

A portrait of Dr. John S. Bergsma, a man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. The background is a blurred green, suggesting an outdoor setting with trees.

# How to Get Through the Bible in an Hour:

## Teaching the “Big Picture” of Salvation History

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*Franciscan University of Steubenville*

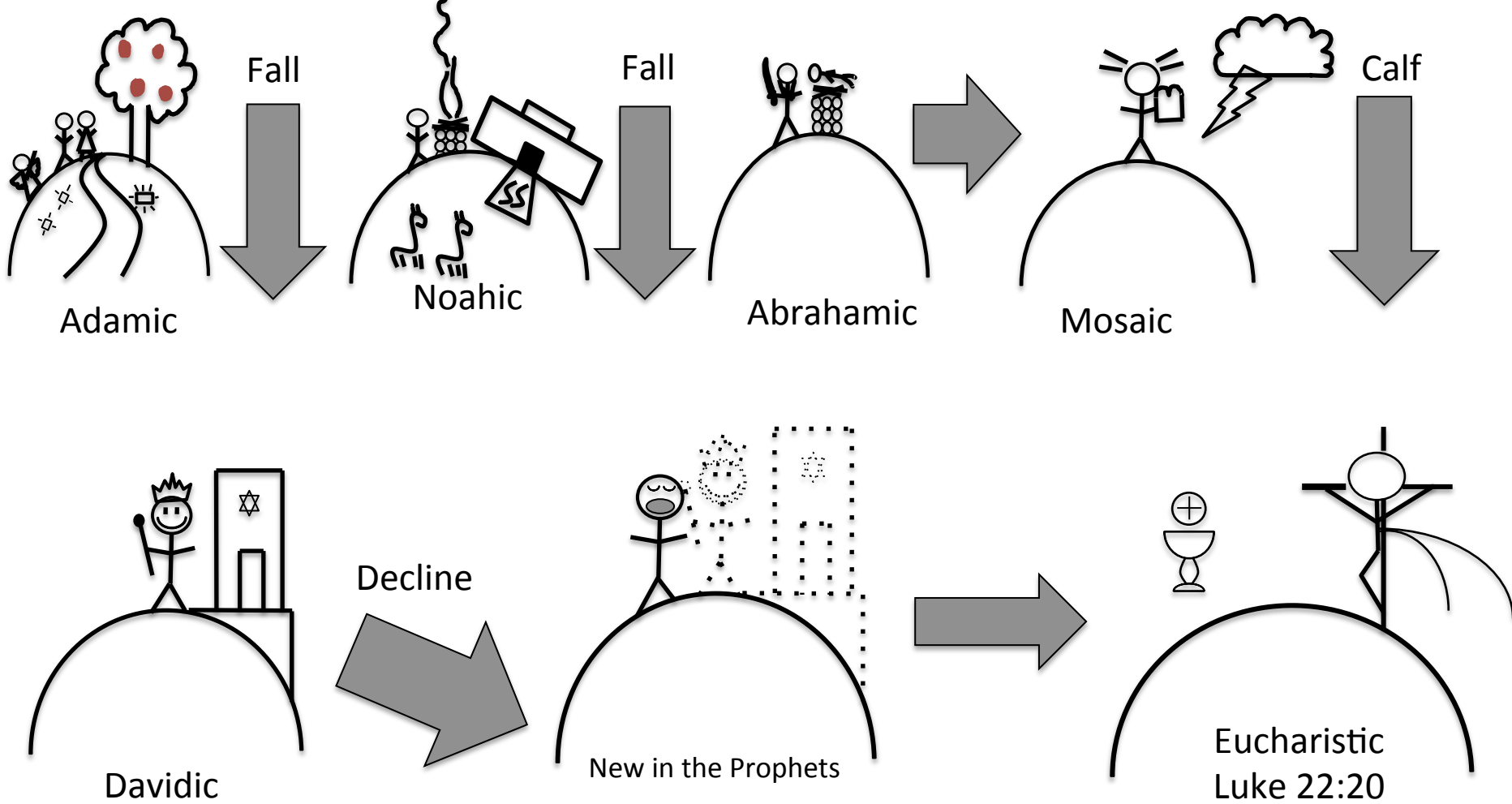


Diagram of the Seven Covenants of the Bible

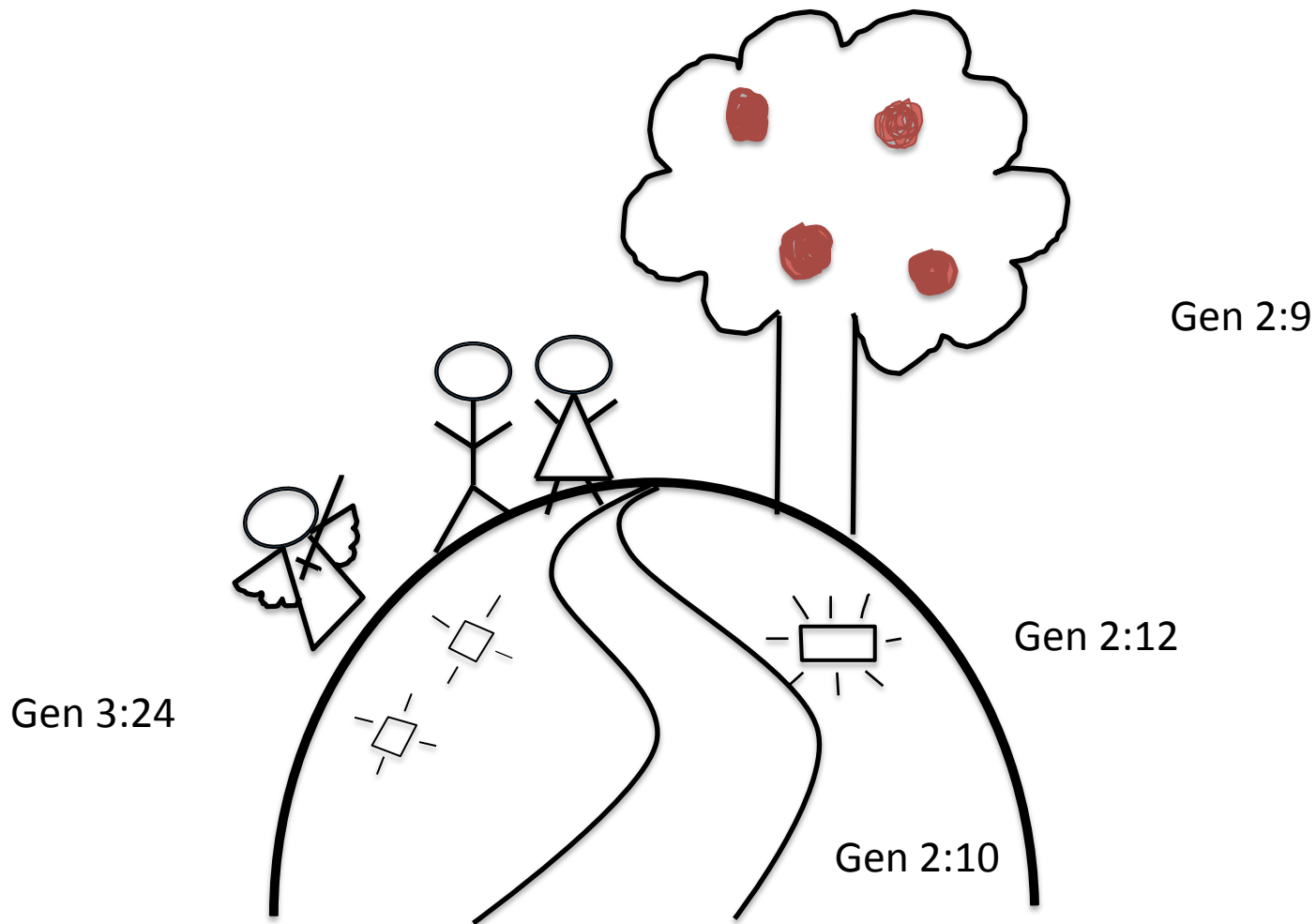
# The Central Focus: *Covenant*

- What is a covenant?
  - *The extension of kinship by oath*
- Why should we think “covenant” important?
  - *The Bible is divided into two **covenants***
  - *The Liturgy says: “again and again you offered a **covenant** to man,” or now, “time and again you offered them **covenants**”*
  - *The Eucharist is “the new and eternal **covenant**”*
    - *This implies old and temporary ones that preceded it*

# More on Covenants

- Why does God deal with us through covenants?
  - *Because he wants to make us his family, though we are not by nature*
- Understanding the Bible depends on grasping the sequence of covenants

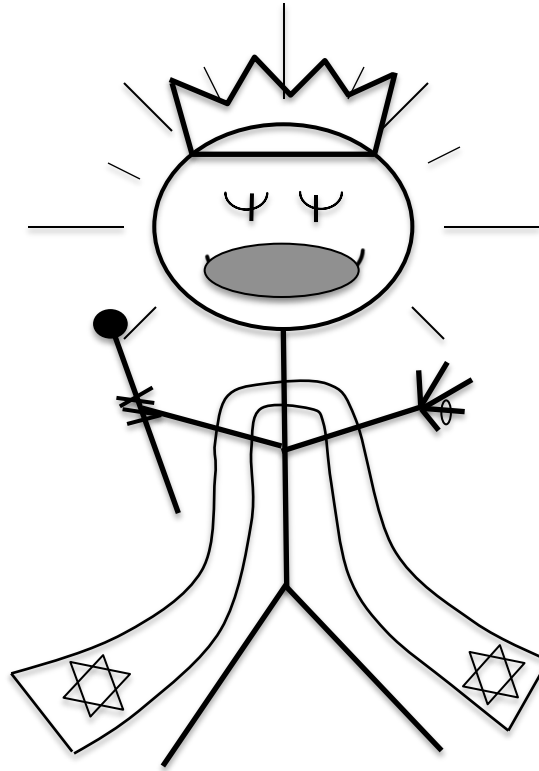
# The “Adamic” or “Creation” Covenant



**Mt. Eden** (Ezek 28:14)

# A Close-Up on Adam

These are the privileges of the covenant:



1. Son: Gen 1:26; 5:3  
*"image" and "likeness"*

2. King: Gen 1:26  
*"dominion"*

3. Priest: Gen 2:15  
*"work" and "guard"*

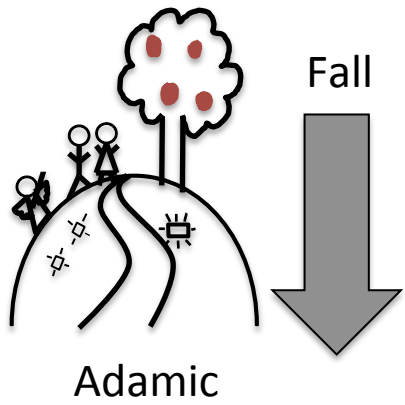
4. Prophet: Gen 2:19-20

5. Bridegroom: Gen 2:23-25

These roles for us: CCC §901-908

# What Happened?

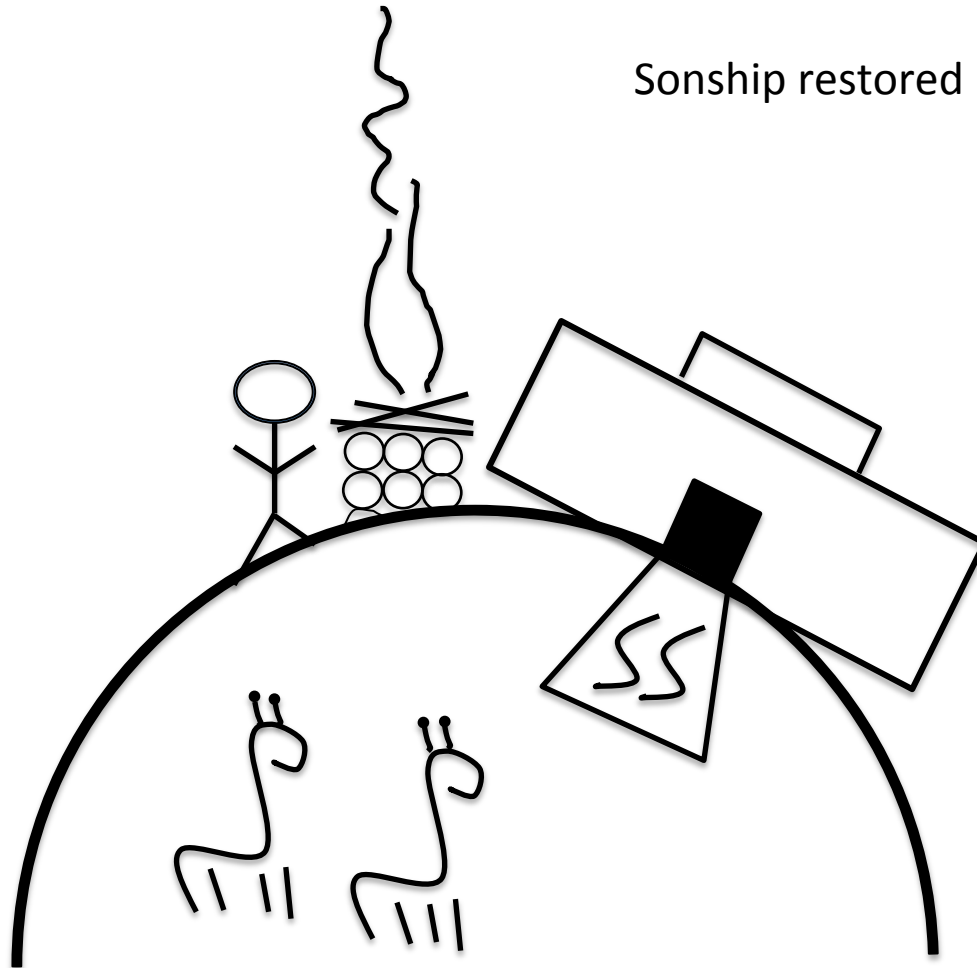
- A Fall involving:
  - Consumption of fruit
  - Nakedness
  - Shame
  - Curse
  - Genesis 3:1-24





# The Noahic Covenant

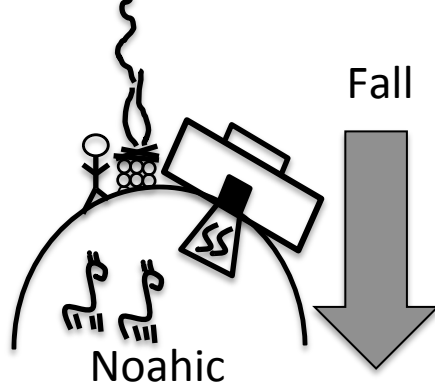
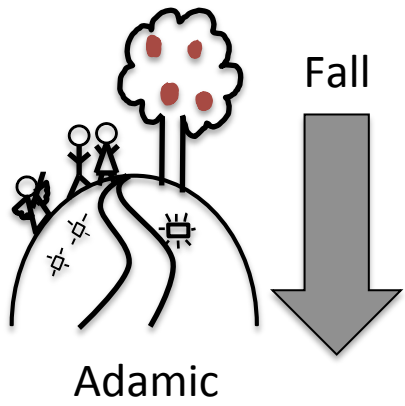
Sonship restored but *shalom* lost ...  
Genesis 8:2–9:17



**Mt. Ararat**

# What Happened?

- A Fall involving:
  - Consumption of fruit
  - Nakedness
  - Shame
  - Curse
  - Genesis 9:20-27



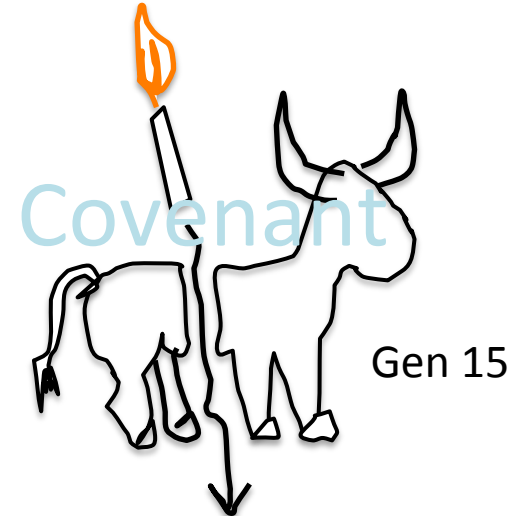
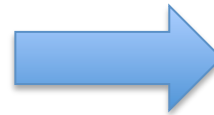
# The Abrahamic Covenant

- A different approach than the flood
  - God will work with one man’s family to restore blessing to all the world

A Triple Blessing Begins Abraham’s Journey: “2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you... and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves.” —Gen 12:2-3

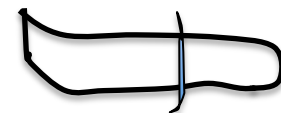
## Promise

I will make you *a great nation* (Gen 12:2)



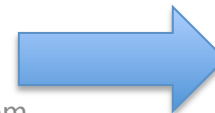
Gen 15

I will make your *name great* (Gen 12:2b)



Gen 17

Thru you all *nations will be blessed* (Gen 12:3)

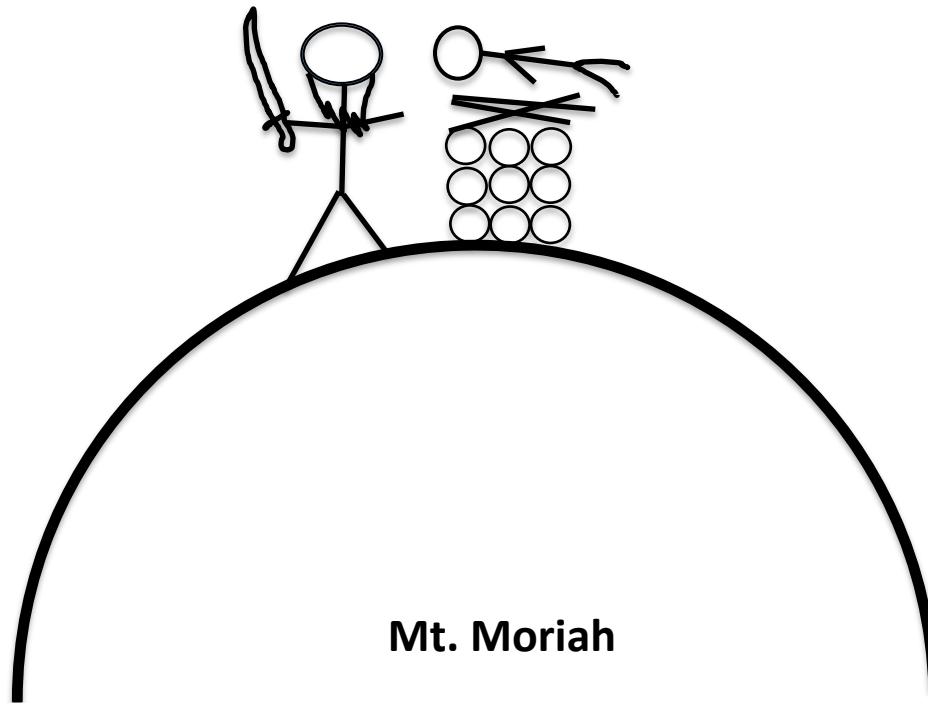


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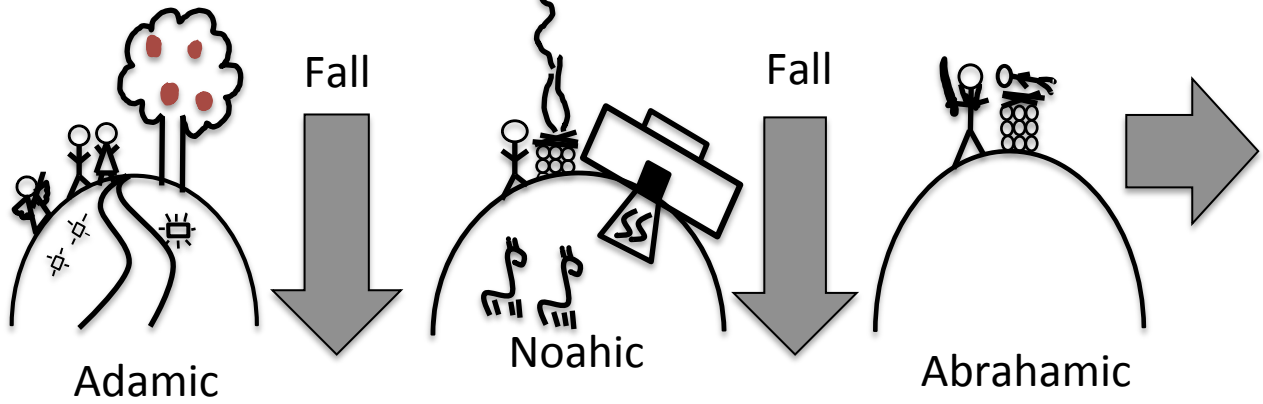
# The Abrahamic Covenant

I have sworn... because you have not withheld your  
only begotten son, I will surely bless you...  
And by your seed shall all the nations  
of the earth be blessed”

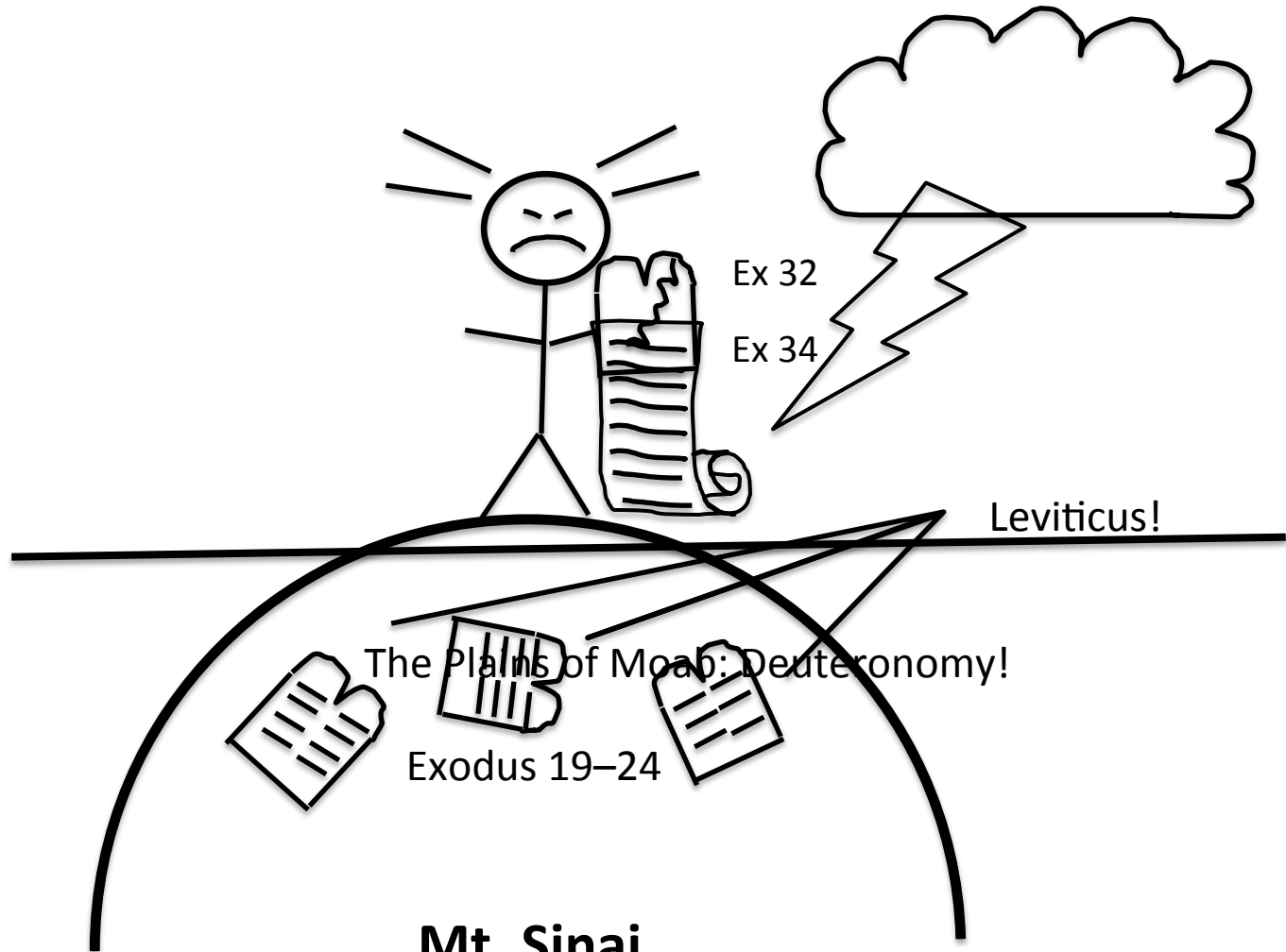
Gen 22:16-18



**Mt. Moriah**



# The Mosaic Covenant





**Mt. Sinai**

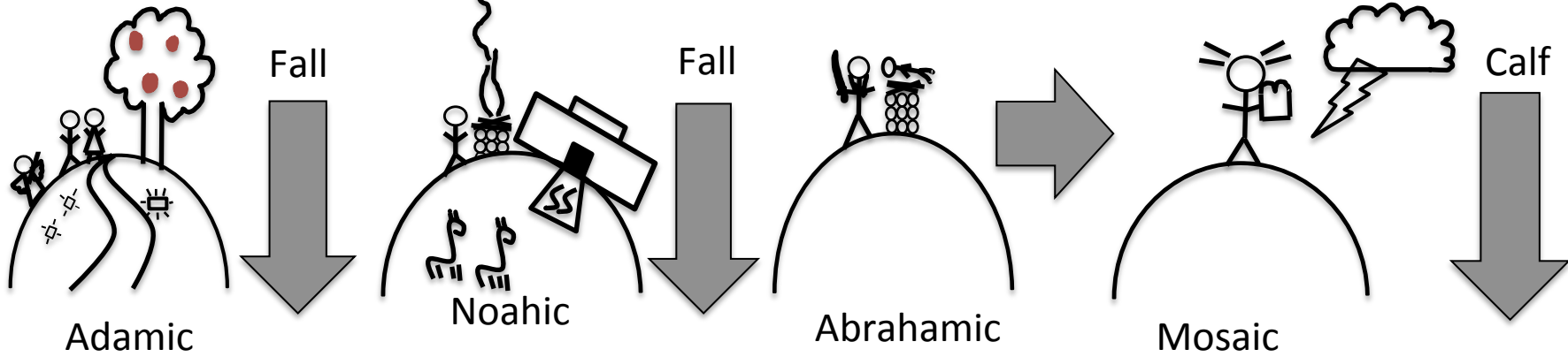
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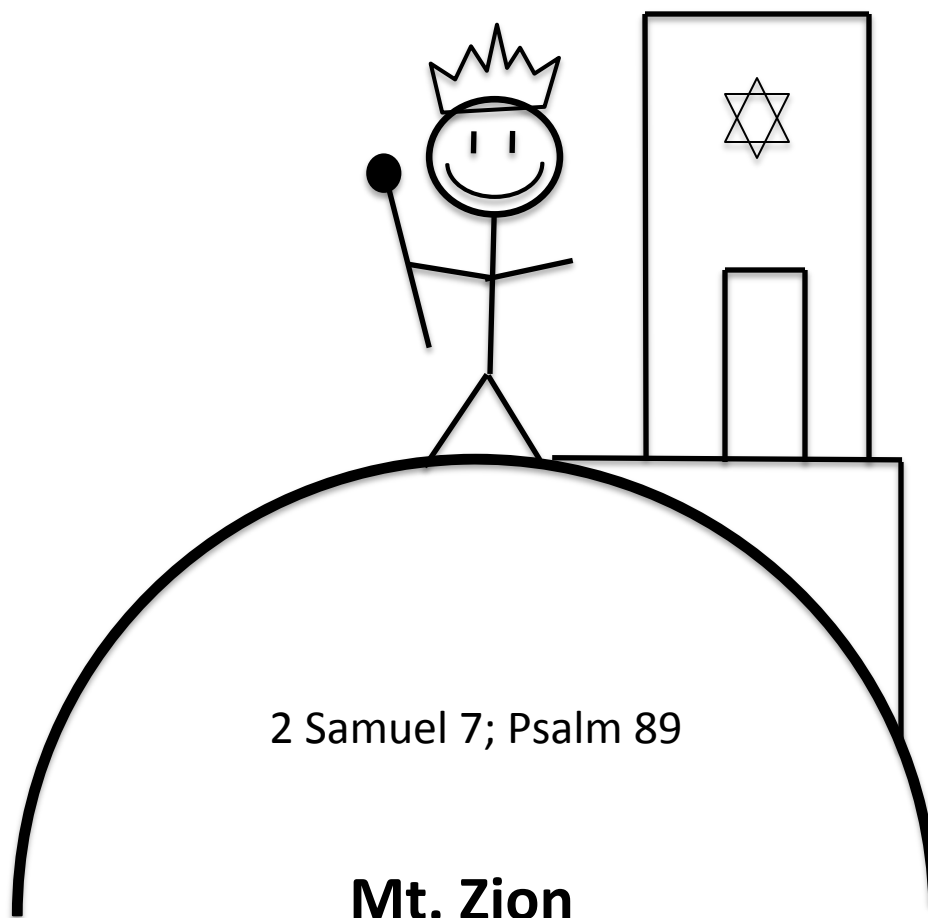
# What Happened?

- Fall!  The Golden Calf (Exod 32)
- Covenant Renewed (Ex 34), but More Laws (Leviticus!)
- Lots More Falls in the Wilderness (Numbers)  

- Covenant Renewed (Deuteronomy)
- But Severe & Compromised!





# The Davidic Covenant



2 Samuel 7; Psalm 89

**Mt. Zion**

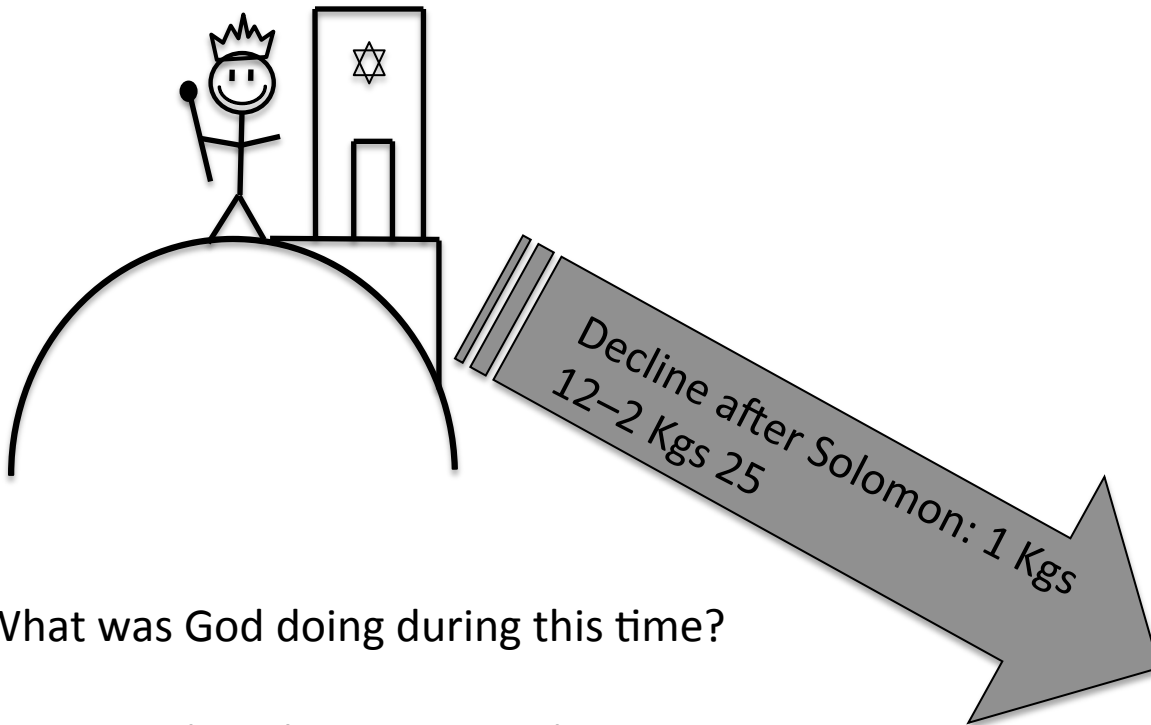
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The King is Son of God  
2 Sam 7:14

The King will build  
the Temple: 2 Sam 7:13

The King will rule the  
whole world: Ps. 2:8;  
89:25-27

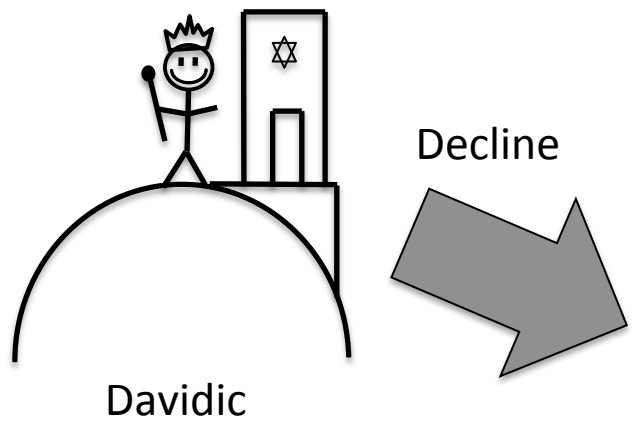
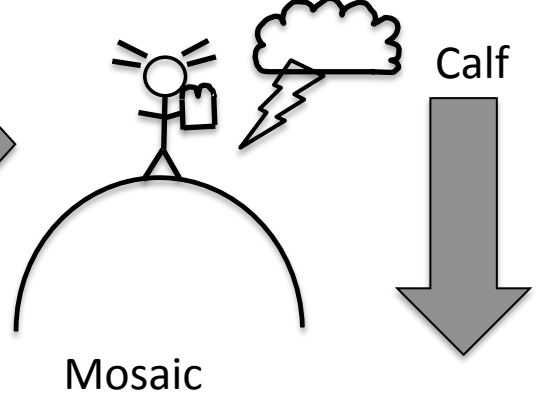
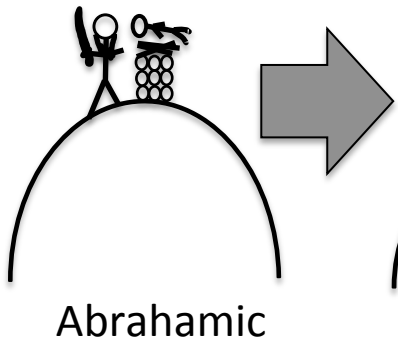
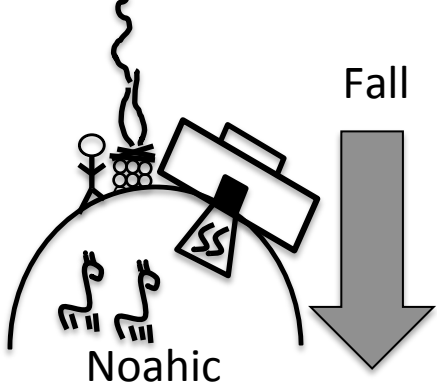
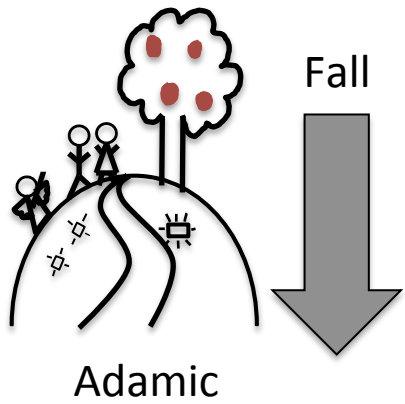
# What Happened to the Davidic Covenant?



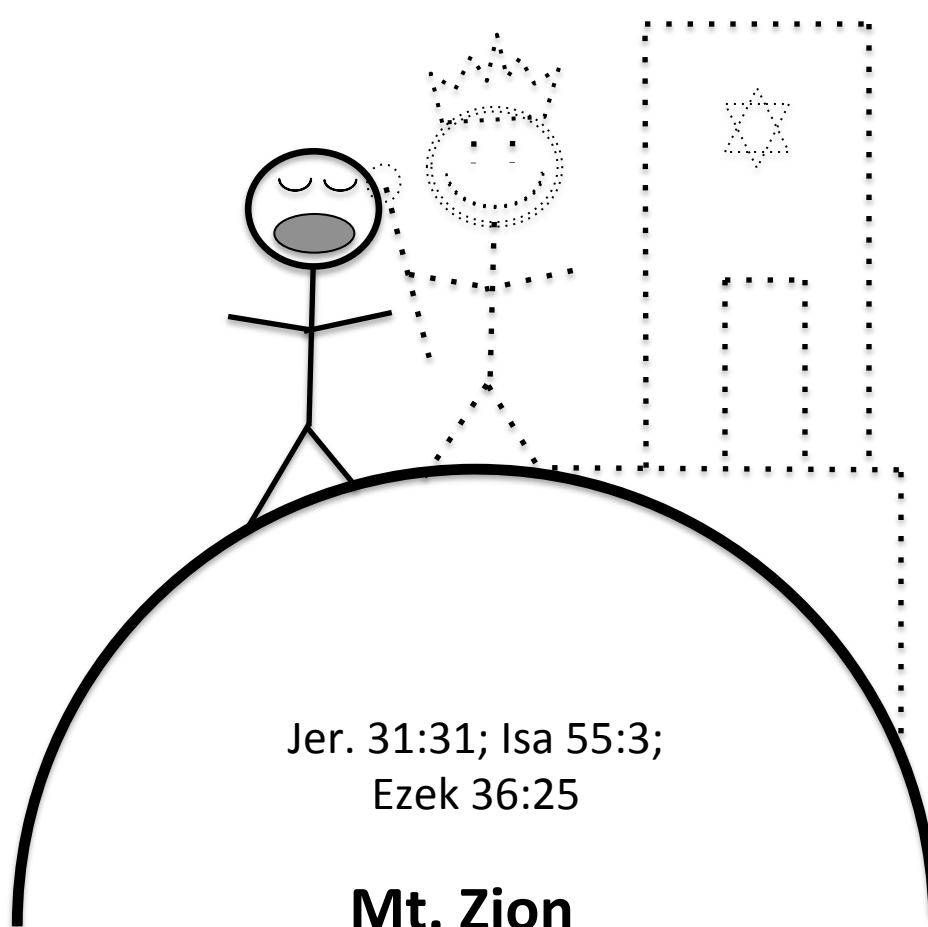
What was God doing during this time?

Sending the PROPHETS!

**Exile!**



# The New Covenant in the Prophets



Jer. 31:31; Isa 55:3;  
Ezek 36:25

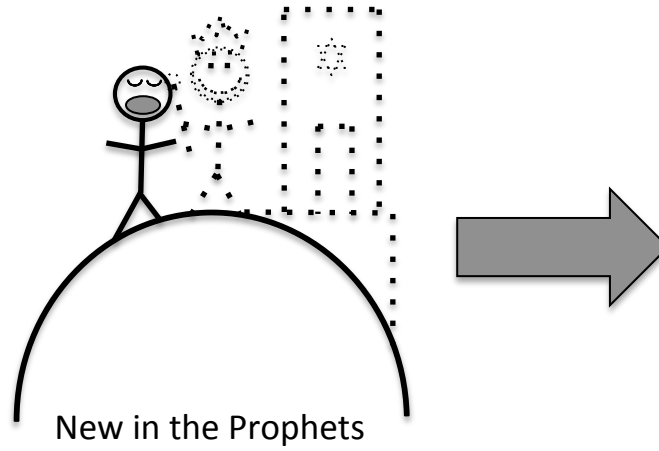
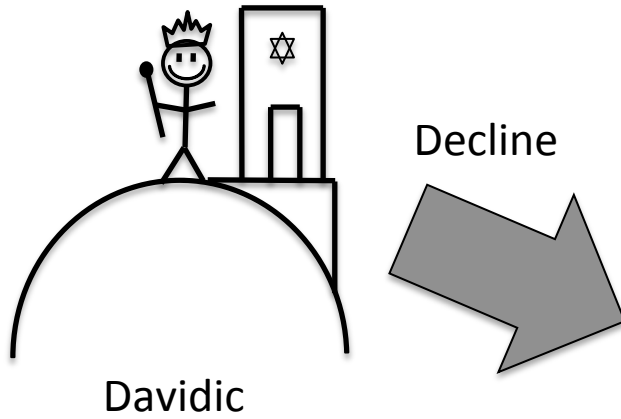
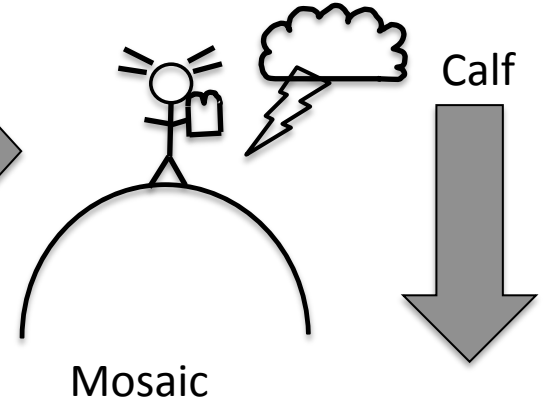
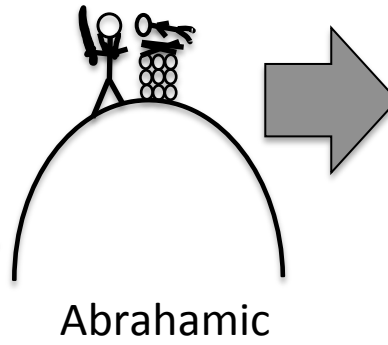
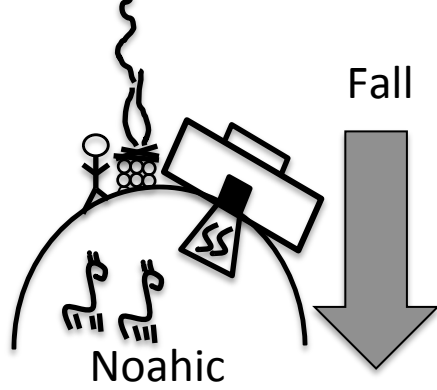
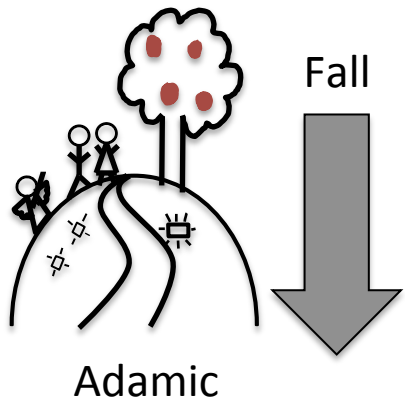
**Mt. Zion**

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“Behold, the days are  
“And the LORD will be  
“Incline your ear, and  
their God, and my  
come to me, and I  
when I will make a new  
servant David shall be  
your soul may live, and I  
covenant with the house  
of Israel, and the house of  
Judah. — Jer 31:31  
steadfast, sure love for  
David. — Is 55:3

securely in the  
wilderness and sleep in  
the woods.

— Ezek 34:24-25

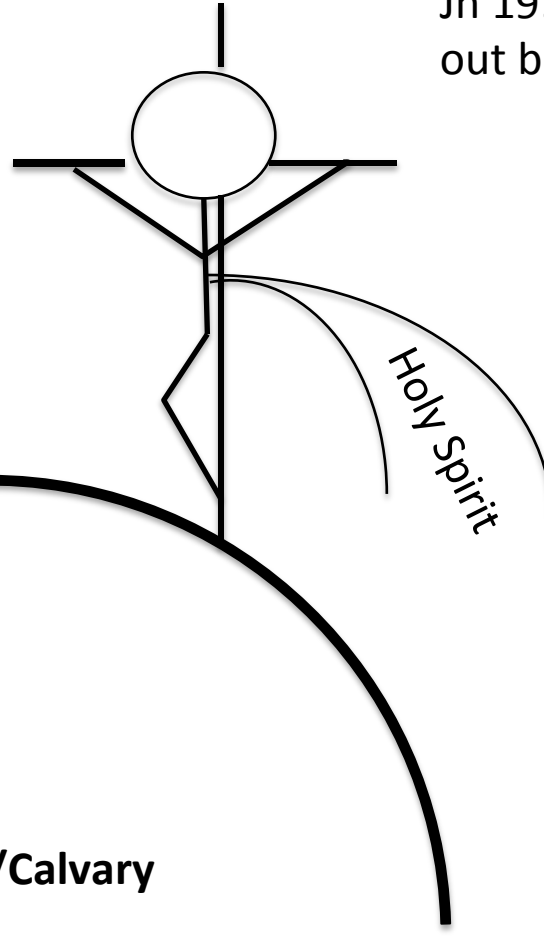
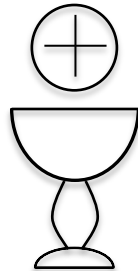


# The Eucharistic Covenant

- Jesus Comes to Fulfill all the covenants
  - Matt. 1:1: “The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.”
    - Gen 5:1: “The book of the genealogy of Adam ...”
    - *The* son of David, not *a* son of David
    - *The* son of Abraham, not *a* son of Abraham
  - Jesus a new Moses: bread from heaven, etc.
  - Jesus a new David by his exorcisms, etc.

# The Eucharistic Covenant

This cup ... is the *new covenant* in my blood  
—Luke 22:20



Jn 19:34: “There came out blood and water”

Jn 7:37: “Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water”

Gal 4:6: “God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

**Mt. Zion/Calvary**



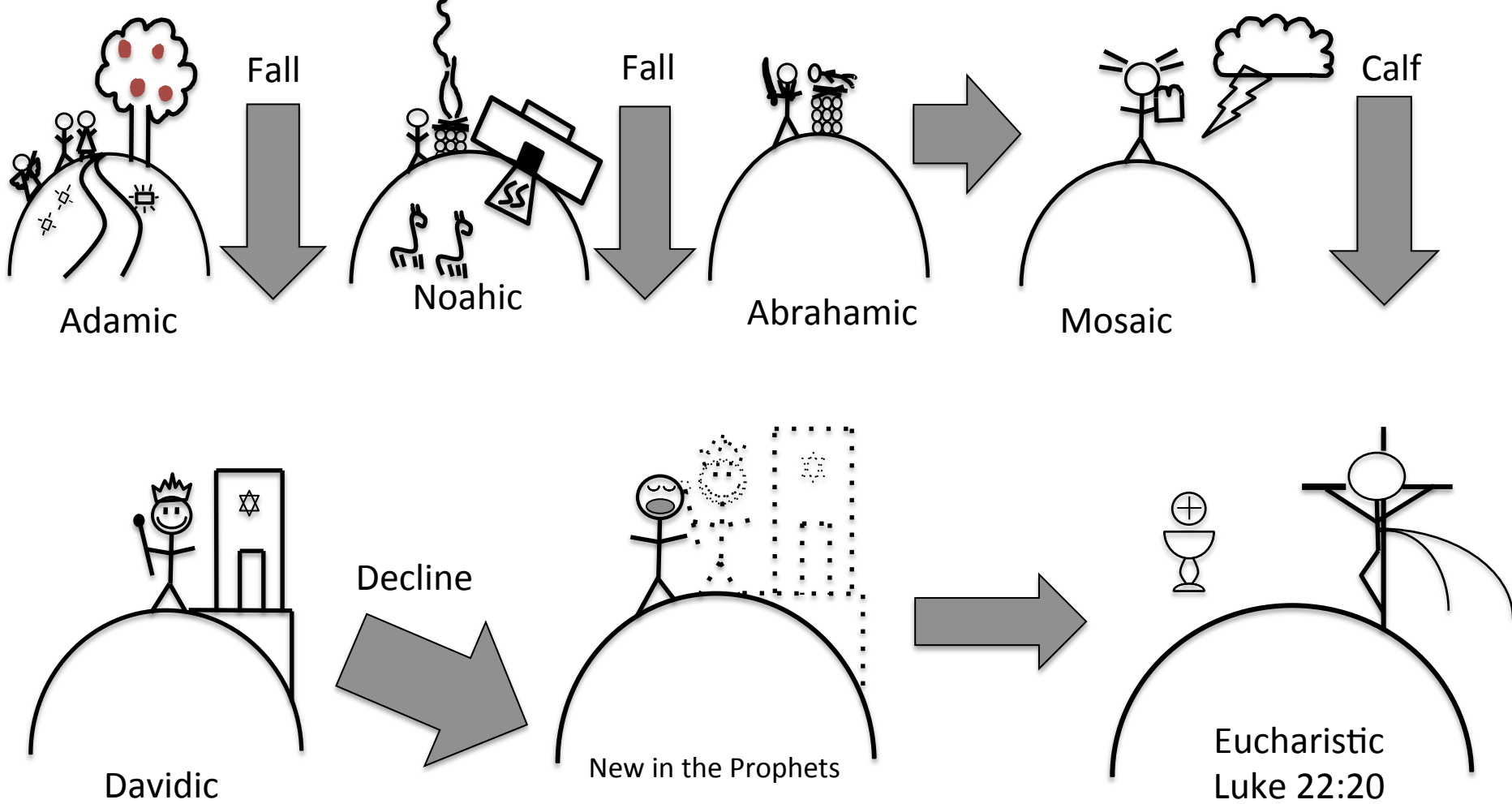
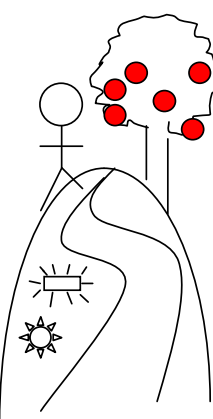
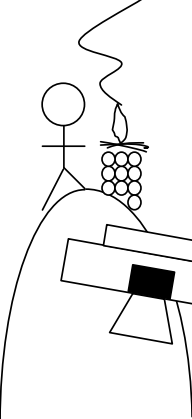

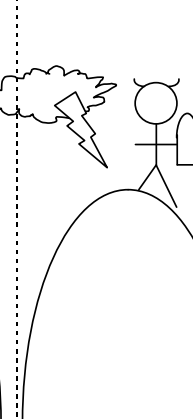
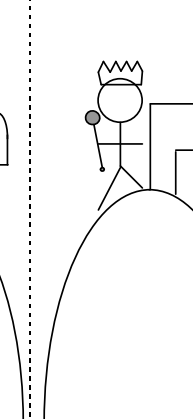
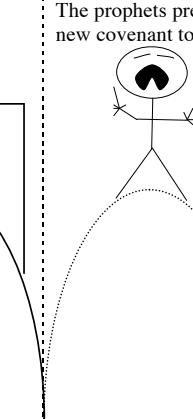
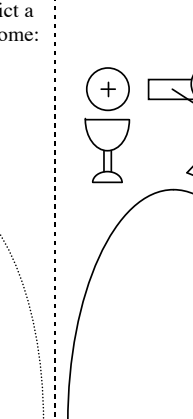


Diagram of the Seven Covenants of the Bible

Name	“Adamic” or “Creation”	“Noahic”	“Abrahamic”	“Mosaic” or “Sinai”	“Davidic”	“New”	“Eucharistic”
							
Mediator	Adam	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David	Son of David	Jesus
Mountain	Eden	Ararat	Moriah	Sinai	Zion	Zion	Calvary (Zion)
Organization	Married couple	Extended Family	Tribe	Nation	Kingdom (Empire)	Kingdom (Empire)	Church
Scripture	Genesis 1-2	Genesis 9	Gen 12:1-3; Gen 15; Gen 17; <b>Gen 22</b>	Exod 19-24 (fulfills Gen 15)	2 Sam 7 Pss. 89, 132 (fulfills Gen 17)	Jer 31:31-35 Ezek 37:24-28 Isa 55:1-5	Luke 22:14-32 esp. v. 20
	Roles of Adam: 1) Firstborn Son 2) King 3) Priest 4) Prophet 5) Universal Bridegroom		Promises to Abraham: 1) A Great Nation → Fulfilled		2) A Great Name → Fulfilled (Royalty)		3) Universal Blessing (to all nations) → Fulfilled
	Covenants of Creation			Covenants of Redemption			

## Seven Covenants of Salvation History

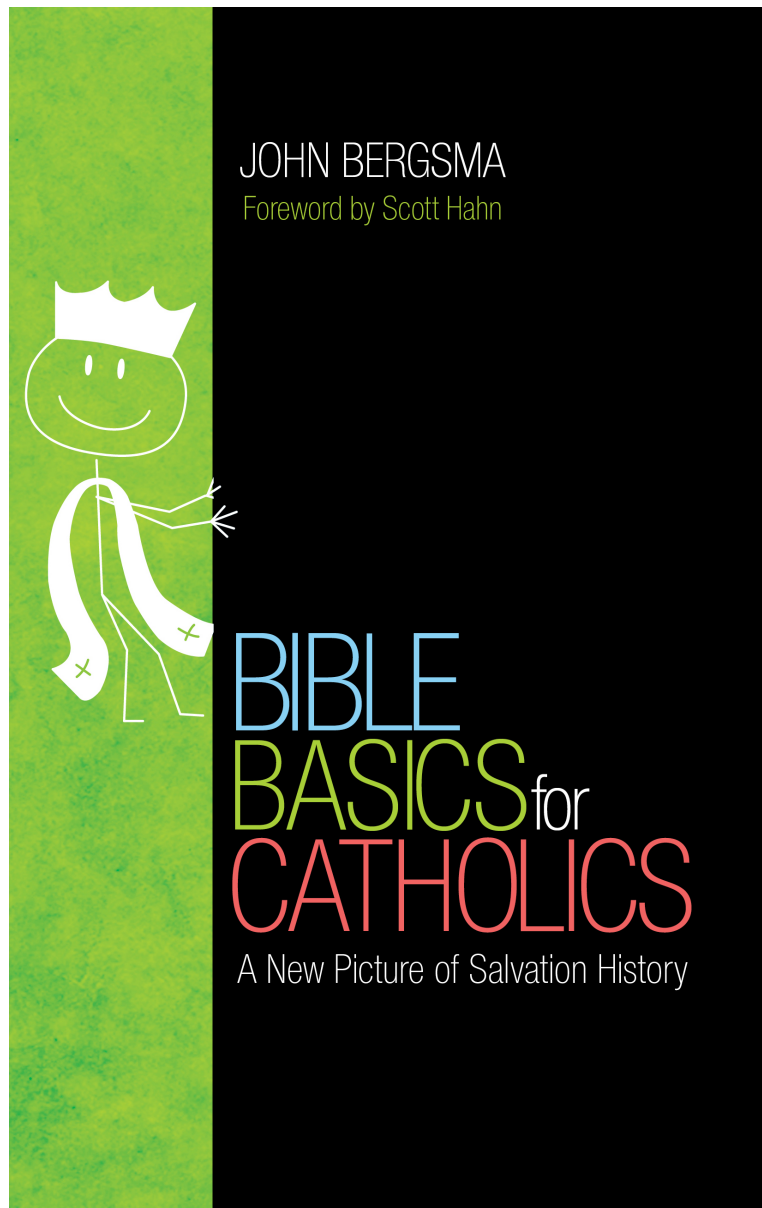
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