

# SERMON NOTE: The Cocenantal Fellowship

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Bible Ref: Ezra 10:5-10 NIV

So Ezra rose up and put the leading priests and Levites and all Israel under oath to do what had been suggested. And they took the oath. Then Ezra withdrew from before the house of God and went to the room of Jehohanan son of Eliashib. While he was there, he ate no food and drank no water, because he continued to mourn over the unfaithfulness of the exiles. A proclamation was then issued throughout Judah and Jerusalem for all the exiles to assemble in Jerusalem. Anyone who failed to appear within three days would forfeit all his property, in accordance with the decision of the officials and elders, and would himself be expelled from the assembly of the exiles. Within the three days, all the men of Judah and Benjamin had gathered in Jerusalem. And on the twentieth day of the ninth month, all the people were sitting in the square before the house of God, greatly distressed by the occasion and because of the rain. Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, "You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women, adding to Israel's guilt.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/ezr.10.5-10.NIV>

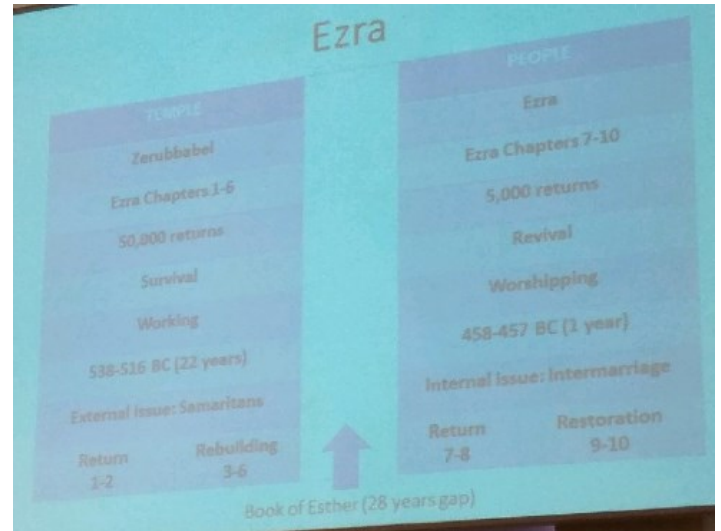
1 Peter 1:14-21 NIV

As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so

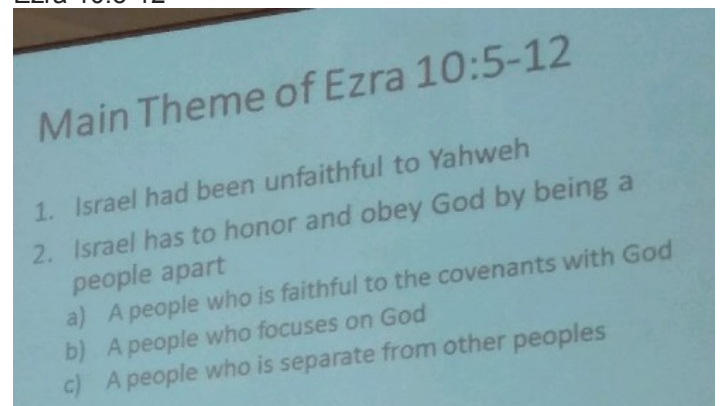
your faith and hope are in God.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/1pe.1.14-21.NIV>

How many covenants GOD made with us in the Bible?



Ezra 10:5-12



The covenants of Abraham and Moses (Mosaic) are conditional covenants.

As the people are unfaithful meaning they had broken the covenants, and they became scared.

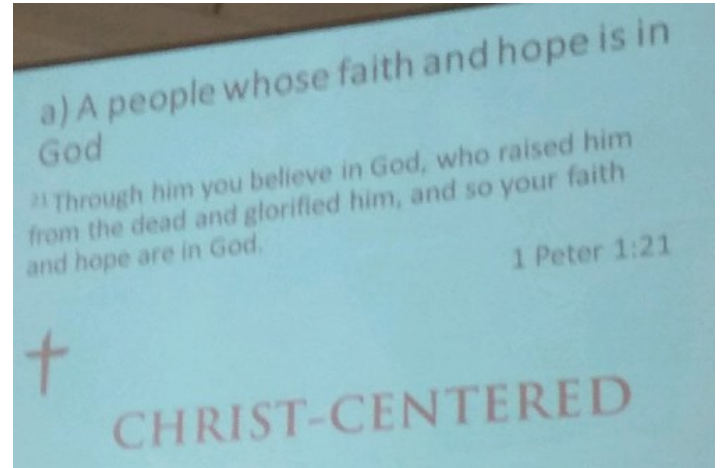
1Peter 1:14-21



dwelt with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

<https://bible.com/bible/111/rev.21.3-4.NIV>

We start our Christian lives as babies, and grown with ups n downs to maturity.

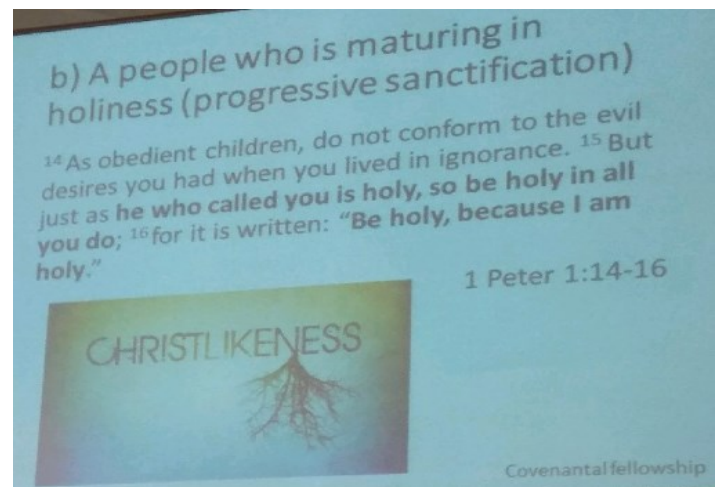


We are people of GOD, to be CHRIST Centred, to glorify GOD.

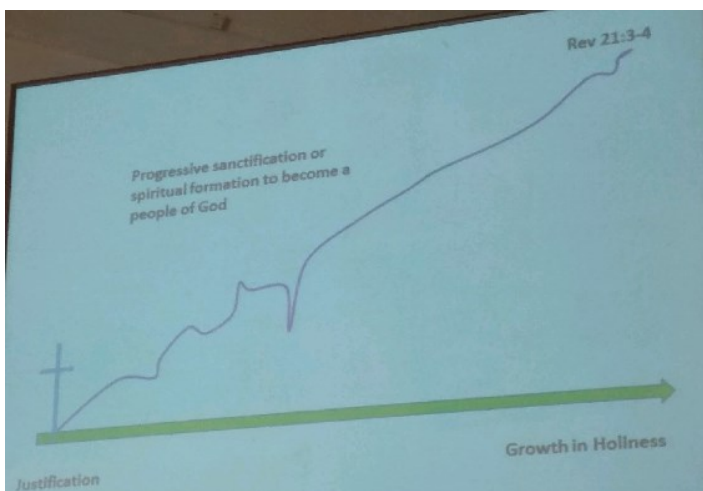
Our spiritual lives can be affected with circumstances, even movies we watch, friend we mixed, things we do.

- ## Main Themes of Ezra 10:5-12 & 1 Peter 1:14-21
1. God is holy and is faithful to his covenants
  2. We are a people redeemed by the blood of Christ
  3. We are to be holy by being a people apart (foreigners)
    - a) A people whose faith and hope is in God
    - b) A people who is maturing in holiness
    - c) A people who is separate from other peoples because their focus is on God alone

The new covenant is unconditional.



Secondly, as people of GOD, we should be holy



- ## How to be Holy?
- Be filled with the Holy Spirit
  - Be saturated with the Word of God
  - Be continually praying
  - Be a living sacrifice
  - Be ready to make hard decisions
  - Be like Christ

Revelation 21:3-4 NIV

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will



2. Fill with HS

If we friend on our strength n not GOD'S, we can become overwhelmed, burnt out, weary, anxious...

Let go and let GOD, TRUST AND OBEY.

2. Be Saturated with GODS Word

Know the word of GOD well will make us live more Holy

3. Be continually praying

4. Sacrifice our desires for GOD'S Will

5. Be willing to accept huge changes for GOD.

### Covenantal Fellowship

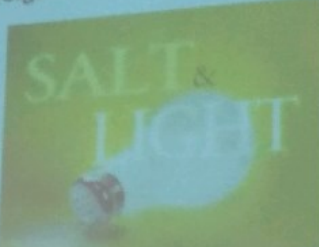
1. God is holy and is faithful to his covenants
2. We are a people redeemed by the blood of Christ
3. We are to become a people of God
  - a) A people whose faith and hope is in God -**Christ-centered**
  - b) A people who is maturing in holiness (progressive sanctification) - **Christlikeness**
  - c) A people who is separate from other people because their focus is on God alone (foreigners) - **Salt and Light**

Main Themes of Ezra 10:5-12 & 1 Peter 1:14-21

c) A people who is separate from other people because their focus is on God alone

<sup>17</sup> Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, **live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear**

1 Peter 1:17



Covenantal fellowship



We are special, we are GOD'S people, do not become Salts that list the saltiness. Be trampled on floor

God's People

**Salt** the nature of Christ in us

**Light** the nature of reflected Light from Christ the Glory of God

Matthew 5:13-16

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

<https://bible.com/bible/111/mat.5.13-16.NIV>