The Land Promise & Covenant in Deuteronomy

Charles Clough
COVENANT = CONTRACT
1. God “condescends” to the creature level and enters into a **personal relationship** at that level

2. Creature parties must have “legal capacity” requiring positional sanctification

3. Contracts can be interpreted only with a **literal hermeneutic**

4. Contract terms conserve their meaning throughout the contract duration
COVENANT INTERRELATIONSHIPS

NOAHIC COVENANT

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

MC-S1  MC-S2  MC-M  NEW

MOSAIC COVENANT
“Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel...I will multiply your descendents...and all this land...I will give”

1. God by an oath of malediction promised to Abraham a land, a seed, and a worldwide blessing through them (Gen 12:1-3; 15)

2. God subsequently reaffirmed that promise to Isaac as Abraham’s only miraculously-begotten son (Gen 17:21)

3. God subsequently reaffirmed that promise to Jacob (Ex 2:24)

4. All of Jacob’s sons went to Egypt to form the nation Israel
5. All of Jacob’s living progeny are present at Mt. Sinai as Israel

6. Therefore if the nation is destroyed, Jacob’s progeny will be destroyed

7. Therefore the oath-sworn Abrahamic covenant will be broken
“Subduing the Earth”
“These are the words which Moses spoke to all Israel on this side of the Jordan in the wilderness, in the plain opposite Suph (i.e., Moab)” Deut 1:1

1:6-4:40  1st exposition (motivation to obey)

5:1-26:19  2nd exposition (proper heart & soul response)

27:1-29:1  3rd exposition (inauguration of the covenant)

“These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab besides the covenant which He made with them in Horeb.” Deut 29:1 (Heb 28:69)
COVENANT INTERRELATIONSHIPS

NOAHIC COVENANT

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

MC-S1  MC-S2  MC-M  NEW

MOSAIC COVENANT
THE ABRAHAMIC COV-BASED YAHWEH-ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

“When you turn to the LORD your God and obey His voice (for the LORD your God is a merciful God), He will not forsake you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant of your fathers which He swore to them.” Deut 4:30-31

“Because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand. . . .” Deut 7:8
COVENANT INTERRELATIONSHIPS

NOAHIC COVENANT

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

MOSAIC COVENANT

NEW

MC-S1  MC-S2  MC-M
THE PROPHETS’ “SUPRA-[MOSAIC] COVENANT PRONOUNCEMENTS”

“When you come to the land. . . and say, ‘I will set a king over me. . . .’ you shall surely set a king over whom the LORD your God shall choose. . . .” (Deut 17:14-15)

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people. . . . He will provide atonement for His land and His people.” (Deut 32:43)
29:2-28 “stand today before the LORD your God. . .that you may enter into covenant. . .just as He has spoken to you, and just as He has sworn to. . .Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

29:29 “The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but those things that are revealed belong to us and our children. . . . ”
Israel at Moab enters covenant MC-M with Land prophecy understanding = Implied Land covenant