

Romans 1:31 (NKJV)

“...undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful;” *(Romans 1:31 NKJV)*

(Note: Some Bible versions, such as KJV and NASB, use the phrase “covenant breakers” here.)

Introduction

In Romans 1, the Apostle Paul lists various characteristics of those who have rejected God’s truth and turned to sin. Among these, he includes “covenant breakers.” But who exactly are these people? This phrase does not refer to people breaking “ancestral curses” or engaging in spiritual warfare, as some mistakenly think. Instead, it refers to people who fail to keep sacred commitments, whether to God, to others, or even to themselves. Let’s look at three major categories of covenant breakers, supported by Scripture.

1. Breaking the Covenant of Faith (Apostasy)

When someone receives Christ, they enter into a New Covenant—a spiritual agreement sealed by the blood of Jesus. This is a serious and holy commitment.

Hebrews 9:15 (NKJV):

“And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant...”

Salvation is not just a personal decision; it is a binding covenant between God and the believer. When someone walks away from that relationship and returns to sin, it is considered spiritual treason.

Hebrews 10:28-29 (NKJV):

“Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment... will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant... a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?”

Theologically speaking, this is apostasy—the deliberate rejection of the saving truth. Apostasy is not accidental; it is willful

rebellion after knowing Christ.

2 Peter 2:21 (NKJV):

“For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them.”

2. Breaking the Covenant of Marriage

Marriage is more than a social contract; it is a covenant before God.

Malachi 2:14 (NKJV):

“Yet you say, ‘For what reason?’ Because the Lord has been witness between you and the wife of your youth... yet she is your companion and your wife by covenant.”

When couples make vows at the altar, they are not just committing to one another—they are entering a divine agreement with God as their witness.

To break this covenant without biblical grounds (such as unrepented adultery or abandonment by an unbeliever—see Matthew 19:9; 1 Corinthians 7:15) is considered sin.

Mark 10:9 (NKJV):

“Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Romans 7:2 (NKJV):

“For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives...”

Divorce without just cause, followed by remarriage, may even lead to what Jesus calls adultery (Matthew 5:32). God calls us to faithfulness, not convenience.

3. Breaking Personal Covenants (Vows and Promises to God)

God takes vows and commitments very seriously—even those we make voluntarily. Whether it’s a vow to fast, serve, give, or pray—if you say it to God, He expects you to follow through.

Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 (NKJV):

“When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; for He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed—Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.”

This applies to spiritual disciplines as well. If you tell yourself or God that you’ll do something for His Kingdom—follow through. Integrity is a fruit of righteousness.

Psalms 15:1, 4 (NKJV):

“LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill?... He who swears to his own hurt and does not change.”

Failing to honor your personal words makes you spiritually unreliable:

James 1:8 (NKJV):

“He is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

Even Jesus taught that your “yes” should be “yes” and your “no,” “no” (Matthew 5:37). Anything beyond that is from the evil one.

Conclusion

Covenant breaking is not a light matter—it cuts across our relationship with God, others, and ourselves. To break a covenant is to despise the sacredness of trust, and the consequences are often spiritual death and separation from God’s blessings.

Let us be people of our word. Let us keep our promises. Let us honor our vows to God and one another. For our God is a covenant-keeping God (Deuteronomy 7:9), and He expects the same from us.

2 Timothy 2:13 (NKJV):

“If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.”

Final Prayer:

Lord, help us to be faithful in every covenant we enter—whether with You, our spouses, or our own souls. Teach us to honor our words and live with integrity, so we may reflect Your character to the world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Maranatha! (The Lord is coming.)

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