmanship**, **created in Christ Jesus** for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

EPHESIANS 2c

14 For **He Himself is** our peace, **who made both groups into one** and **broke down** the barrier of the dividing wall, 15 by **abolishing** in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might **make the two into one new man**, thus establishing peace, 16 and **might reconcile them both in one body to God** through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.

ROMANS 7

² For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. **But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.**

⁴ Likewise, my brothers, **you also have died to the law through the body of Christ**, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.

EPHESIANS 2d

17 And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; 18 for through Him **we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.** 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you **are** fellow citizens with the saints, and **are** of God's household, 20 having been **built on the foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the **corner stone,**