

I. THE IDEA

A. The formula from Eden

1. *I love you, I created you, My covenant is with you*
2. **Do not eat from the tree and you will stay in My garden**
 - a. **Blessing: Stay in the Garden**
3. If you eat from that tree I will expel you from my garden
 - a. **Curse: Expelled from the Garden**
4. Because I am faithful to my original purpose I will restore you to My garden (crush the head of the serpent)

B. The Israel microcosm

1. *I love you, I created you, My covenant is with you*
2. **Do not worship other God's and you will stay in the land I give you**
 - a. **Blessing: Stay in the Land (where all the blessings are)**
3. If you worship other God's I will expel you from my Land
 - a. **Curse: Expelled from the Land (where all the blessings are)**
4. Because I am faithful to my original purpose, I will restore you to my Land (crush the head of the nations, serpent)

C. The Church Dichotomy

1. I love you more than I loved Israel, so I forsook my original purposes in Israel, and now my covenant is with you
2. Even though you've worshipped other God's, my love is stronger than this so don't worry about it
 - a. **Blessing: Health, Wealth, A Good Life**
3. There are no consequences for your unfaithfulness because you are once saved always saved
 - a. **Curse: There is none**
4. My original purposes I have purposely contradicted to bring about the deeper plan I had from the beginning

D. The True Church Enigma

1. I love you, so I have included you in the promises I made to Israel which are based upon my original purposes.
2. If you turn from your other God's and recognize Me the Creator, as the God of Israel, you will receive the blessing of being joined to My people and entering My land with them.

a. Blessing: Entering the land where YHWH dwells and blesses

3. If you do not turn to Me you will not be given the land as an inheritance.

a. Curse: Never entering the land; to be estranged from YHWH and His blessing

4. When I fulfill my original purpose of restoring Israel, you will inherit the same blessings I give to them because I am faithful to My original purposes.

II. The "Set Up" of the Blessing

A. The Blessing

1. Leviticus 26:1-13
2. Deut. 7:12-16 Then it shall come about, because you listened to these judgments and keep them and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you his covenant and His lovingkindness which He swore to your forefathers. He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock, in the land which He swore to your forefathers to give you. You shall be blessed above all peoples; there will be no male or female barren among you or among your cattle. The LORD will remove from you all sickness; and He will not put on you any of the harmful diseases of Egypt which you have known, but He will lay them on all who hate you. You shall consume all the peoples whom the LORD your God will deliver to you; your eye shall not pity them, nor shall you serve their gods, for that would be a snare to you.
3. Dt. 11:26-32 See, today I am setting before you a blessing and a curse— 27a blessing if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am giving you today, 28but a curse if you disobey the commandments of the LORD your God and turn aside from the path I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known. 29When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess, you are to proclaim the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal. 30Are not these mountains across the Jordan, west of the road toward the sunset, in the land of the Canaanites who live in the Arabah opposite Gilgal near the Oakd of Moreh? 31For you are about to cross the Jordan to enter and possess the land that the LORD your God is giving you. When you take possession of it and settle in it, 32be careful to follow all the statutes and ordinances that I am setting before you today.

III. Engraved in Stone and Spoken

- A. Mt. Gerazim and Mt. Ebal
 - 1. The Setting up of Stones
 - 2. The Speaking out Loud of the Torah
 - 3. Redundant, or powerful?

IV. The “Set Up” of the Curse

- A. Lev. 26:14-39
- B. Dt. 27-28
 - 1. Josh 8:30-35
- C. Understanding the Hope of Eternal Life From these Passages
 - 1. The context of the age to come is likely placed within an understanding of what the Lord sees as blessing on this earth.
- D. The Curse
 - 1. Lev. 26: 14-46
 - 2. Deut. 27:15-28
 - 3. Dt. 28:48; Mt. 25:34-40; Rom. 8:33-9:2; Rev.
- E. The Tenor of “Hell” in these passages
 - 1. Within the instruction of Israel being put to futility in life by these curses resulting from disobedience is probably the clearest theme of what hell will be like for those who have disobeyed YHWH.
 - a. There is much deeper pain to be experienced than to just burn. The emotional pain of some of these things is the. Most troubling:
 - (1) You shall have sons and daughters but they will not be yours, they will go into captivity.
 - (2) The psychological component of being laid siege
 - 2. What the eternal state of “cursed” means seems to find it’s anchor in these passages

V. The Redemption Lynchpin Within the Curses

A. Lev. 26:40-46

B. Deut. 30; 32:43

C. Jer. 30:7

D. Rom. 11:26

1. Deut. 4:30-31; Jer. 12:15; Dan. 9:25; 12:1-3

VI. The Covenant Recounting by Those Under the Curse

A. 2 Chron. 34:24; 36:15-21

B. Jer. 11:6-8

C. Lam. 2:17

D. Dan. 9:11-19

E. Zech. 1:1-6

F. Lk. 21:20-24

G.