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- = 5 Mandates of the Davidic Covenant (Redeemer, Deliverer, Avenger, King, & Blessor)

*TIMES OF THE GENTILES* .....



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ISRAEL - "The Circumcision" - "nigh unto God"

THE LAW serves as a "middle wall of partition."

Israel's Program is Resumed and Fulfilled

GENTILES - "Uncircumcision" "far off" "without God"

Genesis	Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deut.	Josh.	Jud. Ruth 1 Sam 1-16	1 Sam 16 to 1 Kgs 12	1 Kgs 12 to 22	2 Kgs 1 to 10:31	2 Kgs 10:32 to 16:20	2 Kgs 17:1 to 25:30	Ezr Neh Est	The Silence of God	Matthew Mark Luke John	Acts 1-8	Hebrews James 1 & 2 Peter 1, 2 & 3 John Jude The Book of the Revelation
						1 and 2 Chronicles		Isa, Jer, Lam, Ezk, Dan, Hos, Joel, Amos, Oba, Jon, Mic, Nah, Hab, Zeph, Hag, Zec, Mal.					
								Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon					

# John the Baptist

Jn. 1:6-7; 15;19-20

Two takeaways from our idolatry overview that prepare us for the Gospel of John:

1. Israel became like what they worshipped (Is. 6).
2. God's response to this rebelliousness and idolatry was not in accord with the Law (curse first and then blessing) but in accord with His Jehovah Name (blessing first to rebels and idolaters and then based on their response to His Name. Responding in faith (i.e., taking the LORD's Name as valuable) results in more blessing. Responding in unbelief (i.e., taking the Name of the LORD in vain, as worthless) brings curses.

In Christ's earthly ministry as recorded in John, God gave the greatest display of the Grace resident in His Jehovah Name that He has ever given.

3. At the time of Christ's earthly ministry, the nation as a whole was involved in an especially pernicious form of idolatry:
  - a. Like their fathers, they were still bowing down to graven images but not that of statues of idols but of the traditions of men engraved in paper.
  - b. An idol is anything worshipped in place of the one true living God. One who sets up idols in his heart (Ezek. 14:4-8)--coveting.
  - c. Anything coveted is an idol—a stone image or money or the traditions of men or anything else.
  - d. External idolatry starts with idolatry in the heart. The external act of murder starts with hatred in the heart. External adultery with lust in the heart (Mat. 5).

## IDOLATRY IN GOSPEL ACCOUNTS

4. In Jesus's day they were rejecting God's Word, esp. God's Word through Jesus Christ, thinking they were still worshipping and serving God when they were really worshipping and serving their idols of man and his traditions. Theirs became a VRS taking on the shameful vanity of their idols.
  
5. Mk. 7:3-13; Mat. 15:6-9; Is. 29:9-13—why didn't Jesus's disciples keep the tradition of eating with cleansed hands—beginning already in Isaiah's day they started replacing God's Word with the traditions of men that increased in the Babylonian Captivity and partial return to the land, culminating in the days of Jesus.

## IDOLATRY IN GOSPEL ACCOUNTS

7. 1 Sam. 15:3-23: Replacing God's word with one's own word is equated with idolatry (15:23). Sacrifices have no value when they are done while disobeying God's Word (15:22). Saul established his own rule of worship and this was idolatry.
  
8. Mat. 23:16-36: Reviews some of these traditions. The issue wasn't that these traditions were bad in themselves but that in those traditions, Israel trusted in them rather than in God and His Word.

9. Mat. 15:2-6; Mk. 7:2-9: Cleansing rituals, none of which were proscribed by the Old Testament. They weren't wrong in themselves. They were wrong because Israel trusted in these more than God and His Word, thereby invalidating His Word.
  
10. Mat. 15:10-16, Mat. 23:16, 24; Is. 6:9; 29:9-13: Blind religious leaders; people not hearing and without understanding. All of these reference from Is. 6 and 29 are in the context of idolatry.  
--In Jesus's time it referred to their trusting in man and his traditions instead of God and His Word.

11. After having been silent for 400 years, God is going to give Israel one more display of the Grace resident in His Jehovah Name, the greatest display of His Name that He had ever given:

- a. He does not respond to their idolatry according to the Law by immediately going down to consume the rebels first and then showing mercy to the obedient...
- b. Instead, He responds by being longsuffering in accord with His Jehovah Name as proclaimed to Moses, now sending His Son to go down to extend His grace and mercy to Israel through the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ first and based on how they respond to that more mercy and grace or wrath and judgment.

--He will protect His Jehovah Name.

# IDOLATRY IN GOSPEL ACCOUNTS

12. Receiving it in faith, however, is to treat His Name as being of high value and important, which results in more mercy and grace.

13. The next 5 chapters of John will give examples of various types of interactions between people and the grace and mercy God dispenses through Lord Jesus Christ's word and works.

14. So, now the only question is will Israel value God's Jehovah Name, receiving the grace and mercy it dispenses in faith thereby receiving more mercy and grace? Or will they take His Jehovah Name in vain, now personified in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ, rejecting the grace and mercy it dispenses in unbelief thereby receiving His vengeance, wrath and judgment?
- a. The former will begin to reflect God's light and glory in the revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - b. The latter will remain reflectors of the darkness and shame of their idols.

15. John the Baptist's witness is the ideal witness, reflecting the Glory and Light of God that Christ revealed in response to:

- a. God (1:6-7)
- b. The Jews (1:19-28)
- c. The approaching Christ (1:29-34)
- d. The 2 disciples (1:35-37)

16. John the Baptist is not the only witness:

- a. Samaritan woman (4:39)
- b. The works of Jesus (5:36; 10:25)
- c. The Father (5:32, 37; 8:18)
- d. The Old Testament (5:39-40)
- e. The crowd (12:17).
- f. The Holy Spirit and apostles (15:26-27)

--And Jesus bears witness to the truth (18:37) with the Father (8:13-18)

Eternity  
Past  
God/Word  
Jn. 1:1-2

The  
God/Word  
Created  
All Things  
**LIFE/  
LIGHT  
of men**  
1:3-4

Human  
Creation  
Went  
Dark.  
1:5

John's  
witness  
to  
the Light  
rejected  
by the  
world  
and by  
His Own.  
But some  
believed.  
1:6-13

John's  
witness to  
the Word  
becoming  
flesh.  
Making  
God's  
Glory  
visible to  
men  
1:15

John's  
witness  
to the  
Person of  
Jesus  
Christ the  
source of  
the Grace  
in God's I  
AM  
Name.  
1:19-45

John's witness is the ideal witness, the witness par excellence.

PROLOGUE	JOHN THE BAPTIST
The Eternal Pre-existent Word who was eternally with God because He is eternal God (1:1)	X (Jn. 1:15, 30)
The Creator of all things (1:3)	X (Jn. 1:10)
Humanity's Life and Light (1:4-5)	X (Jn. 1:6-7)
The One Moses and Prophets spoke of (1:11-13, 17)	X (Jn. 1:21-23)
The one and only Son of God (by nature) who resides in intimate relationship with the Father (1:18).	X (Jn. 1:34)
The Christ/Messiah/The I AM/King—God enfleshed in the human line of David (1:14; 2 Sam. 7:11-14)	X (Jn. 1:20, 26-27, 30-34)
The Savior of the World/Lamb of God (1:4, 12-13)	X (Jn. 1:29)