

SEED OF ABRAHAM

The Sunday Christmas series will consist of the four following lessons.

- Dec.5 – Seed of Woman – Adamic Covenant – Gen.3:15
- **Dec.12 – Seed of Abraham – Abrahamic Covenant – Gal.3:16-19, 29**
- Dec.19 – Seed of David – Davidic covenant - Rom.1:3-4
- Dec.26 – Seed of God – The New Covenant – Heb.9:6-13

Notice that these lessons follow the theme of the messianic seed of four great covenants of the Bible.

Today's lesson will show how the PROMISED SEED BECAME THE PROCLAIMED SON. *"The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say 'and to seeds,' meaning many people, but 'and to seed,' meaning ONE person, who is CHRIST."* (NIV, Gal.3:16)

Today's lesson will also show how church age believers become Abraham's seed and heirs through Jesus Christ. *"If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."* (Gal.3:29)

We will study FIVE aspects of how church age believers become identified with the Blessings of the Abrahamic covenant through faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

1. The Abrahamic Covenant consists of five promises – "The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed." (Gal.3:16)

These five promises are recorded in Gen.12: 1-7. We will study them by the following five homiletical points.

- National Identity – 12:2a - great
- Name Influence – 12:2b - great
- Note Intolerance – 12:3a – bless and curse
- Nativity Incarnation – 12:3b – all families
- Native Inhabitant – 12:7 – real estate

2. Abrahamic Covenant is an unconditional grace covenant. (Gal.3: 17; Rom.4: 13-17).

"What I am saying is this: the Law, which came four hundred and thirty years later, *does not invalidate* a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to *nullify* the promise."

This means that the promises of the Abrahamic covenant are dependent upon the character of God and man. This is no true of the Mosaic Law.

This also means that no obligations are imposed upon the recipients of the Abrahamic Covenant for its fulfillment. This is not true of the Mosaic Law.

"For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all." (James 2:10)

3. As a grace covenant, the Abrahamic Covenant was superior to the Mosaic Law (Gal.3: 15-25).

What was the purpose of the Mosaic Law? (Rom.5:20-21). *“Why the Law then? It was added because of the transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, UNTIL THE SEED should come to whom the promise was made.” (Gal.3:19)*

Since the Abrahamic covenant is unconditional based on God’s promise, it is a covenant of grace based on faith (Rom.3: 21-31). *“For if the inheritance is based on law, it is no longer based on promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.” (Gal.3:18)*

“For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the Law.” (Rom.3:28)

“For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace.” (Rom.6:14)

4. The Abrahamic covenant was confirmed through the patriarchs down to Moses and the establishment of the priest-nation of Israel.

Abraham (Gen.12: 1-5) – Covenant given to Abraham.

Isaac (Gen.26: 1-6) – Covenant reconfirmed.

Jacob (Gen.35: 10-15) – Covenant reconfirmed.

Moses (Ex.6: 1-8) – Abrahamic Covenant was reconfirmed with the establishment of priest-nation of Israel and the Law (Deut.1: 6-8)

With Joshua, the Abrahamic Covenant is reconfirmed along with the Mosaic Law (Josh.1: 1-9).

In regards to the Abrahamic covenant, God will give the land as promised by grace (1:1-5). However to occupy the land as the priest-nation, they must obey the Law and keep shadow Christology (1:6-9). They could lose their inheritance but not their sonship because of the grace covenant (Deut.28; Lev.26/ five cycles of divine discipline) (Gal.5:1, 11-13, 18-21).

5. Circumcision was a physical and ritual sign associated with Abrahamic Covenant of a new race to carry the messianic seed.

Grace Salvation predated Jewish history and circumcision (Gen.3: 15; Gal.3: 8-9; Rom.4: 9-13).

It was performed on Abraham when he was sexually dead 24 years after his call (Gen.17: 1-11; Rom.4: 17-21).

It was performed on males on the 8th day after birth and before salvation (Phil.3: 5).

It was a physical sign of a spiritual message of the coming of grace salvation in the person of Christ.

It was performed on John the Baptist and Jesus Christ (Luke 1:59; 2:21).

“For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly; neither is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. But he is a Jew who is inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.” (**Rom.2:28-29**) (Col.2:11-13; 1 Cor.7:17-20; Acts 21:21)

“In Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.” (**Gal.5: 6**) (6:15; Acts 15:1-5).