Keeping Our Covenants
Rom. 1:31

Introduction:
A. Covenant: "A binding and solemn agreement made by two or more individuals, parties, etc."
B. Christians should be careful with all promises and agreements – written, oral, implied.
C. Three outstanding covenants of Christians that need constant attention.

Discussion:
I. Our Covenant With God. (Heb. 8:6)
A. God has covenanted to provide spiritual blessings in Christ. (Eph. 1:3).
   1. To save us from sin and its eternal consequences. (Matt. 1:21; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38)
   2. To make us his own peculiar people. (Tit. 2:14; 1 Pet. 2:9).
   3. To providentially care for us.
      a. Never leave or forsake us. (Heb. 13:5; Matt. 6:33)
      b. No temptation beyond our ability to resist. (1 Cor. 10:13).
   4. To give us an entrance into heaven. (2 Pet. 1:11)
B. We have covenanted to obey him in worship and service.
   2. Committed to serving righteousness. (Rom. 6:17-21).
   3. Committed to discipleship - student and follower.

II. Our Covenant With Spouse. (Mal. 2:14)
   1. Man and wife may try to release each other, but God is still in picture.
   2. Life-time contract.
B. Each Spouse covenants to provide privileges and to fulfil responsibilities
   1. Need to remember promises made in wedding ceremony.
   2. Mutual love and respect. (Eph. 5:25; Tit. 2:4).
   4. Mutual acceptance and respect for respective positions.
      a. Husband accepts and wife honors his headship. (Eph. 5:22,23).
      b. Wife accepts and husband honors her subserviency. (1 Pet. 3:5-7).
   5. Mutual physical gratification. (1 Cor. 7:3-5).

III. Our Covenant With The Local Church.
A. Responsibility to join ourselves to local church (Acts 9:26) - a covenant.
B. Benefits each receives from local church in this arrangement.
   1. Edification. (Eph. 4:11-16).
      a. From worshipping together.
      b. From working together.
      c. From teaching done.
   2. Financial help if become destitute. (cf. 1 Tim. 5:16).
C. Responsibilities each has to local church in this arrangement.
   1. To attend assemblies. (Heb. 10:25).
   2. To supply talent according to ability. (Eph. 4:16).
   3. To support the work financially according to ability. (1 Cor. 16:1,2; 2 Cor. 8,9).
   4. To be dependable in all these responsibilities.
      a. Irregular attendance hinders edification.
         (1) Because of neglect.
         (2) Because of constant visiting away.
      b. Irregular giving hinders planning the work.

Conclusion:
A. Let us be more diligent in holding up our end of covenants or bargains.
B. Let us not give our word lightly nor break it lightly.