



TELLING THE STORY  
OF WHAT GOD IS  
DOING IN THE WORLD

(PART 3 OF 4)



IN THE NEWS  
LAST WEEK...



# A 74-year-old woman reportedly gave birth to twins, may be the oldest ever to give birth

Joshua Bote, USA TODAY Published 1:26 p.m. ET Sept. 6, 2019 | Updated 1:44 p.m. ET Sept. 9, 2019



A 74-year-old Indian woman has become the oldest mother in the world - after giving birth to twins. SWNS

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A 74-year-old woman from southern India has given birth to her first children, twin girls, Thursday, possibly becoming the oldest woman ever to give birth, local outlets report.

Mangayamma Yaramati opted for in vitro fertilization after years of being unable to conceive, [reported the Times of India](#). She gave birth via cesarean section, and is currently in intensive care "to come out of the stress" of giving birth, doctors said.



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### POPULAR STORIES



## GENESIS 15

God promised Abram:

1. **a son**

2. many offspring

3. **the land of Canaan**



## GENESIS 15

[Abram] said,  
“O Lord GOD,  
how am I to know  
that I shall possess it?”

## GENESIS 15

[God] said to him,

“Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.”

## GENESIS 15

And [Abram] brought him all these,  
cut them in half, and laid each half over  
against the other. But he did not cut the  
birds in half...

























***běrit***

“to cut”

(a covenant)

The background is a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white stars and technical diagrams. On the right side, there are several circular diagrams resembling gauges or dials with numerical scales (e.g., 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and arrows. There are also dashed lines and other geometric shapes scattered across the background.

PROBLEM?



OLD *TESTAMENT?*

NEW *TESTAMENT?*

WHAT IS A *TESTAMENT??*

# Last Will and Testament

\_\_\_\_\_, an adult residing at \_\_\_\_\_  
(city), \_\_\_\_\_ (state), being of \_\_\_\_\_

and Testament. I revoke all wills and codicils previously made by me.

## ARTICLE I

I hereby name \_\_\_\_\_ as my Personal Representative, to serve, the \_\_\_\_\_ Court supervisor.





The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white stars. Overlaid on this are several faint, light blue technical diagrams, including circular gauges with numerical scales (e.g., 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and various circular arrows indicating rotation or flow.

WHY WOULD GOD NEED  
TO MAKE A WILL?  
AND THEN REVISE IT?



# “COVENANT” VS “TESTAMENT”

Hebrew	Greek translation	English Translation
<p><i>bĕrît</i> (to cut a covenant)</p>	<p><i>diatheke</i> (a legal will and/or testament)</p>	<p>= Testament</p>
<p>to cut; to cut a covenant; to seal a solemn oath by cutting a covenant; establish a serious treaty between leaders</p>	<p>[instead of] <i>syntheke</i> (covenant, contract, compact)</p>	<p>= Covenant</p>



“...*diatheke* stood for something laid down with final authority. One cannot bargain with a testator to get better terms. He is dead. It is a case of “take it or leave it.” ... Here God lays down the terms. **Man cannot negotiate with God** in order to get him to change his mind and produce another agreement that better suits the human recipient of his favors. ... indicates an authoritative laying down of the terms.”

Leon Morris, *The Atonement*, p.32









DID AVRAM WALK  
THROUGH THE BLOOD?



# AT LEAST TWO COVENANTS

- Old
- New

**9** <sup>a</sup> I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— <sup>2</sup> that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.

<sup>3</sup> For <sup>b</sup> I could wish that I myself were <sup>c</sup> accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, <sup>1</sup> my kinsmen <sup>d</sup> according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> They are <sup>e</sup> Israelites, and to them belong <sup>f</sup> the adoption, <sup>g</sup> the glory, <sup>h</sup> the covenants, <sup>i</sup> the giving of the law, <sup>j</sup> the worship, and <sup>k</sup> the promises. <sup>5</sup> To them belong <sup>l</sup> the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, <sup>m</sup> who is God over all, <sup>n</sup> blessed forever. Amen.

<sup>6</sup> But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, <sup>7</sup> and not all are children of Abraham <sup>o</sup> because they are his offspring, but <sup>p</sup> “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>8</sup> This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but <sup>q</sup> the children of the promise are counted as offspring. <sup>9</sup> For this is what the promise said: <sup>r</sup> “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.” <sup>10</sup> And not only so, but <sup>s</sup> also when Rebekah had









Olive oil!

JEANNE CALMERT ON HER 120<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY (D.122!)





Olive oil!

MARIAM AMASH ON HER 120<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY (D.124!)



"wild  
ingrafted  
branches"

"natural branches"

New Covenant!!!  
(Jer.32-32, Ezk.36, etc.)

Mosaic Covenant  
(Ex. 19-20) &  
Palestinian Covenant  
(Deut. 27-30)

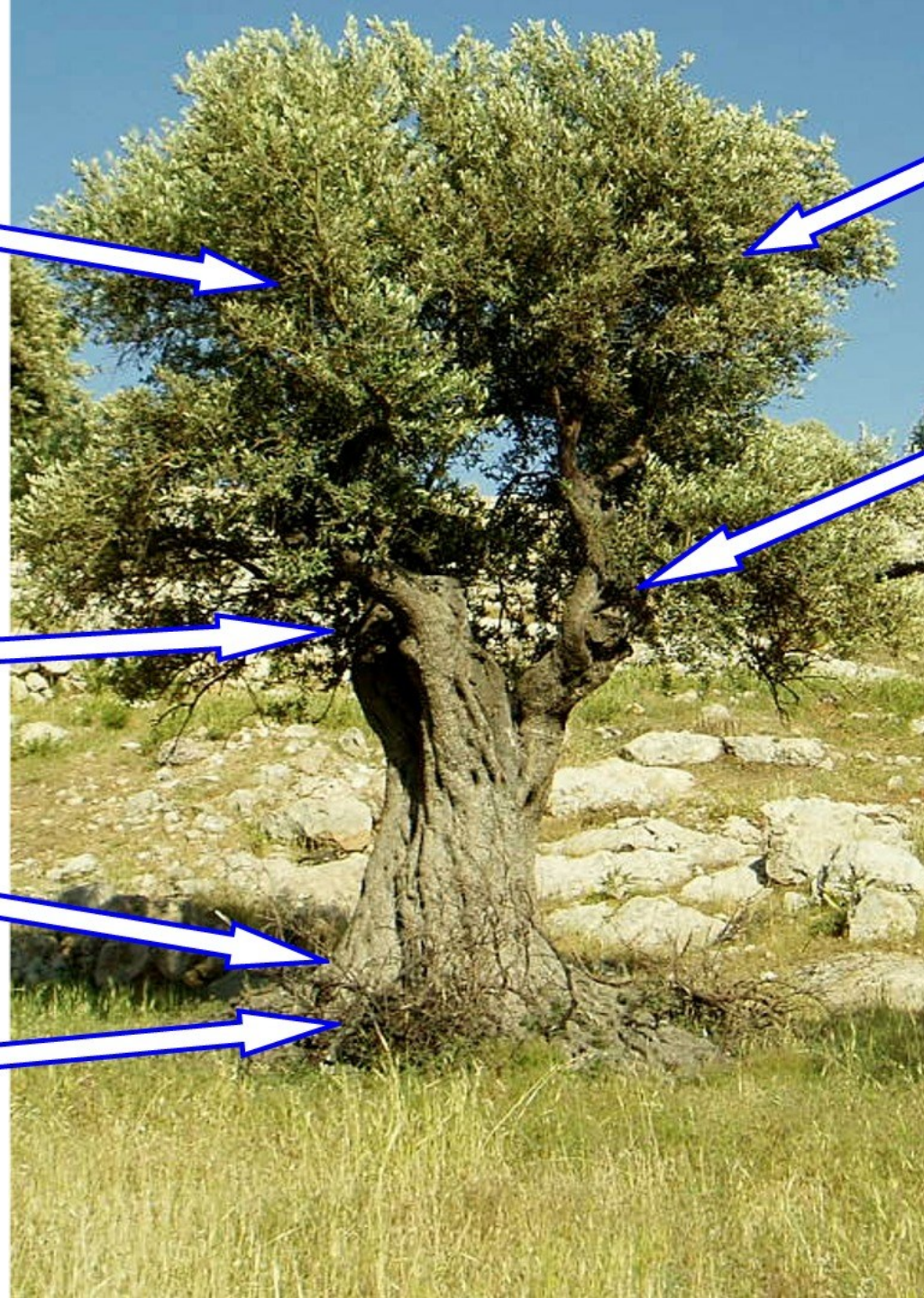
Davidic Covenant  
(2 Sam. 7:4-17)

Covenant with Noah  
(Gen. 6-9)

Abrahamic  
Covenant  
(Gen. 15)

Covenant with Creation  
(Gen. 1-3)

God's  
Grace/Generosity,  
Mercy, & Love





# NO COVENANT = NO RELATIONSHIP = NO BLESSINGS

- Buy me a hamburger
- Buy me an automobile
- Put the down payment on my new home
- Give me half of your belongings
- Give me my inheritance now

## EPHESIANS 2 B

Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles ... were at that time **separated** from Christ, **alienated** from the commonwealth of Israel and **strangers to the covenants of promise**, having **no hope** and **without God** in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once **were far off** have been **brought near** by the **blood** of Christ. For he himself is our **peace**, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the **dividing** wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances...



## EPHESIANS 2 B

... that he might create in himself **one** new man in place of the two, so making **peace**, and might **reconcile us** both to God in **one** body through the **cross**, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were **far off** and peace to those who **were near**. For through him we both **have access** in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are **no longer strangers and aliens**, but you are **fellow citizens** with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone...



## POSSIBLE OBJECTION

Negative imagery! So bloody!  
Barbaric! Primitive! Terrible!  
Ghastly! Brutish! Grotesque!  
Animalistic! Red in tooth and  
claw! Repulsive!



## POSSIBLE ANSWERS

- ✓ What is more holy, precious, and valuable to us than our life-blood?
- ✓ Blood is needed for the most serious covenants. What shd happen to the one who breaks the covenant / treaty?
- ✓ “The cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God ... we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles.” (1 Cor. 1)

*Laws Against Eating Blood*

Leviticus 17

<sup>10</sup> “If any one of the house of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn among them <sup>d</sup> eats any blood, I will <sup>e</sup> set my face against that person who eats blood and will cut him off from among his people. <sup>11</sup> <sup>f</sup> For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar <sup>g</sup> to make atonement for your souls, <sup>h</sup> for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life. <sup>12</sup> Therefore I have said to the people of Israel, No person among you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger who sojourns among you eat blood.

<sup>13</sup> “Any one also of the people of Israel, or of the strangers who sojourn among them, who takes in hunting any beast or bird that may be eaten shall <sup>i</sup> pour out its blood and <sup>j</sup> cover it with earth. <sup>14</sup> For the life of every creature <sup>l</sup> is its <sup>k</sup> blood: its blood is its life. <sup>2</sup> Therefore I have said to the people of Israel, You shall not eat the blood of any creature, for the life of every creature is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off. <sup>15</sup> <sup>l</sup> And every person who eats what dies of itself or what is torn by beasts, <sup>m</sup> whether he is a native or a sojourner, <sup>n</sup> shall wash his clothes and <sup>o</sup> bathe himself in water and be unclean until the evening; then he shall be clean. <sup>16</sup> But if he does not wash them or bathe his flesh, <sup>p</sup> he shall

“bear his iniquity.”



# HOMework

Find someone to tell the story to!

The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white stars and technical diagrams. On the right side, there are several circular diagrams resembling gauges or dials with numerical scales (e.g., 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210) and arrows. On the left, there are dashed circular paths with arrows indicating direction. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, suggesting a focus on precision and clarity.

THE MAIN PURPOSE IN TELLING  
THE STORY THE STORY OF JESUS



## JOHN 20

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but **these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**

# JOHN 20

“by believing you may have life in his name.”

Clarification...



## John 6

Then they said to [Jesus],  
**“What must we do, to be doing the  
works of God?”**

## John 6

Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you **believe in him** whom he has sent ... everyone who looks on the Son and **believes in him** should **have eternal life**, and I will **raise him up on the last day.**”



The background features a dark blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white stars and technical diagrams. On the right side, there is a large circular diagram with concentric circles and radial lines, resembling a gauge or a scale, with numerical markings from 80 to 210. Below it is another circular diagram with dashed lines and arrows. On the left side, there are smaller circular diagrams, one with a dashed arrow pointing left and another with a solid arrow pointing right.

Comments?

Questions?

## SOURCES / FURTHER READING

Leon Morris *The Atonement: Its Meaning and Significance* (1983)

Leon Morris *The Apostolic Preaching of the Cross* (1955)

Lewis Sperry Chafer *Major Bible Themes* (1926)

David Olander *The Greatness of His Blood and the New Covenant* (2015)

J. Dwight Pentecost *Thy Kingdom Come: Tracing God's Kingdom Program and Covenant Promises Throughout History* (1995)

Gentry & Wellum *God's Kingdom through God's Covenants: A Concise Biblical Theology* (2015)

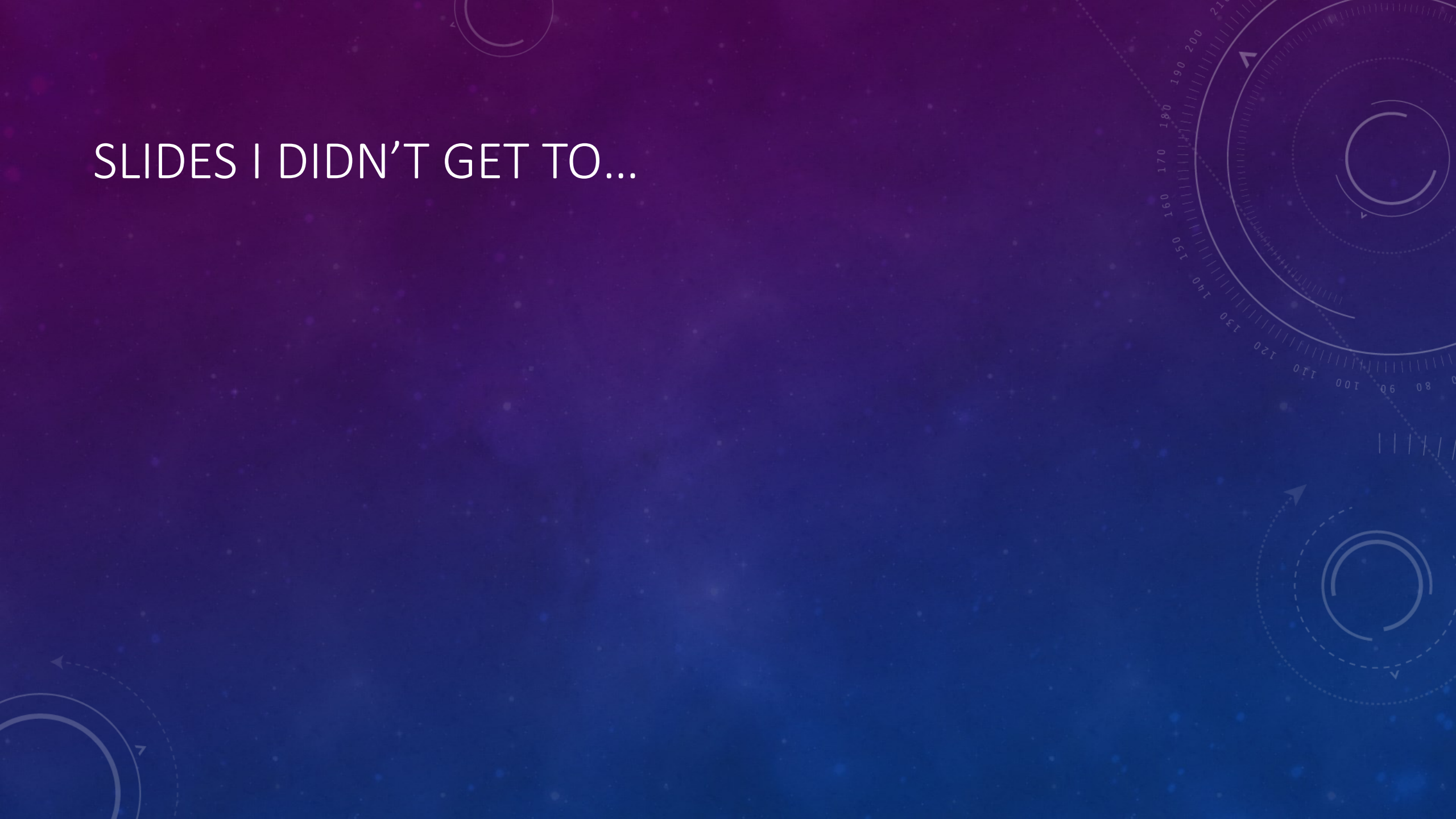
Christopher Cone, ed. *An Introduction to the New Covenant* (2013)



NO ANIMALS WERE HARMED IN THE  
MAKING OF THIS PRESENTATION



SLIDES I DIDN'T GET TO...





## LUKE 1

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, <sup>2</sup> just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, <sup>3</sup> it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, **to write an orderly account** for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> **that you may have certainty** concerning the things you have been taught.

## PAUL TO TIMOTHY (1 TIM 4)

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. [Includes telling \*the\* story!] Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. **Practice these things, immerse yourself in them**, so that all may see your progress. Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing **you will save both yourself and your hearers.**



## HEB 1:1-4

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

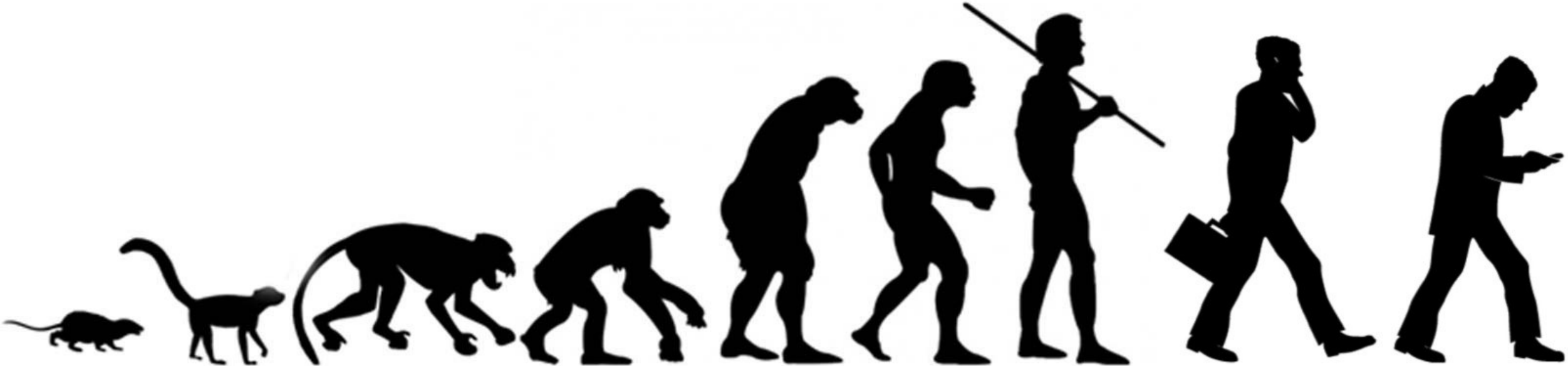
## PHIL 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



All this emphasizes the fact that among the Greeks *diatheke* stood for something laid down with final authority. One cannot bargain with a testator to get better terms. He is dead. It is a case of 'take it or leave it.' ... Here God lays down the terms. Man cannot negotiate with God in order to get him to change his mind and produce another agreement that better suits the human recipient of his favors. It may well be that the translators of the Old Testament [into the Greek Septuagint] felt that *syntheke*, the ordinary word for a compact, would convey the wrong impression if used of covenants which God made. It was too much concerned with two-sidedness, with conceding as little as one must and getting as much as one can. It stood for making a deal and that the best deal that one's negotiating skills made possible. This was not what the Old Testament writers were talking about, so the translators forsook the word that might well have conveyed this meaning. Instead they used a word which indicates an authoritative laying down of the terms. And once they had made their choice on the basis of the covenants God made, they had to use it for those other covenants too. When we turn to the New Testament, it seems indisputable that sometimes *diatheke* means a covenant and sometimes a will.

# EVOLUTIONARY STORYTELLING





# EVOLUTIONARY STORYTELLING

- We do live in a world full of change
- We may want to believe that everything is getting better
- But after 100 years since the Scopes Trial and 150 years since Darwin...
  - Fruit fly experiments – flies are still flies
  - E. coli bacteria experiments – e.coli is still e.coli
  - Cells are complex like cities!
  - Massive amounts of meaningful information in the DNA codes
  - Micro = Macro? On one hand, leave room for micro! On other, leave no room for macro!
  - The probability of building our very modest functional protein to be 1 in  $10^{164}$ . (And life requires hundreds of proteins.)
  - [www.dissentfromdarwin.com](http://www.dissentfromdarwin.com) and [www.evolutionnews.org](http://www.evolutionnews.org)
- = Don't tell the story of spiritual or material evolution

# MARXIST EQUALITY PROGRESSIVISM

- Marx's prophecies about Germany failed
- Marxism has never worked anywhere in 100 years
- The weak do not need to revolt against the strong
- The have-nots do not need to revolt against the haves
- Rebels do not need to destroy all established sources of authority or truth
- Two wrongs don't make one right
- Don't propagate the Marxist/Neo-Marxist story