

AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME

Genesis 12-36 | Do You Trust Me

Five Great Covenants

- Covenant: an agreement between two parties
- 2 types of covenants: conditional and unconditional
- A conditional or bilateral covenant is an agreement that is binding on both parties for its fulfillment. Both parties agree to fulfill certain conditions. If either party fails to meet their responsibilities, the covenant is broken and neither party has to fulfill the expectations of the covenant.
- An unconditional or unilateral covenant is an agreement between two parties, but only one of the two parties has to do something. Nothing is required of the other party.

-Paul Enns, *Moody Handbook of Theology*

The Noahic Covenant- Genesis 9

- Comes at God's initiative, and demonstrates His concern, faithfulness, and dependability.
- He covenants never again to send a flood to destroy the earth.

Abrahamic Covenant- Genesis 12:1-5; 15

1. Promise of land (12:1).
2. Promise of descendants (12:2)
3. Promise of blessing and redemption (12:3)

"Father Abraham": 4 Kinds of Abraham's Offspring

Offspring	Explanation	Examples
Natural, physical offspring	Physical descendants of Abraham	Ishmael, Isaac, sons of Keturah
Natural, yet special offspring	Physical descendants of Abraham especially tied to God's elective and saving purposes	Isaac (by extension Jacob and the entire nation of Israel)
Promised offspring	The true, unique offspring of Abraham	A distinctive line of offspring, starting earlier with Seth and continuing through Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Israel, and David, culminating in Christ (Gal. 3:16)
Spiritual offspring	Those united with Christ (the promised offspring)	Jews and Gentiles who trust in the Messiah

Source: ESV Study Bible

Mosaic Covenant- (Exodus 19-31)

Davidic Covenant- 2 Samuel 7:11b-16

"New covenant" of Christ- "This cup is the New Covenant in my blood" – Jesus (Luke 22:20)

Notes:

ALL OF THE COVENANTS ARE FULFILLED IN CHRIST!

- Noahic Covenant – God promised to withhold judgment until salvation was accomplished
- Abrahamic Covenant – God provides the blessing, by faith, through Abraham’s descendants; in Christ WE are the heirs of the Abrahamic Covenant – the spiritual “sign” is our baptism! -Galatians 3:26-29
- Mosaic Covenant – God used the Law to prepare the way for Christ (Galatians 4:24)
- Davidic Covenant – God sends the Messiah through the royal Davidic line, and establishes His throne forever

Abraham’s Faults

- Asks Sarah to lie and say she is his sister, thereby allowing her to be taken into Pharaoh’s harem (12:11-13)
- Doesn’t trust God to provide an heir through Sarah, so he has relations with her Egyptian slave (Hagar) to produce one (16:1-4)
- Laughs when God promises he and Sarah will have a son (17:15-17)
- Lies (again) and says Sarah is his sister, allowing her to be taken into King Abimelek’s harem (20:1-5)
- Like us, sometimes when things got tough, his faith wavered, and he depended on his own ingenuity rather than on God’s promise.

Abraham’s Faith

1. Travels from his home in Harran to Canaan as God instructed Him (12:1-5)
2. Builds two altars in response to God’s promise to give the land to his offspring (12:7-8)
3. Allows Lot first choice of the land (13:6-9)
4. Goes to war to rescue Lot (14:11-16)
5. Gives Melchizedek a tenth of all the spoils (14:18-20)
6. Believes God when He promises him numerous offspring (15:4-6)
7. Obeys God’s commands to circumcise the males of his household and undergo circumcision himself (17:23-27)
8. Pleads on behalf of the righteous people in Sodom and Gomorrah (18:16-33)
9. Sends Hagar and Ishmael away per God’s instruction that he listen to Sarah (21:9-14)
10. Is willing to sacrifice Isaac (22:1-18)
11. Sends his servant to find Isaac a wife among his relatives (24:1-61)

“Here I Am.” -Abraham (Genesis 22:1,7,11)

Notes:

“anything, but...”

- Power/Prestige; House; Financial Stability; Calling/profession; Family; “_____”

God said... (22:2)

- Take
 - Your only son
 - Whom you love
- Go to Moriah
- Offer Isaac as an offering

Abraham (22:3)...

- Rose early
- Saddled his donkey
- Took 2 men with him (and Isaac)
- Cut wood for the offering
- Went...FOR THREE DAYS!!!

Prep. Work- at the altar (22:6)

- Built it
- Laid the wood on it
- Bound his son
- Laid him on the altar reached out his hand
- Took the knife
- “Here I Am.”

-Abraham (Genesis 22:1,7,11)

God didn’t want Isaac’s life; He wanted Abraham’s heart.

“[Abraham’s] faith had moved from holey to wholly, and then ultimately, to holy.” –Dr. David Stoop

“Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him, He gave orders to go over to the other side. And a scribe came up and said to Him, “Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” Another of the disciples said to Him, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” And Jesus said to him, “Follow Me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead.”

-Matthew 8:18-22

Notes:

- Our identity is always rooted in His
- The call was intended to be radical
- Considering Jesus' identity of absolute lordship, nothing, absolutely nothing, comes before Him. All our obligations vanish when we take up His cross.

“I try to hold precious things loosely because it hurts so much when God has to pry loose my fingers.” -*Corrie ten Boom*

Points To Ponder As We Prepare To Part:

1. Are we willing to give up everything for God?
2. Even spiritual giants are human
3. Long to live a LIFE of faith
4. Sacrifice isn't supposed to be easy
5. When making a decision, think generationally

Notes:

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