

Elpis Israel

for Young People

*Abraham and the beginning of the
Kingdom of God (Part 3)*

Class 23

Importance of Understanding:

Need to get these things into our heads

- We have to be able to RELATE what we learn – tell other people about it
- One day we will have to give a CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH
- We need to be ready to do this

1 Peter 3:15 *But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and **be ready always to give an answer** to every man that asketh you a **reason of the hope that is in you** with meekness and fear:*

Romans 10:9-11 *That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth** the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For **with the heart man believeth unto righteousness**; and **with the mouth confession is made unto salvation**. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.*

The areas we are looking at are especially important they are the “FIRST PRINCIPLES”

Hebrews 5:12 *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one **teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God**; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.*

Hebrews 6:1-2 *Therefore leaving the **principles of the doctrine of Christ**, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again **the foundation** of **repentance** from dead works, and of **faith** toward God, Of the **doctrine of baptisms**, and of laying on of hands, and **of resurrection** of the dead, and **of eternal judgment**.*

Over the summer:

- Memorize the promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
 - Not necessarily VERSE BY VERSE
 - But the key content – what is involved
 - What to do YOU believe about these things!
 - Be ready to tell it to somebody else.

Last Class

Abraham's Response to God's promise of a son:

Romans 4:17-22 *(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and **calleth those things which be not as though they were.** Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And **being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead,** when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb: He **staggered not at the promise of God** through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being **fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.** And **therefore** it was **imputed to him for righteousness.***

- Abraham completely believed what God had said
- Was not a doubt in his mind...
- Therefore God IMPUTED it to him for RIGHTEOUSNESS

What we need to do:

Romans 4:12 *And the **father of circumcision to them** who are not of the circumcision only, but **who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham,** which he had being yet uncircumcised.*

We need to have the same faith as Abraham did – believing in what God did:

Romans 4:23-25 *Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But **for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;** Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.*

- All God asks for from us is belief and obedience!
- Where Adam and Eve went wrong in the first place!

Promise #4 – Extent of the Land

God Restates his proposition:

Genesis 15:7 *And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it.*

Abraham asks for some kind of token:

Genesis 15:8 And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

- Looking for a physical SIGN to know

Abraham makes a sacrifice:

Genesis 15:9-12 *And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not. And when the fowls came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away. And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.*

Promise & Prophecy to Abraham – Bring them out of Egypt:

Genesis 15:13-16 *And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. And **thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age.** But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.*

- Abraham is told he will die – but his people will be rescued.

The Sacrifice is accepted

Genesis 15:17 *And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.*

Promise is reiterated – Dimensions of the LAND given:

Genesis 15:18-21 *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, **from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:** The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.*

Promise #5 – Kings & Resurrection

Abraham is almost 100 – still hasn't had a son by Sarah:

Genesis 17:2 *And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will **multiply thee** exceedingly.*

Name to be Changed:

Genesis 17:4-8 *As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be **a father of many nations**. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be **Abraham**; for a **father of many nations have I made thee**. And I will make thee **exceeding fruitful**, and I will make **nations of thee**, and **kings shall come out of thee**.*

- Father of Many Nations
- Exceeding Fruitful
- Nations of Thee
- Kings come out of thee

- First reference to the KINGDOM of God in the Bible:

2 Samuel 7:12-13 *And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and **I will establish his kingdom**. He shall build an house for my name, and **I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever**.*

Genesis 17:4-8

*And I will establish my covenant between **me and thee** and **thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant**, to be a God unto **thee**, and to **thy seed** after thee. And I will **give unto thee**, and **to thy seed** after thee, **the land** wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, **for an everlasting possession**; and I will be their God.*

- Covenant is between ABRAHAM and his SEED – everlasting covenant
- ABRAHAM and his SEED have the land for an EVERLASTING POSSESSION

Implications:

- Resurrection Necessary – Abraham is dead
- Seed would also have “eternal life” in order to have “everlasting possession”

2 Peter 1:3-4 *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, **through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue**: Whereby are **given unto us exceeding great and precious promises**: that by these **ye might be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

Token of the Covenant:

Genesis 17:9-14 *And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. **This is my covenant**, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; **Every man child among you shall be circumcised**. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and **my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant**. And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.*

- What is CIRCUMCISSION REALLY ABOUT?

Deut 30:6 *And the LORD thy God will **circumcise thine heart**, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.*

- MEANS TO CUT OFF THE FLESH
- PUT TO DEATH THE FLESH – it cannot inherit the kingdom of God
- Circumcision was an outward sign of AGREEMENT with God’s judgments in Eden
- It was an act of faithful obedience on behalf of the parent

Joel 2:11-12 *And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:*

Comment on Abraham:

Genesis 18:18-19 *Seeing that **Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation**, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that **he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the WAY of the LORD**, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.*

Promise #6 – blessing in Abraham’s seed

After Isaac Sacrificed:

Genesis 22:15-18 *And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in **blessing I will bless thee**, and in **multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore**; and thy **seed shall possess the gate of his enemies**; And **in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed**; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*

- Abraham to be blessed
- His seed to be multiplied as stars of heaven and sand on the sea shore
- Seed possess gate of his enemies
- In SEED shall all nations be blessed

Blessings through Abraham’s seed:

Gal 3:13-14 *Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: **That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ**; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

Gal 3:16-18 *Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. **He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ**. And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect. For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.*

How we become blessed in Abraham

Gal 3:26-29 ***For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus**. For as many of you as have been **baptized into Christ** have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And **if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise**.*