

God's Plan for the Ages Series

Lesson #005

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Dean Bible Ministries

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GOD'S PLAN

FOR THE AGES

DISPENSATIONS

COVENANTS AND AGES

Review: Why make an issue out of the difference between defining a dispensation as an administration and defining it as a period of time...?

οἰκονομία, ας, ἡ

**① responsibility of management,
management**

**② state of being arranged, arrangement,
order, plan**

③ program of instruction, training

~BDAG

οἰκονομία, ἡ,

- 1. management of a household or family, husbandry, thrift**
- 2. generally, direction, regulation, administration**
- 3. arrangement**
- 4. in Egypt, office of οἰκονόμος, PTeb. 24.62 (ii b.c.), al., at Priene, SIG1003.29 (ii b.c.)**
- 5. stewardship, LXX Is.22.19, Ev.Luc.16.2.**
- 6. plan, dispensation, Eph. 1:10, 3:2.**
- 7. in bad sense, scheming, M.Ant.4.51.0**

~LSJ

**οἰκονομία, -ας, ἡ (< οἰκονομέω), [in LXX:
Isa. 22:19, 21 (1];*)הַלְשֵׁמִים, בְּצֵמִים.
prop. (Plat., Arist.), the office of
οἰκονόμος, stewardship: Lk. 16:2–4.**

**2. In later writers (Plut., al.; v. AR on Eph.
1:10; MM, xviii), generally,
administration, dispensation: 1 Cor.
9:17, Eph. 1:10; 3:2, 9, Col. 1:25,
1 Tim. 1:4.†**

A-S

Dispensational Schemes: Historical

PIERRE POIRET 1646–1719	ISAAC WATTS 1674–1748	JAMES H. BROOKES 1830–1897	C. I. SCOFIELD 1843–1921
Creation to the deluge	Innocency	Eden	Innocency
	Adamical	Antediluvian	Conscience
Deluge to Moses	Noahical	Patriarchal	Human government
	Abrahamic		Promise
Moses to prophets	Mosaical	Mosaic	Law
Prophets to Christ			
Manhood and Old Age	Christian	Messianic Holy Ghost	Grace
Renovation of all things		Millennial	Kingdom

How Does God Advance the Dispensations?

Covenant

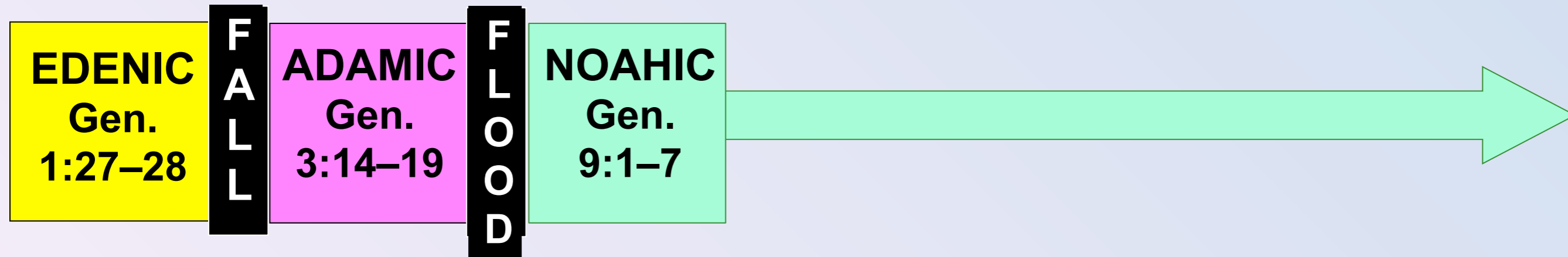
A contract between God, party of the first part, who makes a sovereign disposition obligating Himself in grace to bless man, party of the second part.

Three covenants are between God and Gentiles: Edenic (Gen. 1:26, 27); Adamic (Gen. 2:15, 3:14–19), and Noahic (Gen. 6:18, 8:21–9:17);

Five covenants are between God and Israel: Abrahamic (Gen. 12:1–3, 13:15–16, 22:15–18), Palestinian or Land (Gen. 15:18; Num. 34:1–12), Mosaic (Ex. 19:1–31:18; Leviticus), Davidic (2 Sam. 7:8–16; Ps. 89:20–37), and the New Covenant to Israel (Jer. 31:31–34). The Mosaic is the only Temporary Covenant. The others are permanent.

8 BIBLICAL COVENANTS

GENTILE COVENANTS



Covenant

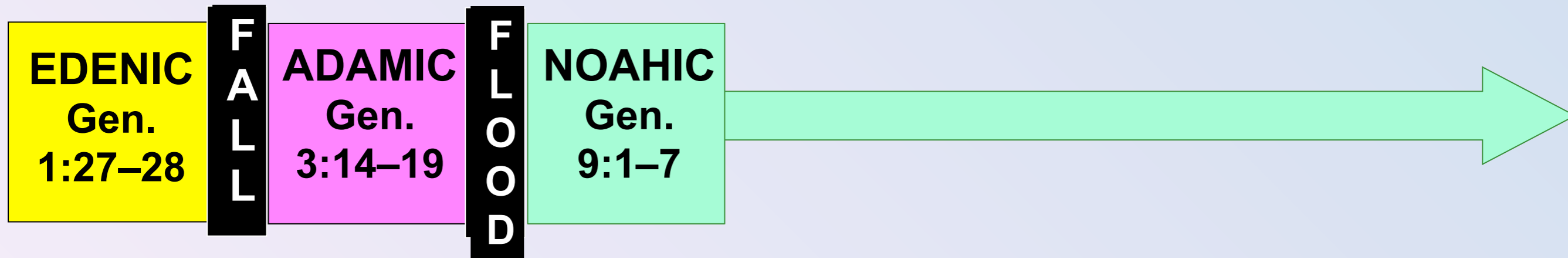
Five covenants are between God and Israel:

- **Abrahamic (Gen. 12:1–3, 13:15–16, 22:15–18),**
- **Palestinian or Land (Gen. 15:18; Num. 34:1–12),**
- **Mosaic (Ex. 19:1–31:18; Leviticus),**
- **Davidic (2 Sam. 7:8–16; Ps. 89:20–37), and**
- **the New Covenant to Israel (Jer. 31:31–34).**

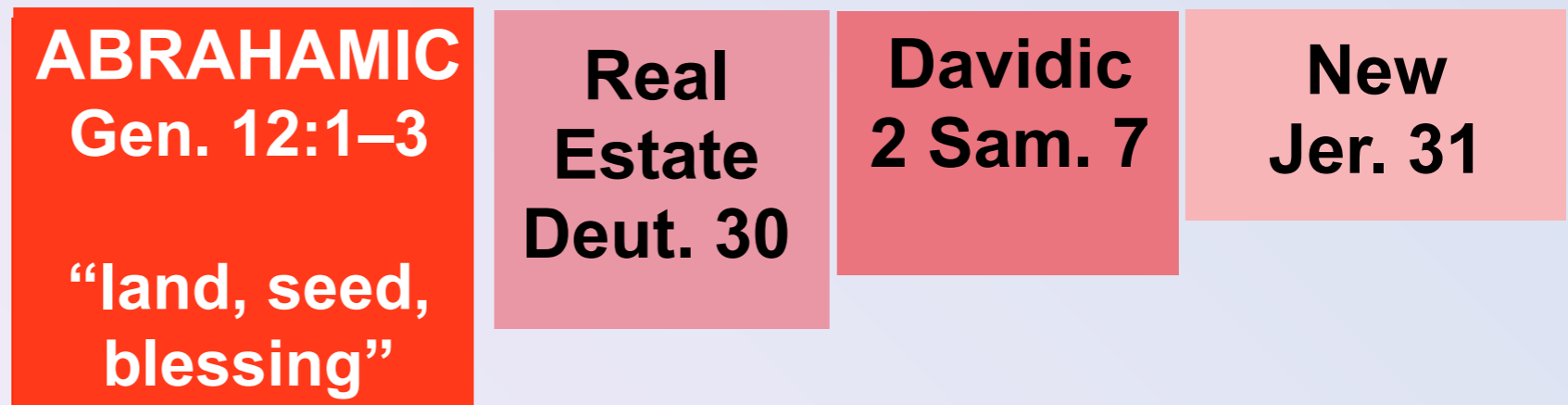
**The Mosaic is the only Temporary Covenant.
The others are permanent.**

8 BIBLICAL COVENANTS

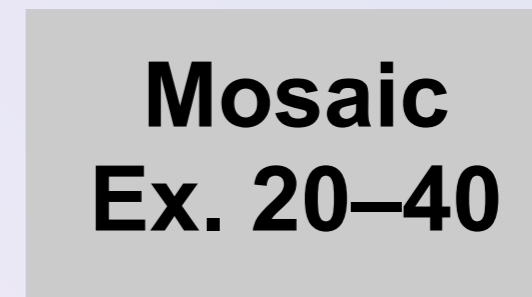
GENTILE COVENANTS



JEWISH COVENANTS (UNCONDITIONAL/PERMANENT)



JEWISH COVENANTS (CONDITIONAL/TEMPORARY)

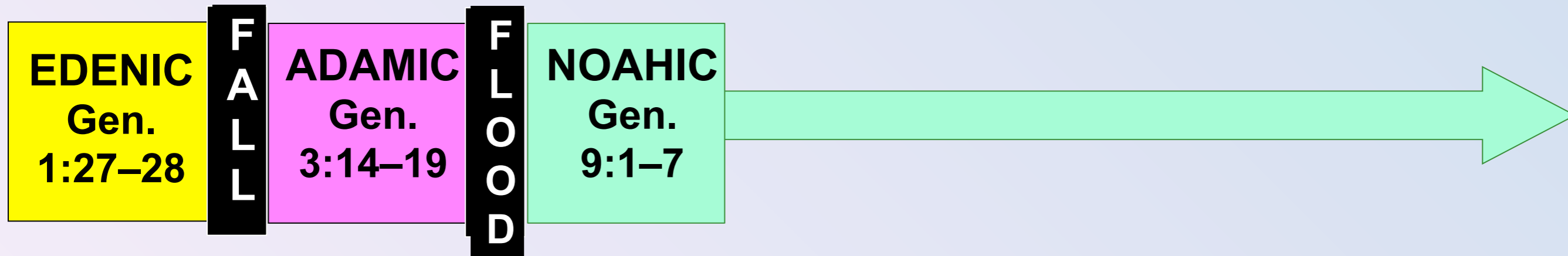


1. Temporary or Conditional Covenant: A proposal of God whereby He promises in a conditional compact with man, by the formula “if you will”, to grant special blessings to men providing he fulfills certain conditions. Failure, however, will result in punishment. In a conditional covenant, God fulfilling His terms is dependent upon man fulfilling his terms. If man fails to fulfill his terms, then God is free from obligation to fulfill His part.

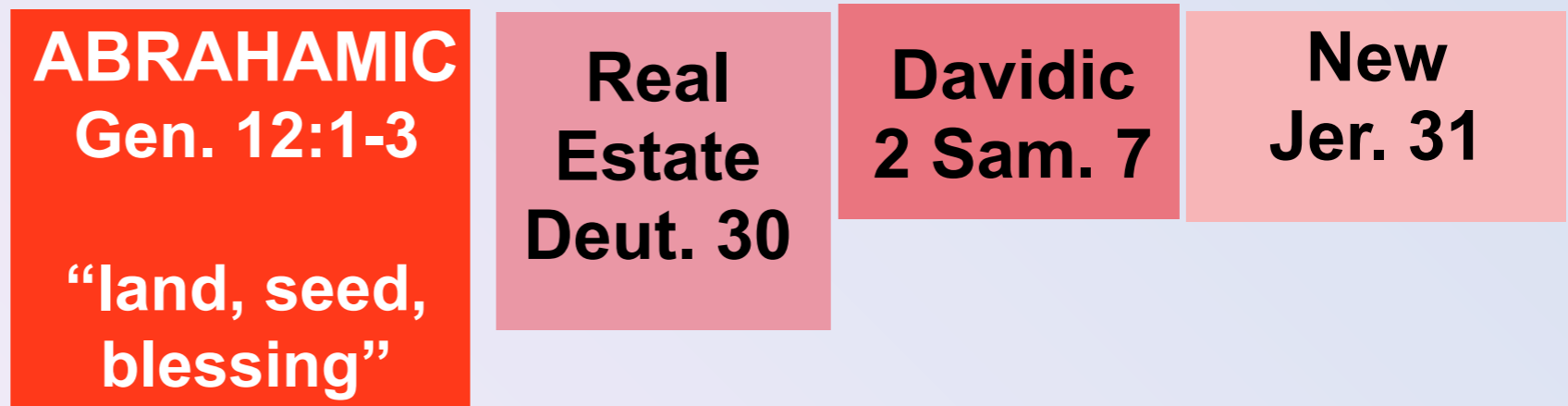
2. Permanent or Unconditional Covenant: A sovereign act of God whereby He establishes an unconditional or declarative compact with man obligating Himself in grace by the formula “I will” to bring to pass of Himself definite blessings for the covenanted one.

8 BIBLICAL COVENANTS

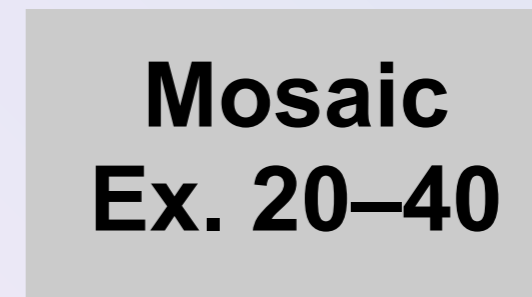
GENTILE COVENANTS



JEWISH COVENANTS (UNCONDITIONAL/PERMANENT)



JEWISH COVENANTS (CONDITIONAL/TEMPORARY)



1. Conditional Covenant: Edenic, Mosaic

2. Unconditional Covenants: Adamic, Noahic, Abrahamic, Real Estate (Land), Davidic, and New

The Nature of the Permanent Covenants with Israel

- 1. Literal covenants, must be understood literally and taken at face value.**

The Nature of the Permanent Covenants with Israel

**2. Eternal, carried their results into eternity
itself.**

The Nature of the Permanent Covenants with Israel

- 3. Unconditional, though they do contain conditions, but these do not bind God or condition God's blessing. God's fulfillment of His promises are not ultimately conditioned on Israel's response.**

The Nature of the Permanent Covenants with Israel

**4. Made with a covenanted people, Israel
not the Church.**

**Rom. 9:4, “who are Israelites, to whom
belongs the adoption as sons and the
glory and the covenants and the giving
of the Law and the temple service and
the promises,”**

The Nature of the Permanent Covenants with Israel

4. Made with a covenanted people, Israel not the Church.

Eph. 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 —

Eph. 2:12, “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.”

THE AGES OF HUMAN HISTORY

THE AGES OF HUMAN HISTORY

AGE: An epoch or an era; time marked by boundaries or occurrences; a definite fixed period of time (Romans 11:5; Luke 21:24; Ephesians 1:10).

***A dispensation* is an administration within an Age. There may be only one dispensation or there may be more than one dispensation within an age.**

THE AGES OF HUMAN HISTORY

I. AGE OF THE GENTILES:

A. Scripture: Genesis 1–11

**1. Dispensation of Innocence
(Genesis 1:28–3:8)**

**2. Dispensation of Conscience
(Genesis 3:9–8:14)**

**3. Dispensation of Government
(Genesis 8:15–11:32)**

THE AGES OF HUMAN HISTORY

B. Characteristics:

- 1. One language (Genesis 1:11)**
- 2. One race (and they still didn't get along)**
- 3. No canon of Scripture (revelation, but not in written form)**
- 4. Salvation by faith in Jesus Christ, just as today**
- 5. No distinct administrative entity**
- 6. Divine institutions developed and attacked by Satan**