

2023 John Bunyan Conference

April 16-19, 2023

Grace Church, 4052 Arno Road, Franklin, TN

Theme: An In-House Dialogue between New Covenant Theology and Progressive Covenantalism

Time	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	April 16, 2023	April 17, 2023	April 18, 2023	April 19, 2023
8:30-9:00		Corporate Prayer	Corporate Prayer	Corporate Prayer
9:15-9:30		Assembly, Prayer & Hymn	Assembly, Prayer & Hymn	Assembly, Prayer & Hymn
9:30-10:30		Teaching Slot 1: XXXX An NCT View: “No Creation Covenant Exists”	Teaching Slot 3: Brent Parker “What Progressive Covenantalism & NCT Have in Common”	Teaching Slot 5: XXXX An NCT View: “Distinctions: Old Covenant vs New Covenant”
10:30-11:00		Break	Break	Break
11:00-12:15		Teaching Slot 2: Richard Lucas A Progressive Covenantalist View: “A Creation Covenant Exists”	Teaching Slot 4: XXXX An NCT View: “Any Instructive Place for Mosaic Law?”	Teaching Slot 6: Dr. Stephen Wellum??? “Distinctions: Old Covenant vs New Covenant”
12:15-1:30		Special Slot 1: Speaker Question & Answer Panel (Chair: David Leon)	Lunch at Grace Church (Food by Grace Church)	Special Slot 2: Speaker Question & Answer Panel (Chair: David Leon)
1:30-2:30		Pizza at Grace Church (1:30-2:30) (Food by PTI-NCT)		Lunch at Grace Church (1:30-2:30) (Food by PTI-NCT)
2:30-3:30				
3:30-5:30	Arrival & Registration (Please sign / check Conference Attendee / Contact list upon Arrival at Grace Church. List will be in Foyer. Also please fill out nametag.)	Open Time in Franklin / Nashville Area	Open Time in Franklin / Nashville Area	Open Time in Franklin / Nashville Area
6:00-6:30	Conference Introduction: Purpose, Layout, and Overview (Zachary Maxcey)			Dinner at Grace Church (5:00-6:15) (Food by Grace Church)
6:30-7:00	Prayer, Praise, and Worship	Prayer, Praise, and Worship	Prayer, Praise, and Worship	Prayer, Praise, and Worship
7:00-8:00	Preaching Slot 1: Pastor Gary George??? One Plan of God in Christ; Interpreting Old Testament in Light of the New	Preaching Slot 2: Pastor Gary Scott??? Old Covenant Temporary by Divine Design; the Law is a Unit	Preaching Slot 3: Pastor XXXX XXXX??? Christians under Law of Christ, not Law of Moses	Preaching Slot 4: Pastor Blake White All NC Members Have Full Forgiveness & Spirit; Church = Eschatological Israel

8:00	Break for Evening	Break for Evening	Break for Evening	Conference Ends – 8:00 PM – Closed by Zach Maxcey –
8:30		Pastor’s Fellowship Meal at Franklin Chop House (PTI-NCT)		
<p>*The last 10 minutes of each speaker’s one-hour message will be devoted to questions from the conference attendees and for questions continuing from other conference speakers’ morning Q & A Sessions—all designed to help explain what New Covenant Theology is. All messages to be placed on Institute Website, Vimeo, and Sermon Audio. You may also watch each speaker’s message live via the Ustream Video Feed at Grace Church: http://gracechurchatfranklin.org/?page=ustream</p>				

NCT, our hesitation to use the label was because we were not in full agreement with the diverse views fitting under its banner.³ For example, some in NCT reject a creation covenant, Christ’s active obedience and imputation of righteousness, and hold little instructive place for the Mosaic law in the church’s life—all points we reject.⁴ In addition some distinguish the old and new covenants merely in terms of the categories of external and internal, or that the old covenant was not gracious, or follow the “unconditional-conditional” covenantal distinction—all ideas we cannot endorse.⁵ Yet some who embrace NCT also resonate with our proposal, although we prefer to use the “progressive covenantal” label.⁶

³For some examples of helpful NCT, see Tom Wells and Fred Zaspel, *New Covenant Theology* (Frederick, MD: New Covenant Media, 2002); John G. Reisinger, *Abraham’s Four Seeds* (Frederick, MD: New Covenant Media, 1998); A. Blake White, *The Newness of the New Covenant* (Frederick, MD: New Covenant Media, 2007).

⁴See, e.g., Steve Lehrer, *New Covenant Theology: Questions Answered* (n.p.: Steve Lehrer, 2006).

⁵For the “unconditional-conditional” distinction as a way of distinguishing the covenants, see Fred Zaspel’s evaluation of KTC at <http://www.credomag.com/2012/11/26/some-reflections-on-kingdom-through-covenant>.

⁶See Gary D. Long, *New Covenant Theology: Time for a More Accurate Way* (n.p.: Gary D. Long, 2013); A. Blake White, *What Is New Covenant Theology? An Introduction* (Frederick, MD: New Covenant Media, 2012), and in many areas, Fred Zaspel.