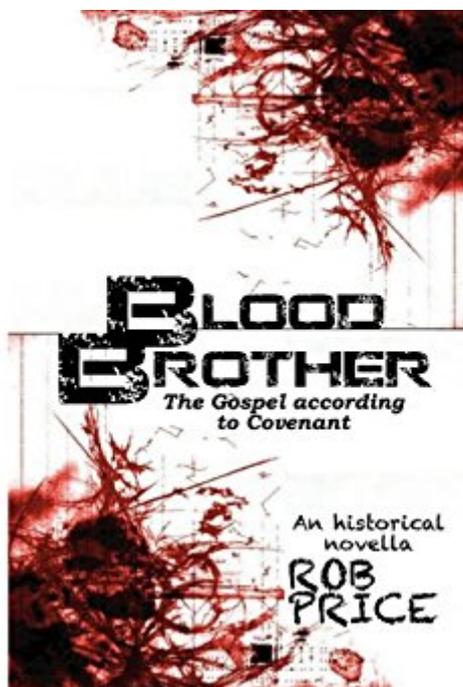


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Blood Brother



Synopsis

Blood Brother is a unique book that takes a typical contemporary Westernized reader on an amazing journey of discovering the ancient revelation of "covenant" in the Bible. Author Rob Price presents a concise and fresh approach to understanding traditional covenant theology presented by Bible scholars and theologians in centuries past. Instead of replaying a long list of systematic theological truths, Price uses the relationships of several real life characters in the Bible to communicate in storytelling form the power and passion of what a covenant actually looks like and how it is experienced in real life application. The book is divided into three sections. Part I is titled "Why didn't anybody in church ever tell me this?" which narrates Price's personal discovery of covenant as the centerpiece truth of the entire Bible and his relationship with God. Already a professed Christian for many years, Price shares how the revelation of understanding God and His Word as "covenantal" in nature radically changed his life and understanding of what the "Gospel" (good news) actually is and how it should be explained. Part I also defines several key components of covenant: types of covenants, covenant-making rituals, covenant words, etc. At the conclusion of Part I, the reader is primed to be aware of covenant as a filter through which to interpret the thoughts, words and actions of the characters to be met in the actual novella in Part II. This preface is critical because the original audience of the Old Testament "the ancient Hebrews" were very versed in covenant language and customs. It was part of their natural culture. Most of today's 21st century audience is simply not. Price offers the comparison to today's game of baseball in America, where someone could begin a conversation with a friend and use words like: pitch, outfield, foul, strike, home run, shortstop, mound, and double. Without ever saying the word "baseball" the friend who use common sense context clues to discern that the subject of the conversation was indeed baseball. Part I helps the reader know when covenant will be referenced using its own contextual language in the ensuing novella in Part II. Part II is titled "Blood Brother" and portrays a fictionalized and expanded version of the actual events that are recorded in the Bible concerning the covenant relationship between David, Jonathan and Jonathan's son Mephibosheth. The story opens with a brief background of how King Saul's son Jonathan and David first met (upon the death of Goliath) and concludes many years later when Mephibosheth faces David in the king's throne room. The passion of covenant love is felt as the story reaches its climax. Price's style and genre choice is similar to the Bible character-based novels produced by Francine Rivers. After reading the novella, the reader dives into Part III titled "Understanding the Story" where Price breaks down the metaphors found in each of the four main characters (Saul, Jonathan, David and Mephibosheth). He further outlines specific detailed

explanations, parallels, interpretations of the story. He also expounds on what amounts to a cursory survey of several other New Testament verses that have covenant markings all around them. The purpose of this exercise is to help the reader learn how to wear "covenant glasses" to pick up on both the ecstasy and the solemnity of God's covenant nature. Reading Blood Brother is a faith-building journey into the world of daily walking in covenant with God through the blood of Jesus Christ. Price's genius of taking an established systematic theology and repackaging it in a storytelling format promises to give the reader a personal and powerful "covenant revelation" of who he/she is in Christ.

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