Confronting Chosenness Breaking the Covenant

I. The Warnings

1. Leviticus 26

14 But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; 15And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant: 16 I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. 17And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you.

1. ויקרא פרק כו

(יד) וְאָם לֹא תִּשְׁמְעוּ לִי וְלֹא תַעֲשׂוּ אֵת כָּל הַמִּצְוֹת הָאֵלֶה:
 (טו) וְאָם בְּחֻקֹּתַי תִּמְאָסוּ וְאִם אֶת מִשְׁפָּטִי תִּנְעַל נַבְּשְׁכֶם לְבַלְתִּי עֲשׂוֹת אֶת כָּל מִצְוֹתֵי לְהַפְּרְכֶם אֶת בְּרִיתִי:
 (טז) אַף אֲנִי אֶעֱשֶׂה זֹאת לֶכֶם וְהַבְּקַדְתִּי עֲלֵיכֶם בָּהָלָה אֶת הַשַּׁדְּמֵּת וְאֶת הַקַּדְּחַת מְכַלּוֹת עֵינַיִם וּמְדִיבֹת נָפֶשׁ וּזְרַעְתֶּם הַשְּׁחֶפֶּת וְאֶת הַקַּבְּחַת מִכְלּוֹת אֵינַיִם וּמְדִיבֹת נָפֶשׁ וּזְרַעְתֶּם לֵּיִי זְרַעֲכֶם וַאֲכָלָהוּ אֹיְבֵיכֶם:

(יז) וְנָתַתִּי פָנֵי בָּכֶם וְנִגַּפְתֶּם לִפְנֵי אֹיְבֵיכֶם וְרָדוּ בָּכֶם שֹׁיִאֵיכֶם וָנַסְתֶּם וְאֵין רֹדֵף אֶתְכֶם :

2. Deuteronomy 28

15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: 16Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field.

2. דברים פרק כח

(טו) וְהָיָה אִם לֹא תִשְׁמַע בְּקוֹל יְקֹנָק אֱלֹהֶיךָ לִשְׁמֹר לַעֲשׁוֹת אֶת כָּל מִצְוֹתָיו וְחֻקּתָיו אֲשֶׁר אָנכִי מְצַוְּךָ הַיּוֹם וּבָאוּ עָלֶידְ כָּל הַקְּלָלוֹת הָאֵלֶה וְהִשִּׁיגוּךָ:
(טז) אַרוּר אַתַּה בַּשִּׂדָה:

II. God's Anger

3. Jeremiah 2

19 You will be punished because you have sinned. You will be corrected for turning away from me. I am the Lord your God. If you desert me, bad things will happen to you. If you do not respect me, you will suffer bitterly. I want you to understand that," announces the Lord who rules over all. 20 "Long ago you broke off the yoke I put on you. You tore off the ropes I tied you up with. You said, 'I won't serve you!' In fact, on every high hill you lay down like a prostitute. You worshiped other gods under every green tree.

3. ירמיהו פרק ב

(יט) הְּיַסְּכֵךְ רָעָתֵךְ וּמְשֻׁבּוֹתֵיִךְ תּוֹכִחָךְ וּדְעִי וּרְאִי כִּי רַע וָמָר עָזְבֵךְ אֶת יִקֹנָק אֱלֹהָיִךְ וְלֹא פַּחְדָּתִי אֵלַיִּךְ נְאֻם אֲדֹנָי יְקוֹק צְבָאוֹת :

(כ) כִּי מֵעוּלָם שָׁבַּרְתִּי עֻלֵּדְ נִתַּקְתִּי מוֹסְרתַיִּדְ וַתּאמְרִי לֹא אעבד אָצֶבור כִּי עַל כָּל גִּבְעָה גְּבֹהָה וְתַחַת כָּל עֵץ רַעֲנָן אַתְּ צעה זנה:

4. Jeremiah 3

1. "Suppose a man divorces his wife. What if she then gets married to another man? Should her first husband return to her again? If he does, won't the land become completely 'unclean'? People of Israel, you have lived like a prostitute. You have loved many other gods. So do you think you can return to me now?"announces the Lord. 2 "Look up at the bare

4. ירמיהו פרק ג

(א) לֵאמר הֵן יְשַׁלַּח אִישׁ אֶת אִשְׁתּוֹ וְהָלְּכָה מֵאתּוֹ וְהָיְתָה לְאִישׁ אַחֵר הֲנָשׁוּב אֵלֶיהָ עוֹד הֲלוֹא חָנוֹף תֶּחֲנֵף הָאָרֶץ הַהִּיא וְאֵתְּ זָנִית רַעִים רָבִּים וְשׁוֹב אֵלֵי נְאֶם יְקֹנֶק: (ב) שְׂאִי עֵינַיִךְ עַל שְׁפָיִם וּרְאִי אֵיפֹה לא שגלת שֻׁכַּבְתְּ עַל דְּרָכִים יָשַׁבְתְּ לָהֶם כַּעֲרָבִי בַּמִדְבָּר וַתַּחֲנִיפִּי אֶרֶץ בִּזְנוּתַיִּךְ וּברעתך:

(גֹ) וַיִּפְנְעוּ רְבִבִּים וּמֵלְקוֹשׁ לוֹא הָיָה וּמֵצֵח אִשָּׁה זוֹנָה הָיָה לֶךְ מֵאַנְתָּ הָכַּלֶם : hilltops. Is there any place where you have not committed adultery with other gods? By the side of the road you sat waiting for lovers. You sat there like someone who wanders in the desert. You have polluted the land. You are like a sinful prostitute. 3 So I have held the showers back. I have kept the spring rains from falling. But you still have the bold face of a prostitute. You refuse to blush with shame. 4 You have just now called out to me. You said, 'My Father, you have been my friend ever since I was young. 5 Will you always be angry with me? Will your anger continue forever?' That is how you talk. But you do all of the evil things you can."

ר) הֲלוֹא מֵעַתָּה קראתי קֶרָאת לִי אָבִי אַלּוּף נְעַרֵי אָתָּה: (ה) הֲיִנְטֹר לְעוֹלָם אִם יִשְׁמֹר לָנֶצַח הֶנֵּה דברתי דַבַּרְתְּ וַתַּעֲשִׂי הָרָעוֹת וַתּוֹכָל:

5. Jeremiah 5

18 "In spite of that, even in those days I will not destroy you completely," announces the Lord. 19 "'Jeremiah,' the people will ask, 'Why has the Lord our God done all of this to us?' "Then you will tell them, 'You have deserted the Lord. You have served other gods in your own land. So now you will serve another nation in a land that is not your own.'

5. ירמיהו פרק ה

(יח) וְגַם בַּיָּמִים הָהַפָּה נְאָם יְקוֹק לֹא אֶעֱשֶׂה אִתְּכֶם כָּלָה: (יט) וְהָיֶה כִּי תאמְרוּ תַּחַת מֶה עָשָׁה יְקוָק אֱלֹהֵינוּ לָנוּ אֶת כָּל אֵלֶה וְאמִרְתַ אֲלֵיהֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר עֲזבְתָּם אוֹתִי וְתַעְבְדוּ אֱלֹהַי נַכַר בָּאַרְצָכָם כֵּן תַּעַבְדוּ זָרִים בְּאֶרֶץ לֹא לָכֶם:

6. Jeremiah 15

6 You have said no to me," announces the Lord. "You keep on turning away from me. So I will destroy you with my own hands. I can't show you my tender love anymore.

6. ירמיהו פרק טו

(ו) אַתְּ <u>נַטשִּׁתְּ אתִי נָאָם</u> יְקנָק אָחור תֵּלֵכִי נָאַט אֶת יָדִי עָלַיִּךְ וָאַשְׁחִיתֵךְ נִלְאֵיתִי הָנָחֵם :

7. Jeremiah 16

10 "Tell these people all of those things. They will ask you, 'Why has the Lord decided to send so much trouble on us? We haven't done anything wrong. We haven't committed any sins against the Lord our God.' 11 "When they say that, tell them, 'I did it because your people of long ago deserted me,' announces the Lord. 'They followed other gods. They served them and worshiped them. They deserted me. They did not obey my law. 12 " 'But you have done more evil things than they did. All of you are doing what your stubborn and evil hearts want you to do. You are not obeying me. 13 "So I will throw you out of this land. I will send you away to a land that you and your people have not had anything to do with before. There you will serve other gods day and night. And I will not show you any favor.'

7. ירמיהו פרק טז

(י) וְהָיָה כִּי תַגִּיד לָעָם הַזֶּה אַת כָּל הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶה וְאָמְרוּ אַלֶּיך עַל מֶה דָבֶּר יְקֹנְק עֲלֵינוּ אֵת כָּל הַרָעָה הַגְּדוֹלֶה הַזֹּאת וּמֶה עֲוֹבְנוּ וּמֶה חַשָּׁאתֵנוּ אֲשֶׁר חָטָאנוּ לַיִּקְנָק אֱלֹהֵינוּ:
(יא) וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵיהֶם עַל אֲשֶׁר עָזְבוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם אוֹתִי נְאֻם יְקֹנָק נֵילְכָּוּ אַחֲרִי עַלָּהִים אֲחֵרִים וַיַּעַבְדוּם וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לָהֶם יְאֹתִי עָנָבוּ וְאָת תּוֹרָתִי לֹא שֶׁמְרוּ:
(יב) וְאַתֶּם הַבְעֹתֶם לַצְשׁוֹת מֵאֲבוֹתֵיכֶם וְהִנְּכֶם הֹלְכִים אִישׁ אַחֲרִי שְׁרִנּי שְׁמֹצְ אֵלֶי:
(יג) וְהַטֵּלְתִּי אֶתְּכֶם מֵעַל הָאָרֶץ הַיּאת עַל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר לֹא יְמֶבְּ הַעָּבְדְתָּם שָׁם אֶת אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים יִמְלֹלָה אֲשֶׁר לֹא אֶתֵּן לָכֶם חֲנִינָה:

8. Jeremiah 22

8 "People from many nations will pass by this city. They will ask one another, 'Why has the Lord done such a thing to this great city?' 9 "And the answer will be, 'Because its people have turned away from the covenant the Lord their God made with them. They have worshiped other gods. And they have served them.' "

8. ירמיהו פרק כב

(ח) וְעָבְרוּ גּוּיִם רַבִּים עַל הָעִיר הַזּאת וְאָמְרוּ אִישׁ אֶל רֵעֵהוּ עַל מֶה עָשָׂה יְקנָק כָּכָה לָעִיר הַגְּדוֹלָה הַזּאת: (ט) <u>וָאַמְרוּ עַל אֲשֶׁר עַזְבוּ אֶת בְּרִית יְקנַק אֱלהִיהֶם</u> וַיִּשְׁתַּחְווּ לֵאלהִים אֲחֵרִים וַיַּעַבְדוּם: ס

III. God vs. Other Nations

9. Isaiah 34

1 Nations, come near and listen to me! Pay attention to what I'm about to say. Let the earth and everything in it listen. Let the world and everything that comes out of it pay attention. 2 The Lord is angry with all of the nations. His anger burns against all of their armies. He will totally destroy them. He will have them killed. 3 Those who are killed won't be buried. Their dead bodies will be thrown on the ground.

9. ישעיהו פרק לד

(א) קרָבוּ גוֹיִם לִשְׁמֹעַ וּלְאֻמִּים הַקְשִׁיבוּ תִּשְׁמַע הָאָרֶץ וּמְלֹאָהּ תַּבַל וְכָל צֶאֱצָאֶיהָ :

(ב) כִּי קֶצֶף לַיקֹנָק עַל כָּל הַגּוֹיִם וְחֵמָה עַל כָּל צְבָאָם הַחֵרִימַם נְתַנָם לַטָּבַח:

(ג) וְחַלְלֵיהֶם יָשְׁלֶכוּ וּפִּגְרֵיהֶם יַצֲלֶה בָּאְשָׁם וְנָמַסוּ הָרִים מַדָּמִם:

IV. Tough Love

10. Isaiah 48

3 "Long ago I told you ahead of time what would happen. I announced it and made it known. Then all of a sudden I acted. And those things took place. 4 I knew how stubborn you were. Your neck was as unbending as iron. Your forehead was as hard as bronze. 5 So I told you those things long ago. Before they happened I announced them to you. I did it so you would not be able to say, 'My statues of gods did them. My wooden and metal gods made them happen.' 6 You have heard me tell you those things. Think about all of them. Won't you admit they have taken place? "From now on I will tell you about new things that will happen. I have not made them known to you before. 7 Those things are taking place right now. They did not happen long ago. You have not heard of them before today. So you can't say, 'Oh, yes. I already knew about them.' 8 You have not heard or understood what I said. Your ears have been plugged up for a long time. I knew very well that you would turn against me. From the day you were born, you have refused to obey me. 9 For the honor of my own name I put off showing my anger. I hold it back from you so people will continue to praise me. I do not want to destroy you. 10 I have put you to the test in the furnace of suffering. I have tried to make you pure. But I did not use as much heat as it takes to make silver pure. 11 I tried to purify you for my own honor. I did it for the honor of my name. How can I let myself be dishonored? I will not give up my glory to any other god.

10. ישעיהו פרק מח

(ג) הָרָאשׁנוֹת מֵאָז הָגַּדְתִּי וּמִפִּי יָצְאוּ וְאַשְׁמִיעֵם פִּתְאֹם (ג) עָשִׂיתִי וַתַּבֹאנַה :

(ד) מִדַּעְתִּי כִּי קֵשֶּׁה אָתָּה וְגִיד בַּרְזֶל עַרְכֶּּךְ וּמִצְחֲךָ נְחוּשָׁה: (ה) וָאַגִּיד לְךָ מֵאָז בְּטֶרֶם תָּבוֹא הִשְּׁמֵעְתִּיךָ כֶּּן תֹּאמֵר עַצְבִּי עַשֵּׁם וּפַסָלִי וַנְסָכִּי צָנָם:

(ו) שָׁמַעְתָּ חֲזֵה כָּלָּה וְאַתֶּם הֲלוֹא תַגִּידוּ הִשְּמַעְתִּיךְ חֲדָשׁוֹת מֵעָתָה וּנִצְרוֹת וִלֹא יִדַעִתָּם:

(ז) עַתָּה נְבָרְאוּ וְלֹא מֵאָז וְלַפְנֵי יוֹם וְלֹא שְׁמַעְתָּם פֶּן תּאמֵר הַנֵּה יִדְעִתִּיוֹ:

(ח) גַם לא שַמַעְתָּ גַם לא יָדַעְתָּ גַם מֵאָז לא פִתְּחָה אָזְנֶךָ כִּי יַדַעִתִי בָּגוֹד תִּבְגוֹד וּפשֻעַ מִבֶּטֵן קרָא לֶךְ:

(ט) לְמַעַן שְׁמִי אַאֲרִידָ אַפִּי וּתְהַלֶּתִי אֶחֱטָם לָדָ לְבִלְתִּי הכריתד:

(י) הַנָּה צְרַפָּתִיךָ וִלֹא בָכֶסֶף בַּחַרְתִּיךָ בְּכוּר ענִי:

: (יא) לָמַעַנִי לָמַעַנִי אָעֵשֶׂה כִּי אָידְ יֶחֵל <u>וֹכבודי לאחר לא אתן</u>)

11. Ezekiel 16

59 The Lord and King says, "I will punish you in keeping with what you have done. I sealed with an oath the covenant I made with you. You hated that oath. And you broke my covenant. 60 "But I will remember my covenant with you. I made it with you when you were young. Now I will make a new covenant with you. It will last forever. 61 Then you will remember how you have lived. You will be ashamed when I give you Samaria and Sodom. Samaria is your older sister. Sodom is your younger one. I will give them and their daughters to you as daughters. That can't happen based on my old covenant with you. 62 So I will make my new covenant with you. Then you will know that I am the Lord. 63 "I will pay for all of the sins you have committed. Then you will remember what you have done. You will be ashamed of it. Because of your shame, you will never speak against me again," announces the Lord and King.

11. יחזקאל פרק טז

(נט) כִּי כֹה אָמַר אֲדנָי יִקוֹק ועשית ועַשִּׂיתִי אוֹתָךְ כַּאֲשֵׁר עשית אַשֶּׁר בַּזִית אַלָּה לְהַפֶּר בִּרִית:

(ס) וַזַּכַרַתִּי אַנִי אַת בַּרִיתִי אוֹתַדְ בִּימִי נְעוּרַיִדְ וַהַקְּמוֹתִי לַדְ ברית עולם:

(סא) וּזָכַרִתּ אֶת דְּרָכַיִּךְ וְנִכְלַמְתְּ בְּקַחְתֵּךְ אֶת אֲחוֹתַיִּךְ הַגָּדלות מִמֶּדָ אֵל הַקָּטַנות ממֶד וְנַתַתִּי אֶתְהַן לַדְ לְבַנות ולא

(סב) וַהַקִּימותִי אַנִי אֶת בַּרִיתִי אָתַּדְ וַיַדַעַתְּ כִּי אַנִי יקוַק: (סג) לָמַעַן תִּזְכָּרִי וַבִּשְׁתִּ וָלֹא יִהְיֵה לַּדְ עוד פָּתְחון פֵּה מִפְּנֵי ּכָּלִמֶּתֵךָ בָּכַפָּרִי לָךָ לִכָל אֲשֶׁר עָשִׁית נָאָם אֲדֹנָי יִקוֹק: ס

V. A New Hope

12. Isaiah 14

1 The Lord will show tender love toward Jacob's people. Once again he will choose Israel. He'll settle them in their own land. Outsiders will join them. They and the people of Jacob will become one people. 2 Nations will help Israel return to their own land. People from other nations will belong to Israel. They will serve them as male and female servants in the Lord's land. The Israelites will make prisoners of those who had held them as prisoners. They will rule over those who had crushed them.

(א) כי ירחם יקנק את יעקב ובחר עוד בישראל והניחם על אַדמַתַם ונלָוַה הַגֵּר עַלֵיהֶם ונִסְפַּחוּ עַל בֵּית יַעַקב: (ב) ולקחום עמים והביאום אל מקומם והתנחלום בית יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל אַדִּמַת יִקְנָק לַעֲבָדִים וִלְשִׁפָּחוֹת וָהָיוֹ שׁבִים לשביהם ורדו בנגשיהם:

13. Isaiah 43

1 Family of Jacob, the Lord created you. People of Israel, he formed you. He says, "Do not be afraid. I will set you free. I will send for you by name. You belong to me. 2 You will pass through deep waters. But I will be with you. You will pass through the rivers. But their waters will not sweep over you. You will walk through fire. But you will not be burned. The flames will not harm you. 3 I am the Lord your God. I am the Holy One of Israel. I am the one who saves you. I will give up Egypt to set you free. I will give up Cush and Seba for you. 4 You are priceless to me. I love you and honor you.

13. ישעיהו פרק מג

12. ישעיהו פרק יד

(א) וְעַתָּה כֹּה אָמַר יִקנָק בּרַאֲדָ יַעֲקב וִיצֶרְדָ יִשְׁרָאֵל אַל ּ תִּירָא כִּי גָאַלְתִּיךַ קַרָאתִי בִשְּׁמִךַ לִי אַתַּה:

ב) כִּי תַעֲבר בַּמַיִם אָתְּךָ אָנִי ובַנָּהָרוֹת לֹא יִשְּׁטְפוֹךָ כִּי תֵלֶךְ (ב) בָּמוֹ אֲשׁ לֹא תְכָּוֶה וְלֶהֶבָה לֹא תִבְעַר בַּדְ:

(ג) כִּי אַנִי יִקנָק אֱלהֵיך קדושׁ יִשְׁרָאֵל מוּשִׁיעֵך נַתַתִּי כַפְרְךַ : מְצְרַיִם כּוּשׁ וּסְבַא תַּחְתֵּיך

(ד) מאשר יַקרתּ בעיני נכבדתּ ואני אַהבתּידַ ואתן אַדֶם תַּחָתֵּיךַ וּלָאָמִים תַּחַת נַפְשֶׁךַ:

14. Jeremiah 33

19 A message came to me from the Lord. 20 He said, "Could you ever break my covenant with the day? Could you ever break my covenant with the night?

14. ירמיהו פרק לג

(יט) וַיָּהָי דָּבַר יִקוַק אֵל יִרְמַיַהוּ לֵאמור: (כ) כּה אָמַר יִקוָק אַם תַּפֵרוּ אֵת בַּרִיתִי הַיּוֹם וְאֵת בַּרִיתִי הַלַּיַלָה וּלְבַלְתִּי הֵיות יומָם וַלַיִלָה בִּעְתַם:

Could you ever stop day and night from coming at their appointed times? 21 Only then could my covenant with my servant David be broken. Only then could my covenant with the Levites who serve me as priests be broken. Only then would David no longer have someone from his family line to rule on his throne. 22 "Here is what I will do for my servant David. And here is what I will do for the Levites who serve me. I will make their children after them as many as the stars in the sky. And I will make them as many as the grains of sand on the seashore. It will be impossible to count them."

(כא) ג<u>ם בּרִיתִי תִפּר אַת דַּוֹד עַבְדִּי מְהִיוֹת לוֹ בוַ מֹלֵדְ עַלַ</u> כַּסְאוֹ וָאָת הַלוִיִּם הַכּהָנִים מִשְׁרַתִּי:

(כב) אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִפְּפֵר צְבָא הַשָּׁמַיִם וְלֹא יִמַּד חוֹל הַיָּם כֵּן אַרָבָּה אֶת זֶרַע דָּוִד עַבְדִּי וְאֶת הַלְוִיִּם מְשָּׁרְתֵי אֹתִי: ס