

**Covenant**

**Genesis 9:**

**1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth.**

**Psalm 127:3–5 (NASB95)**

**3 Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward.**

**4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth.**

**5 How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them..**

**3 John 4 (NASB95)**

**4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.**

**Gen 9:2 The fear and dread of you will fall upon all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air, upon every creature that moves along the ground, and upon all the fish of the sea; they are given into your hands.**

**3 Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.**

**4 "But you must not eat meat that has its lifeblood still in it.**

**Blood is viewed as a symbol of life throughout the Bible (see [Leviticus 17:11](#)). The Bible's first mention of the word *blood* is found in [Genesis 4:10](#) where God asks the murderer Cain, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground." The shedding of blood represents the loss of life.**

**Another reason for God's command not to eat bloody meat undoubtedly concerned the sacrifices. Blood was the only**

atonement for sin therefore, blood was seen as a sacred thing. God wanted to ensure that the blood of the sacrifices was always considered precious. To preserve the people's appreciation of the sacrifices, God could not allow blood to become a common food.

**Gen. 9:5 And for your lifeblood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man.**

**6 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man.**

**Exodus 21:12 (NIV84)**

**12 "Anyone who strikes a man and kills him shall surely be put to death.**

To support my habit and my son, I danced at a strip joint. Needing money (addiction is not cheap), I teamed up with a man named Mike Briddle to rob one of its frequent customers.

Fleeing California with Mike and his wife, we hitchhiked to Houston, Texas, where we were picked up by a stranger needing help to move into his new house. Mike noticed that the man had a roll of money. High on PCP (also called angel dust), we murdered him and his friend and left for Colorado.

Our trio stayed in a seedy hotel in Denver when I realized I could no longer withstand the emotional upheaval within, that little glow from a divine coal that was waiting to burst into flames. I confessed to the police, and they extradited me to Texas, where I had been indicted *in absentia* for capital murder. A swift trial followed, then a verdict of death by lethal injection.

During my daily high in California, I had often said, "Let me die with a needle in my arm." Now it would come to pass. My own words had condemned me. While I waited in Houston to transfer to a women's prison before my execution, a woman involved in prison ministry, came to visit. This angel talked about Christ and his path to forgiveness. I was receptive. I was ready. And I was eager to hear more. After 24 years of being tossed about like a dry chunk of dirt, God poured in the waters of life and began molding me for his purpose.

**Many believers encounter Jesus in dramatic fashion, and they are changed instantly, like Saul on the Damascus Road. For others, like me, salvation feels more like a process than a moment. It takes time.**

**When I first accepted Jesus, I felt a change, but I found it hard to believe the change was for real. How could God ever forgive me for the horrible crime I had committed?**

**My mind said this could not be so. My soul was in torment.**

**After I was transferred to a prison in Huntsville, Texas, my angel from Houston still visited me.**

**She brought me a Bible, and to relieve my doubts she would frequently say, "Pam, you must forgive yourself.**

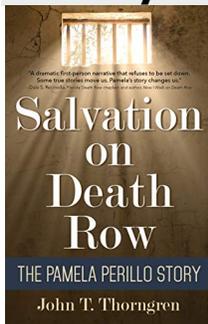
**To do otherwise is denying God's grace and mercy."**

**It was only after a woman named Karla Faye Tucker arrived on Texas Death Row that I grew to experience full confidence in my salvation.**

**I tried to lead her to Christ myself, but God meant it to come from another source: a prison puppet show performed by Teen Challenge, along with a free Bible.**

**Karla Faye's redemption was dramatic, remarkable, and the subject of movies. Her vocal commitment to Christ resounded throughout the world before her execution.**

**And her magnificent conversion was the spiritual cement I needed. I knew then that in Christ, God can forgive anyone, no matter how severe their transgressions.**



**7 As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it."**

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**Genesis 6:18 (NIV84)**

**18 But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you.**

**A covenant in the ancient world was similar to what we in the modern world would call a contract, treaty, or a will.**

**"Conditional" Covenants mean that in order for God to fulfill his part, we must fulfill our part.**

**"Unconditional" covenants are those that God fulfills regardless of what we do or do not do.**

**The covenants provide the skeletal framework for how the whole biblical story holds together.**

**God establishes covenants with certain people and these covenants are the way God unfolds his redemptive plan.**

NOAHIC  
ABRAHAMIC  
MOSAIC  
DAVIDIC  
NEW COVENANT.

## The Noahic Covenant

**Gen 9:8 Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him:**

**9 "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you**

**10 and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth.**

**11 I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be cut off by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."**

**12 And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come:**

**13 I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.**



**Above us the sun was shining in all its glory, though quite hidden from the people in the city below us.**

**Soon we beheld a wondrous sight. A glorious rainbow stretching from horizon to horizon. It certainly was a spectacle to behold! My daughter was thrilled with what she saw. Her enthusiasm couldn't be restrained any longer as she cried: "Daddy, daddy, look, it's a rainbow, and we're seeing it from the same side that God sees it from!"**

**I think everyone in that crowded airliner was struck with the realization that out of the mouth of a child had come forth wisdom. Then I thought, how very true! To the people below all they could vision was storm clouds...but we were flying above the clouds... in the glory of the sunshine and in perfect position to see the rainbow that God had put in the sky. And, as my daughter had exclaimed, we were seeing it from the same side that God sees it from.**

**So it is in life. When the storm clouds come, try to rise above them by faith. By faith reach for the sunshine of God's grace. When you do, it will not be long before you see a rainbow. . . "from the same side that God sees it from."**

**I have seen several rainbows while flying above thunderstorms. Looking down upon the storm, the rainbow appears as a perfect circle. Seeing our spiritual rainbow "from God's side" enables us to see not half of the picture, but the whole picture.**

**Paul reinforced this truth in [Romans 8:28](#). "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."**

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**Gen 9:14 Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds,  
15 I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life.  
16 Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."  
17 So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."**

**God would have kept His promise because that is who God is.**

**The Abrahamic Covenant**

**The Mosaic Covenant**

**The Davidic Covenant**

**The New Covenant**

**Jeremiah 31:33 (NASB95)**

**33 "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.**

**Ezekiel 36:26 (NASB95)**

**26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**



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