

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements.....	9
Abbreviations.....	13
Chapter 1: Introduction to Covenant Theology	15
The Difficult Nature of Covenant Theology	15
The Importance of Covenant Theology.....	17
The Definition of Covenant.....	18
The Covenant of Redemption	19
Covenant in Historical Perspective.....	20
Chapter 2: The Covenant of Works.....	23
The Evidence for the Covenant of Works in Genesis 1–3	24
The Elements of a Covenant in Genesis 1–3	24
Hosea 6:7: A Reference to a Covenant with Adam?.....	27
Major Issues in the Covenant of Works	28
The Name of the Covenant.....	28
The Role of Grace in the Covenant of Works.....	31
The Covenant of Works and the Gospel.....	33
Chapter 3: The Initiation of the Covenant of Grace.....	37
Genesis 3:15: The Protoevangelium (the first gospel)	38
The Covenant of Works and the Covenant of Grace.....	41
Issues related to the Covenant of Grace	42
The Condition of Faith	42
The Unity of the Covenant	43
The Parties to the Covenant of Grace	44
The Historical Administration of the Covenant	45
Chapter 4: The Noahic Covenant	47
The Triumph of Sin	48
The Judgment of the Flood.....	50
The Common Grace and Redemptive Elements in the Noahic Covenant	50
The Use of 'My Covenant' in Genesis 6:18	51
Preparations for the Flood	52
The Preservation of the Godly Line through the Flood	53
God's Covenant with Noah.....	54
The Continuing Problem of Sin (Genesis 9:18–29).....	55
The Noahic Covenant and the Covenant of Grace	56
The Typological Elements of the Flood.....	57

Chapter 5: The Abrahamic Covenant	61
Genesis 12: The Promises of God.....	61
Genesis 15: The Establishment of the Covenant.....	63
Genesis 17: The Confirmation of the Covenant.....	66
The Meaning of Circumcision	69
The Emphasis on Offspring.....	72
Chapter 6: The Mosaic Covenant	75
The Historical Context of the Mosaic Covenant.....	75
God's Promises to Abraham.....	75
God Remembered His Covenant with Abraham.....	76
The Setting of the Covenant (Exodus 19)	77
The Ratification of the Covenant (Exodus 24).....	79
The Giving of the Law (Exodus 20:1–23:19).....	80
The Conquest of the Land (Exodus 23:20-33).....	81
The Covenant Ceremony (Exodus 24).....	81
Deuteronomy: Covenant Renewal	84
The Mosaic Covenant and the Abrahamic Covenant.....	87
The Distinctive Nature of the Mosaic Covenant	88
The Blessings and Curses of the Mosaic Covenant.....	93
Chapter 7: The Davidic Covenant	97
God's Promises to David (2 Samuel 7).....	98
Background and Setting	98
The Dynastic Oracle	99
The Implications of the Davidic Covenant.....	103
Differences between 2 Samuel 7 and 1 Chronicles 17.....	106
The Culmination of God's Covenant Promises	108
The Development of the Idea of Kingship.....	108
Fulfillment of Earlier Covenant Promises	111
The King as Mediator of God's People.....	112
Chapter 8: The New Covenant	115
Israel's History of Disobedience.....	115
Will the Davidic Promises Be Fulfilled?.....	117
Where is God's Covenant Faithfulness (Psalm 89)?.....	117
The Restoration of the Davidic King (Psalm 132).....	118
The Promise of a New Covenant	120
The Fulfillment of the Covenant Promises	127
Chapter 9: Major and Minor Variations to Covenant Theology.....	139
Minor Variations to Covenant Theology.....	139
O. Palmer Robertson, <i>The Christ of the Covenants</i>	139

John Murray: ‘The Adamic Administration’	141
Major Variations to Covenant Theology	145
W. J. Dumbrell, <i>Covenant and Creation</i>	145
Paul R. Williamson, Sealed with an Oath.....	149
Evaluation of Williamson’s Views.....	154
Federal Vision	156
Conclusions: Key Doctrines Related to Justification by Faith	163
Chapter 10: Meredith Kline: Covenants as Administrations	
of God’s Kingdom	165
Covenant and Kingdom	166
The Covenant of Creation.....	166
Common Grace Covenants.....	168
The Noahic Covenant.....	170
Redemptive Covenants.....	171
The Covenant of Genesis 6:18	171
The Abrahamic Covenant	173
The Mosaic Covenant.....	175
The New Covenant	179
Chapter 11: Evaluation of Kline’s Views of the Covenants	181
The Covenant of Works.....	181
The Covenant as Treaty	184
The Administration of the Covenant.....	185
The Mosaic Covenant	186
Common Grace Covenants and Two Kingdoms.....	190
A Comparison of Murray and Kline	196
Chapter 12: Confessional Baptists	199
Introduction	199
Confessional Reformed Baptist Covenant Theology	202
The Covenantal Structure of Scripture	202
The Covenant of Works	203
The Covenant of Grace	204
The New Covenant	207
Confessional Historic Baptist Covenant Theology	201
The Covenant of Works	211
The Covenant of Redemption and the Covenant of Grace.....	211
The Noahic Covenant.....	212
The Covenant of Grace	213
The Covenant of Circumcision.....	214
The Mosaic Covenant.....	218

The New Covenant	220
Comparison and Evaluation of the Views of Confessional Baptists	221
The Abrahamic Covenant: One Covenant or Two?.....	221
The Mosaic Covenant as a Covenant of Works.....	226
Chapter 13: Progressive Covenantalism.....	233
Introduction	233
The Noahic Covenant	235
The Creation Covenant	236
The Abrahamic Covenant.....	237
The Mosaic Covenant	238
The New Covenant of Jeremiah 31.....	240
The Genealogical Principle	242
Evaluation of Progressive Covenantalism	243
The Nature of the New Covenant Community	244
The Warning Passages and the 'Already, Not Yet' Character of Salvation	247
The Administration of the Covenant.....	248
The Genealogical Principle.....	250
Chapter 14: The Benefits of Covenant Theology: Legal, Personal, and Corporate.....	259
A Review of the Covenants	259
A Brief Evaluation of the Different Views of Covenant Theology.....	266
The Fullness of Salvation	267
Appendix 1: Covenants in the Context of the Ancient Near East.....	271
Appendix 2: The Question of 'Testament' in Hebrews 9:16-17	277
Selected Bibliography	283