
The Promise to Abraham

Introduction

1. The promise that God made to Abraham is one that most of us has heard or know about.
2. Much has been said about it by many.
3. Yet, perhaps we can help some better see the picture of:
 - A. The promise itself.
 - B. The fulfillment of the promise.
 - C. The end result of the promise.

The Promise – The Seed – The Fulfillment

1. The Promise from God:
 - A. Initially made to Abraham.

Genesis 22:18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

- B. This continued through Abraham's son Isaac.

Genesis 26:4 And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;

C. It continued through Isaac's son Jacob.

Genesis 28:14 Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

D. Later, Peter made this clear to the New Testament Jews.

Acts 3:25-26

E. Paul told the Galatian brethren that the promise was also for the Gentiles - not only to the Jews.

Galatians 3:8 And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."

2. The Seed of promise:**A. The seed came about after many descendants of Abraham.**

Genesis 12:2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

Genesis 22:17 blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

B. The seed that was promised was Jesus Christ.

Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "AND TO YOUR SEED," who is Christ.

3. The fulfillment of the promise:

A. The Birth of Christ.

Matthew 1:21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

B. The statement delivered by Christ Himself.

Luke 19:10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

C. The testimony of Peter.

Acts 3:25-26 (as we read earlier)

D. The testimony of Paul.

Acts 13:23-44

1) They really wanted to know about Jesus.

2) They wanted to know the result of Jesus' coming!

The Result – Blessings Are "IN" Christ

1. We can see the certainty of God's promises:

2 Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

Romans 15:8 Now I say that **Jesus Christ** has become a servant to the circumcision for **the truth of God**, to **confirm the promises** made **to the fathers**,

2. Let us look at the blessings that are In Christ - the fulfillment of the promise that God made to Abraham!

A. We have all spiritual blessings in Him.

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places **in Christ,**

B. We are created beings by God for good works.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created **in Christ** Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

C. We are a new creature in Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

D. We are made alive in Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so **in Christ** all shall be made alive.

1) How is this so? Through life everlasting!

E. We are reconciled (brought to) to Christ.
Ephesians 2:13-16

F. We have salvation in Christ.

2 Timothy 2:10 Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is **in Christ Jesus** with eternal glory.

G. There is no condemnation to those of us that are “in” Christ.

Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are **in Christ** Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

H. Paul said to REJOICE. We should be able to do that knowing that we are not condemned to die eternally.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice **in the Lord** always. Again I will say, rejoice!

I. Our works in the Lord are remembered!

1 Thessalonians 1:3 remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope **in our Lord Jesus Christ** in the sight of our God and Father,

J. We are complete in Christ.

Colossians 2:10 and you are complete **in Him**, who is the head of all principality and power.

K. When we die in the Lord, we are blessed.

Revelation 14:13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die **in the Lord** from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

3. Notice that there are no promises of these blessings anywhere else but “IN” Christ.

4. Now that begs for our next very valuable and important point:

A. Since we only receive the promise of these blessings “IN” Christ – then how do I get “IN” Christ to have these blessings?

Getting Into Christ

1. One must BELIEVE “unto” (toward) (in the direction of) Jesus.

Romans 10:10 **For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

- A. **NEVER do we see the words “into” when talking about belief.**
2. **One must have REPENTANCE “unto” (toward) Jesus.**
- A. **Repentance “unto” (that leads) life.**

Acts 20:21 testifying to Jews, and also to Greeks, repentance **toward God** and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Acts 11:17-18

- B. **Repentance “unto” salvation.**

2 Corinthians 7:10 For godly sorrow produces repentance **leading to salvation**, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

3. **Confession “unto” (toward).**

Romans 10:10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with **the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

- A. **Look at the example of Eunuch’s confession.**
Acts 8:36-37

4. **Notice now that we are then baptized not “unto” but “into” CHRIST!**
Galatians 3:26-27
 - A. **We can see it again in Romans 6:3-4.**
Romans 6:3-4
 - B. **One is only “IN” Christ when they complete ALL that Christ has commanded.**
 - 1) **Baptism is what puts you “INTO” Christ. Everything else leading to that point is “UNTO” (Toward) Christ, culminating in the very action of Baptism!**

Conclusion

1. **Jesus came to fulfill the promise that God made to Abraham long, long ago.**
2. **All spiritual blessings are in the seed - Jesus Christ.**
3. **Our obedience through baptism puts us into Christ where these blessings are.**
4. **Are you as noble as the Thessalonians or Bereans?**

Acts 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.

5. **If you have found these things to be so, why won't you obey the wonderful gospel of Jesus Christ now?**

