

Part 4: The Covenant with Abraham

The Covenant Itself

- ✦ Gen. 12:1-4
- ✦ Gen. 13:14-17
- ✦ Gen. 15:1-21
- ✦ Gen. 17:1-16, 19-21

Promised blessings

- ✦ Abraham's descendants will multiply into a great nation from which will come kings.
- ✦ All nations will be blessed through God's people.
- ✦ God's people will have the promised land as an eternal inheritance.

Faithful response

- ✦ Obey and be upright (Abraham left Ur and went to the promised land).
- ✦ Trust God to preserve the nation.
- ✦ Be circumcised (outward sign of inward reality).

Jesus' fulfillment

- ✦ 2 Peter 2:4-10 — Believers from all nations are now a holy nation, a people for His own possession, whose sacrifices are acceptable through Jesus.

- ✦ Matthew 1:1-7; 2:2 — Jesus is the greatest of the kings descended from Abraham.
- ✦ Hebrews 11:13-16 — The promised land is a shadow of the entire new heavens and new earth. That better inheritance is guaranteed in Christ.
- ✦ Revelation 7:9-10 — Jesus blesses all nations by saving a people for Himself from every nation, tribe, and people.

Continuing promises

- ✦ We have a beautiful inheritance that will be ours for eternity.
- ✦ God will continue to multiply his people and bless the nations through us.

Old Testament Readings

- ✦ Terms and ideas to look for: the promised land, the nations of the earth, circumcision, a great name.
- ✦ Isaiah 2:6-8, Jeremiah 23:9-11 — Israel's sin is often referred to as defiling the land. The land was supposed to be a wonderful part of God's provision for them, but they were always corrupting it. This should make us look ahead to a Savior who will purify the people and the land.
- ✦ Zephaniah 3:9-13 — Israel's shameful actions will be removed so that God can bless the nations. He will be faithful to the promise that the nations would be blessed even when Israel has been unfaithful.