Why Are We Here? - Covenant Relationship With God Through Circumcision of Heart

I. Review:

- A. Purpose established as being a living demonstration of Jesus Christ to the world *through*:
- B. Sanctification the Divine Exchange:
 - 1. Trading _____
 - 2. Allowing God to bring _____
 - 3. Developing the ______ of Jesus Christ
- C. *BUT*...
 - 1. That's only ______of our purpose, and only applies to our purpose on______
- D. Our *ultimate purpose* is _____

II. Covenant - God's Provision for the Fulfillment of His Plan

- A. Covenant what it is:
 - 1. Binding agreement ______

2. Something of value _____

- B. Blood covenant
 - 1. Covenant sealed by _____

"...no one of the modern students of myth and folk-lore, of primitive ideas and customs, and of man's origin and history, has brought into their true prominence...the universally dominating primitive convictions: that the blood is the life; that the heart, as the blood-fountain, is the very soul of every personality; that blood-transfer is soul-transfer; that blood-sharing, human, or divine-human, secures an inter-union of natures; and that a union of the human nature with the divine is the highest ultimate attainment reached out after by the most primitive, as well as by the most enlightened mind of humanity.¹"

C. First mention of covenant: Noah

Genesis 6:18¹⁸ "But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark -- you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. (NKJV)

- 1. I will establish...
- 2. Then *after* the ______ *and* ______

D. Primary covenant referred to in the New Testament, however, was the covenant God made with _

Genesis 15:18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates -- (NKJV)

- 1. First, Abram _____
- 2. Then Abram ______

¹ H. Clay Trumbull, <u>*The Blood Covenant*</u> - © 1975 Impact Books, Inc. - Preface, p. v.

3. Then God _____ 4. From this point on in Scripture, all God's covenant promises point E. Principles established before the Law was ever given 1. 2. 3. F. Progressive in Nature11 1. Noah - _____ 2. Abraham - _____ 3. Moses - _____

4. Jesus - _____

Noah	Abraham	Moses	Jesus
Protection -	Fruitfulness -	Access as priests -	Intimacy and mercy -
Genesis 9:11	Genesis 17:2-4	Exodus 19:5-6	Hebrews 8:10-12
Reckoning for	Walk before me, be	Law - civil, ceremonial,	Offer your bodies, living
lifeblood, be fruitful	blameless, keep my	priesthood	sacrifices
and multiply	covenant, circumcision		
Cloud	Smoking Furnace	Pillar of Cloud	Cloud of Witnesses
Rainbow	Flaming Torch	Pillar of Fire	Fire of the Holy Spirit
Burnt Offering	Goat, Ram, Heifer,	Tabernacle	Sacrifice of Praise - the
	Dove Pigeon		fruit of lips giving thanks

III. Circumcision - Man's Response to God's Provision

A. Man's requirement, and the sign that man was an inheritor of God's covenant was (is?...)

B. In the natural:

- 1. Exchange of _____
- 2. Removing of _____around the...
- 3. _____

C. In the spirit - circumcision of _____

Romans 2:25-29 For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.²⁶ Therefore, if an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision?²⁷ And will not the physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law?²⁸ For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh;²⁹ but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God. (NKJV)

1. Exchange of _____

2. Crucifying of _____ so we will...

3. _____ His image and character