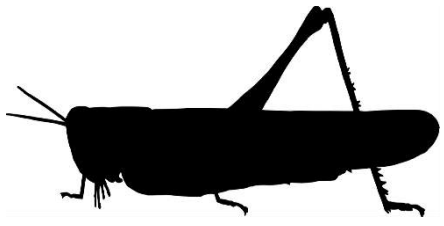


The book of JOEL

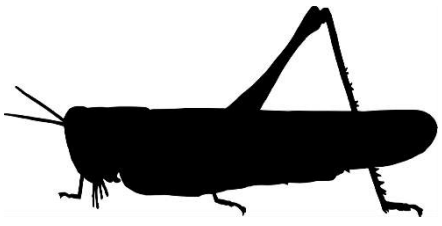




Joel 1: 1-7

“An Illustration of the Day of the LORD”





Outline

1. The Potential of Divine Discipline
2. The Instrument of Divine Discipline
3. The Cause of Divine Discipline
4. The Aftermath of Divine Discipline



The **Potential** of Divine Discipline:

- Abrahamic Covenant



The Abrahamic Covenant

Abrahamic
(Genesis 15)

Land

Seed

Blessing

Land Covenant

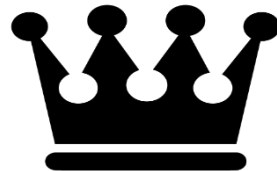
Deuteronomy 29-30

Davidic Covenant

Samuel 7: 12-16

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31: 31-34



The **Potential** of Divine Discipline:

- Abrahamic Covenant
- Mosaic Covenant

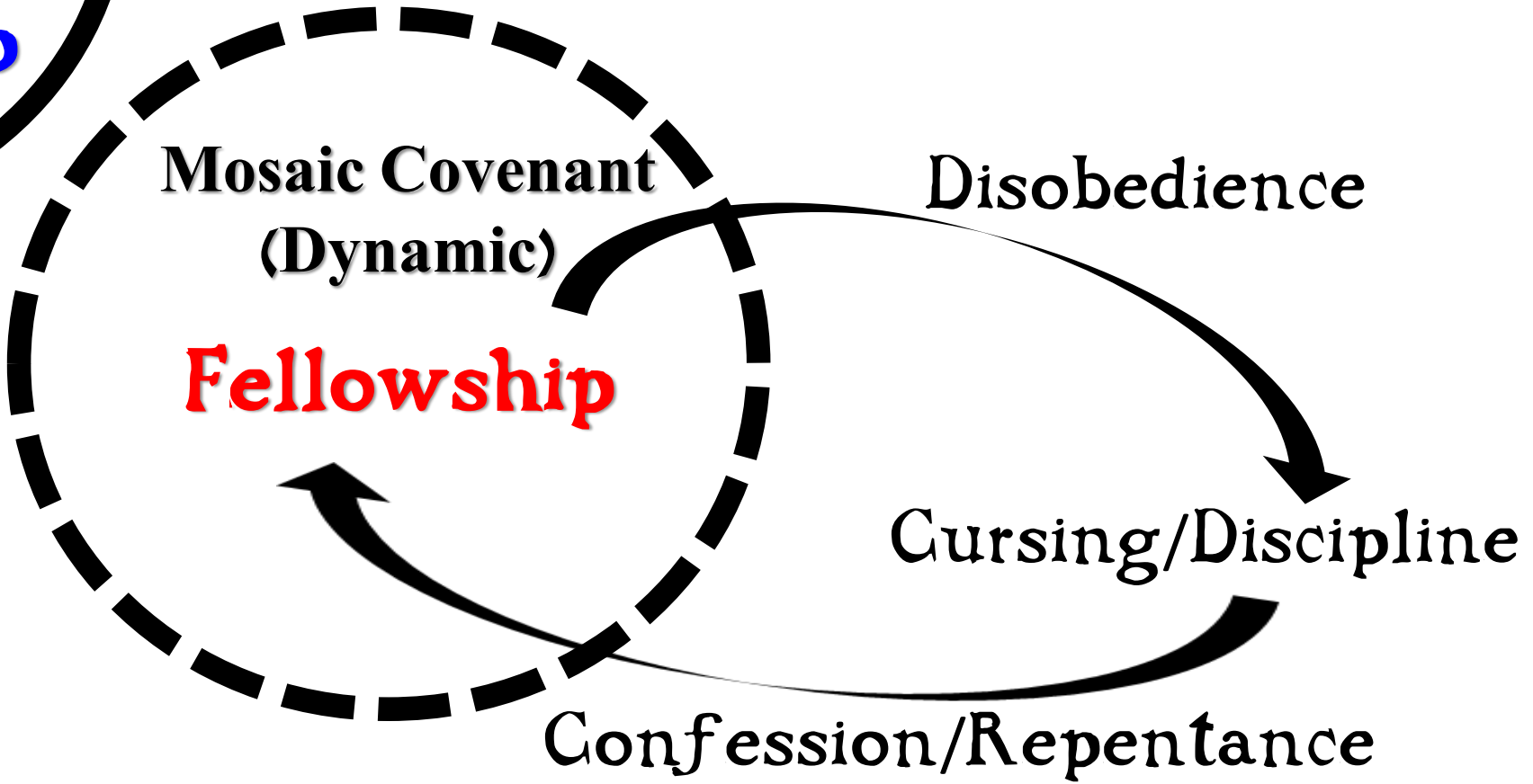
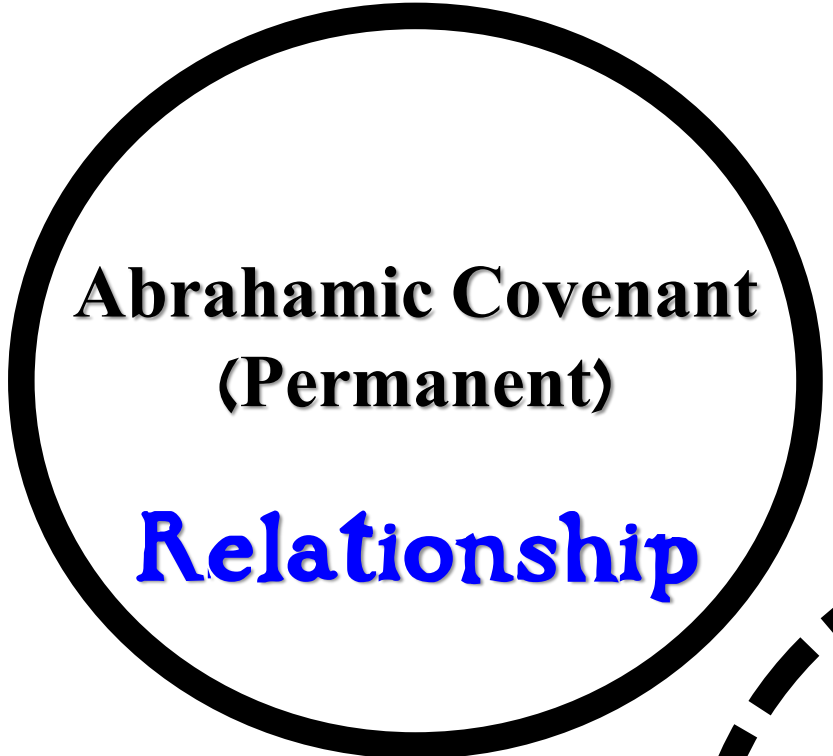


The Mosaic Covenant

Mosaic Law
(Exodus 19-24)

Suzerain-Vassal Treaty
(Deuteronomy)

- Preamble (1: 1-5)
- Prologue (1: 6-4: 40)
- Covenant obligations (5-26)
- Storage and reading instructions
(27: 2-3, 31: 9, 24, 26)
- Witnesses (32: 1)
- Blessings and Curses (28)



*Cited from Jeremy Thomas

The **Potential** of Divine Discipline:

- Abrahamic Covenant
- Mosaic Covenant
- 5 Degrees of Divine Discipline



Five Degrees of Divine Discipline

Leviticus 26

1- DISTRESS 14-17

2- DROUGHT 18-20

3- DREAD 21-22

4- DISEASE 23-26

5- DISPERSION THROUGH DEVASTATION 27-39

The promise of RESTORATION, on the condition of National REPENTANCE 40-45


Comparing Divine Discipline Passages

Leviticus 26 Consequence of disobedience	Deuteronomy 28 Prophetic History
Distress vv. 14-17	vv. 21-24 Inward distress from drought, disease, etc.
Drought vv. 18-20	vv. 25-31 Outward distress from enemies
Dread vv. 21-22	vv. 32-36 Assyrian and Babylonian Captivities
Disease vv. 23-26	vv. 52-57 Roman destruction of Israel in 70 A.D.
Desolation vv. 27-39	vv. 64-68 Roman invasion A.D. 70, Middle Ages, the Russian Pogroms, Nazi Germany, Present day.

*Cited from Thomas Ice

*Cited from Tom Constable

The **Instrument** of Divine Discipline

- Locusts: vv. 4-7 
- Deuteronomy 28: 38-42



Deuteronomy 28: 38–42

38 “You shall carry much seed out to the field but gather little in, for the **locust** shall consume it.

39 You shall plant vineyards and tend them, but you shall neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them.

40 You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you shall not anoint yourself with the oil; for your olives shall drop off.

41 You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours; for they shall go into captivity.

42 **Locusts** shall consume all your trees and the produce of your land.

The Cause of Divine Discipline

- Deuteronomy 28: 38-42, 45



Deuteronomy 28: 38–45

38 “You shall carry much seed out to the field but gather little in, for the locust shall consume it.

39 You shall plant vineyards and tend them, but you shall neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes; for the worms shall eat them.

40 You shall have olive trees throughout all your territory, but you shall not anoint yourself with the oil; for your olives shall drop off.

41 You shall beget sons and daughters, but they shall not be yours; for they shall go into captivity.

42 Locusts shall consume all your trees and the produce of your land.

43 “The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower.

44 He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail.

45 “Moreover all these curses shall come upon you and pursue and overtake you, until you are destroyed, **because you did not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep His commandments and His statutes which He commanded you.**

The Cause of Divine Discipline

- Deuteronomy 28: 38-42, 45
- Historical Review



The Cause of Divine Discipline

Setting: Historical Timeline

- (1446 bc) Exodus of Egypt
- (1406 bc) Conquest of the Land (under Joshua)
- (abt. 1390-1050 bc) Period of the Judges
- (1011 bc) David reigns
- (971 bc) Solomon reigns
- (931 bc) Solomon's death (the kingdom divides)
- (874-853) Ahab and Jezebel rule Northern Kingdom
- (835) Joash begins to reign (at 7 years old)
- (835) Writing of Joel
- (722) Assyrian Captivity (Northern Kingdom)
- (586) Babylonian Captivity (Southern Kingdom)



The *Aftermath* of Divine Discipline

4 Facts about the Devastation:

- 1- A Historic Devastation vv. 2-3
- 2- A Complete Devastation vv. 4,7
- 3- A Sobering Devastation v. 5
- 4- A Sovereign Devastation v. 6



The Church and Divine Discipline

3 Important questions to ask when facing trials:

- 1- Have I sinned? (i.e. out of fellowship)
cf. James 5: 13-16



James 5: 13–16

13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.

14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

The Church and Divine Discipline

3 Important questions to ask when facing trials:

1- Have I sinned? (i.e. out of fellowship)

cf. James 5: 13-16

2- Is it to grow me in faithful patience?

cf. James 1: 2-4



James 1: 2–4

2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

The Church and Divine Discipline

3 Important questions to ask when facing trials:

1- Have I sinned? (i.e. out of fellowship)

cf. James 5: 13-16

2- Is it to grow me in faithful patience?

cf. James 1: 2-4

3- Is it to train me in righteousness?

cf. Hebrews 12: 5-11



Hebrews 12: 5–11

5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.”

7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?

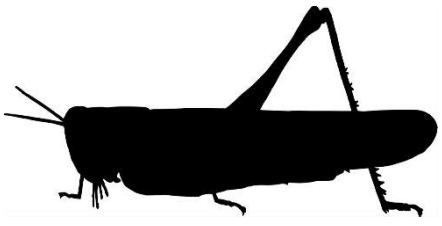
8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?

10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.





Application

- Divine Discipline does not mean God throws you away... in fact it's the opposite.
- Israel experienced all 5 degrees of Divine Discipline and still, to this day, remain God's chosen nation. (What does this say about Church age believer's who are IN CHRIST?)



The Textual Context:

I. Divine Discipline Illustrating the “Day of the LORD” (Joel 1:1-20)

- A. Introduction (vv. 1-3)
- B. The Locust Plague as an Illustration of “the Day of the LORD” (vv. 4-20)
 - 1. The description of the Locust Plague (vv. 4-7)
 - 2. The expected response of Israel (vv. 8-20)

II. Divine Discipline Ultimately through the “Day of the LORD” (Joel 2:1-3:21)

- A. Description of the invading Army (vv. 1-11)
- B. The condition of repentance for stopping Divine Discipline (vv. 12-17)
- C. Deliverance is promised by God (vv. 18-27)
- D. The signs of the “Day of the LORD” (vv. 28-32)
- E. The Chronological aspects of the “Day of the LORD” (3: 1-21)

