

THE LORD'S - COVENANTS OF PROMISE

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Our Approach to the Study of Covenants

We are studying the **Covenants** for ourselves. [Not adopting an existing Theology on Covenants]

We are starting in Genesis and working forward through the Old Testament to understand how **they** are **Chronologically** and **Progressively Revealed** and how each **Covenant** builds on or does not build on each previous **Covenant**.

The COVENANT Definition – Update One

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COVENANT of **GOD**. A **Promise** of **God**, always initiated and established by **God**, **Gen 6:18, 9:9, 11, 17** between **God** and a **Person**, a **People** Group, or all **Living** things, **Gen 9:10, Gen 9:17**, according to **His** Plan, Purpose and Will.

COVENANT of **GOD**. as “**Promises**”, often with “**I will**” or “**I shall**” statements, that “will come to pass”.

IF the **Covenant** specified certain binding conditions for **God** to fulfill both parties’ obligations then **it** was considered a **Unilateral** or **Un-Conditional Covenant**.

IF the **Covenant** specified certain binding conditions for **God** to fulfill, **God’s** Part, and separate conditions for **Man** to fulfill, **Man’s** Part, then **it** was considered a **Bi-lateral** or **Conditional Covenant**.

COVENANT of **GOD**, often has **offered burnt** (killed) **offerings**, **Gen 8:20, Gen 22:2, Rom 8:3**

COVENANT of **GOD**, often has “**a sign**” to “remember” or to identify with, that **Covenant**, **Gen 9:12**

COVENANT of **GOD**, is often identified as an “**everlasting covenant**”, **Gen 9:16, Gen 17:7, Jer 32:40**

The Lord appeared as a **Man** (theophany) and **2 Angels** appeared as **Men** (angelophany), to **Abraham**, and **Ate**. **Genesis 18:1-8**

The Lord appeared as a **Man** > **Genesis 18:1, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 30,31, 33** and **18:22-33**

2 Angels as **Men** > **Genesis 18:2, 22, 19:1, 19:15** and **19:1-22**

The Lord as a **Man** and **2 Angels** as **Men** and **Sodom and Gomorrah**

Genesis 18:20

And the Lord said, “The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave.

Abraham asks **The Lord**; Will You indeed sweep away the **righteous** with the **wicked** ?

Genesis 18:23

23 Abraham came near and said, “Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

Genesis 18:25

25 “Far be it from You to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous and the wicked are treated alike. Far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth, deal justly ?”

Genesis 18:26

26 So the LORD said, “If I find in **Sodom** (anyone) righteous within **the city**, then I will spare **the whole place** on their account.”

The 2 Angels as Men, came to Sodom to visit Lot at his house and Ate

Read Genesis 19:1

1 Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.

Things the Angels and the Lord did, in Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 19:9–29)

First, the angels rescued Lot from the men of Sodom (19:9–11).

Second, the angels warned Lot of impending judgment (19:12–14).

Third, the angels led Lot's family out of Sodom (19:15–16).

Fourth, the angels gave Lot directions regarding a place of safety (19:17–24).

Fifth, the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and the 4 Jordan Valley cities. (19:24–29).

the LORD overthrew in His anger and in His wrath, 4 cities: Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim.

“the Lord rained fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah.” Gen 19:24, Deut 29:23

“the valley of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the LORD”, Gen 13:10

The Valley became a land of brimstone (sulfur) and salt, a burning waste, unsown and unproductive, and no grass grows in it, Deut 29:23

This brought the waters down over that land of salt which once was like a well-watered Garden, that became the Sea of Salt, Gen 14:3, or became the Dead Sea today.

Lot Flees to Cave in Mountain with 2 Daughters (Gen 19:30-38)

Read Genesis 19:30

30 Lot went up from Zoar, and stayed in the mountains, and his two daughters with him; for he was afraid to stay in Zoar; and he stayed in a cave, he and his two daughters.

Fearing that Zoar too would be destroyed, Lot and his two daughters chose to live in a cave in the mountains.

The daughters feared that their family would Not be preserved.

The daughters contrived a plan to get their father drunk, lie with him, and raise up seed by him.

Read Genesis 19:36–38

36 Thus both the daughters of Lot were with child by their father. Genesis 19:36

37 The firstborn bore a son, and called his name Moab; he is the father of the Moabites to this day.

38 As for the younger, she also bore a son, and called his name Ben-ammi;

he is the father of the sons of Ammon to this day. (the Ammonites)

the Moabites and the Ammonites are mostly seen in a negative way, as children of incest from here on.

The daughters and Lot were removed from Sodom,

but Sodom had not been removed from them.

Some similarities to Noah, Ham, and Canaan story, back in Gen 9:20-23.

Abraham's Bad Idea, to give away His Wife a 2nd Time, (Gen 20:1–18)

Read Genesis 20:1–3

1 Now Abraham journeyed from there toward the land of the Negev, ...

2 Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.” So Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah.

3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream, and said, “Behold, you are a dead man

because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is married.”

Abimelech pleads to the Lord his innocence in the matter, 20:4-5

Read Genesis 20:7

7 “Now therefore, restore the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you will live.

But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.” (like Adam)

Abraham's Bad Idea (continued)

Read Genesis 20:14–18

- 14 **Abimelech** then took sheep and oxen and **male** and **female** servants, and gave them to **Abraham**, and restored **his wife Sarah** to **him**. (like Pharaoh, Gen 12:16)
- 15 **Abimelech** said, “Behold, **my land** is before **you**; settle wherever **you** please.”
- 16 To **Sarah** **he** (**Abimelech**) said, “.. I have given **your brother** a thousand pieces of silver; (like Pharaoh) behold, it is **your vindication** before all who are with **you**, and before all men **you** are cleared.”
- 17 **Abraham** prayed to **God**, and **God** healed **Abimelech** and **his wife** and **his maids**, so that (Reason) **they** bore children.
- 18 For **the LORD** had closed fast all the wombs of the household of **Abimelech** (like Pharaoh, Gen 12:17) because of **Sarah, Abraham's wife**.

Sarah Conceived and Bore a Son to Abraham, in his old age, (Gen 21:1–7)

Read Genesis 21:1–7

- 1 Then **the LORD** took note of **Sarah** as **He** had said, and **the LORD** did for **Sarah** as **He** had **promised**. (Fulfilled Promise, Gen 17:19, 18:10)
- 2 So **Sarah** conceived and bore a **son** to **Abraham** in **his** old age, at the appointed time (Fulfilled, Gen 18:14) of which **God** had spoken to **him**. (KEY)
- 3 **Abraham** called the name of **his** son who was born to **him**, whom **Sarah** bore to **him**, **Isaac**. (Gen 17:19)
- 4 Then **Abraham** circumcised **his son Isaac** when **he** was **eight days old**, (Gen 17:10) as **God** had commanded **him**. (Gen 17:10)
- 5 Now **Abraham** was **one hundred years old** when **his son Isaac** was born to **him**.
- 6 **Sarah** said, “**God** has made laughter for **me**; **everyone** who hears will laugh with **me**.” (Gen 18:12)
- 7 And **she** said, “Who would have said to **Abraham** that **Sarah** would nurse children? Yet **I** have borne **him** a **son** in **his** old age.”

Isaac's Weaning, Ishmael's Mocking Isaac, and Abraham sending out Hagar, (Gen 21:8-16)

Read Genesis 21:8–16

- 8 The **child** grew and was weaned, and **Abraham** made a **great feast** on the day that **Isaac** was weaned. [**Isaac** was probably about **5 years old**, then **Abraham** was **105 years**, then **Ishmael** was **19 years**.]
- 9 Now **Sarah** saw **the son** (**Ishmael**) of **Hagar** the **Egyptian**, whom **she** had borne to **Abraham**, **mocking**.
- 10 **Therefore she** said to **Abraham**, “Drive out this **maid** and **her son**, (2nd Time, like 16:6) for **the son** (**Ishmael**) of this **maid** shall not be an heir with **my son Isaac**.”
- 11 The matter distressed **Abraham** greatly because of **his son** (**Ishmael**).
- 12 **But God** said to **Abraham**, “Do not be distressed **because** of **the lad** (**Ishmael**) and **your maid** (**Hagar**); whatever **Sarah** tells **you**, listen to **her**, for through **Isaac** **your descendants** shall be named. (KEY)
- 13 “And of **the son** (**Ishmael**) of **the maid** **I will** make **a nation** also, **because** (Reason) **he** is **your descendant**.” (KEY) (**Hagar's Covenant**, Gen 16:10-12)
- 14 So **Abraham** rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave them to **Hagar**, putting them on **her** shoulder, and gave **her the boy** (**Ishmael**), and sent **her** away. (like, Gen 16:6) And **she** (**Hagar**) departed and wandered about in **the wilderness of Beersheba**. (like, Gen 16:7)
- 15 When the water in the skin was used up, **she** left **the boy** (**Ishmael**, **19 yrs**) under one of the bushes.
- 16 Then **she** went and sat down opposite **him**, about a bowshot away, for **she** said, “Do not let **me** see **the boy** (**Ishmael**) die.” And **she** sat opposite **him**, and lifted up her voice and wept.

The angel of God's Call to Hagar and Ishmael's Covenant Promise (Gen 21:17-21)

Read Genesis 21:7-21

17 **God** heard **the lad** crying; and **the angel of God** (the angel of the Lord, 16:7, 16:10, 22:11, 22:15) called to **Hagar** from **heaven** and said to **her**,

“What is the matter with **you, Hagar**? Do not fear,

for God has heard the voice of **the lad** (**Ishmael**) where **he** is.

18 “Arise, lift up **the lad**, and hold **him** by the hand, for **I will** make a **great nation** of **him**.” (Gen 16:10-12)

[**Angels** don't **Promise** to make people “a **great nation**”, only **the Lord** does that.] (**KEY**)

[**the angel of God** (the angel of the Lord) here is most probably **Jesus**, 16:7, 16:10, 22:11, 22:15]

19 Then **God** opened **her** eyes and **she** saw a **well of water**;

and **she** went and filled the skin with **water** and gave **the lad** a drink.

20 **God** was with **the lad** (**Ishmael**), and **he** grew; and **he** lived in **the wilderness** and became an archer.

21 **He** lived in **the wilderness of Paran**, and **his mother** took a **wife** for **him** from **the land of Egypt**.

[**the angel of God** (the angel of the Lord, 21:17, 16:7, 16:10, 22:11, 22:15) spoke to **Hagar** in **Chapter 16** and here in **Chapter 21**, as in a **Covenant Promise with her**, 16:10, 17:19, 21:18.] (**KEY**)

[Also **the angel of the Lord** speaks to **Abraham** in 22:10, 22:15-16, and to **Moses** in Ex 3:2]

Abraham and Abimelech make a **Covenant** and an **Oath** at Beersheba (Gen 21:22-34)

Read Genesis 21:22-34

22 Now it came about at that time that **Abimelech** and **Phicol**, the commander of **his** army, spoke to **Abraham**, saying, “**God** is with you in all that you do;

23 now therefore, **swear** to me here by **God** that **you** will not deal falsely with **me** or with **my offspring** or with **my posterity**, but according to the kindness that **I** have shown to **you**,

you shall show to me and to **the land** in which **you** have **sojourned**.”

24 **Abraham** said, “**I swear** it.”

25 But **Abraham** complained to **Abimelech** because of **the well of water** which the servants of **Abimelech** had seized.

26 And **Abimelech** said, “**I** do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today.”

27 **Abraham** took sheep and oxen and gave them to **Abimelech**, and **the two of them made a covenant**. (**KEY**)

28 Then **Abraham** set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves.

29 **Abimelech** said to **Abraham**, “What do these seven ewe lambs mean, which **you** have set by yourselves?”

30 **He** said, “**You** shall take these seven ewe lambs from **my hand** so that it may be a witness to **me**, that **I** dug this well.”

31 **Therefore he** called that place **Beersheba**, because there **the two of them took an oath**. (**KEY**)

32 So **they** made a **covenant** at **Beersheba**; (**KEY**)

and **Abimelech** and **Phicol**, the commander of his army, arose and returned to **the land of the Philistines**.

33 **Abraham** planted a tamarisk tree at **Beersheba**, and there he called on **the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God**.

34 And **Abraham** sojourned in **the land of the Philistines** for many days.

[Notice: **Abraham** and **Abimelech, the two of them made a Covenant**, 21:27, 21:32

Abraham and **Abimelech, the two of them took an Oath**, 21:31.

This is a **Covenant Promise** by **Oath** between 2 **Men** and Not with **the Lord**.

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS — PART 6A

Working Outline > **Genesis 22:1-8** (a Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible)

God Tests Abraham – the Test Initiated

Read **Genesis 22:1-8**

- I. 1 Now it came about after these things, that **God tested Abraham**,
 - A. and said to **him**, “**Abraham!**” And **he** said, “Here **I am**.”
 - B. 2 **He** said, “Take now **your son, your only son**, whom **you** love, **Isaac**,
 - C. and go to **the land of Moriah**,
 - D. and offer **him** there as a **burnt offering** on **one of the mountains** (**Test Criteria**)
 1. of which **I will tell you**.”
- II. 3 So **Abraham** rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, (**the Journey by Donkey**)
 - A. and took two of **his** young men with **him** and **Isaac his son**;
 - B. and **he** split **wood** for the **burnt offering**,
 - C. and arose and went to **the place** of which **God** had told **him**.
- III. 4 On the **third day Abraham** raised **his** eyes and saw **the place** from a distance. (**Land of Moriah**)
 - A. 5 **Abraham** said to **his** young **men**, “**Stay** here with the **donkey**, (young **men stay**)
 1. and **I** and **the lad** will go over **there** (to land of Moriah, mountain);
 2. and **we** will **worship** and **return** to **you**.”
- IV. 6 **Abraham** took **the wood** of the **burnt offering** and laid it on **Isaac his son**, (**the Journey by Walk**)
 - A. and **he** took in **his** hand the **fire** and the **knife**.
 1. So the **two** of **them** walked on together. (walk to land of Moriah, mountain)
- V. 7 **Isaac** spoke to **Abraham his father** and said, “**My father !**” (**Where is the Lamb Offering**)
 - A. And **he** said, “Here **I am, my son**.”
 - B. And **he** said, “Behold, the **fire** and the **wood**,
 1. but where is **the lamb** for the **burnt offering**?”
- VI. 8 **Abraham** said, “**God** will provide for **Himself the lamb** for the **burnt offering, my son**.”
 - A. So the **two** of **them** walked on together. (walk to land of Moriah, mountain)

Notice: **God Tested Abraham**

Q1: What was the **Test God** gave **Abraham**, in **verse 2** ?

A1:

Notice: **God Tests His People**

Q2: What are the **Reasons** given for **God Testing His People**, in **Ex 20:20** ? **Read**

A2:

Q3: What are the **Reasons** given for **God Testing His People**, in **Deut 8:2** and **Deut 8:16** ? **Read**

A3: **8:2**

8:16

Q4: What is the **Reason** given for **God Testing His People**, in **Heb 11:17** ? **Read**

A4:

Q5: What are the **Reasons** given for **God Testing His People**, in **Jam 1:2-4** ? **Read**

A5:

Notice: **Abraham** was going to **Worship**, **22:5**, with **fire** and **Wood** for a **burnt offering**, **22:3**
Abraham had the **fire** and the **wood** for a **burnt offering**, but No **Lamb** to offer, **22:7**
Abraham Believed “**God** will provide for **Himself the lamb** for the **burnt offering**, **22:8**
Abraham was told by **God** to “offer **him** (**Isaac**) there as a **burnt offering**”, **22:2**

GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS — PART 6B

Working Outline > **Genesis 22:9-19** (a Paragraph ¶ from NAS Bible)

God Tests Abraham – the Test Carried Out

Read **Genesis 22:9-19**

- I. 9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him; (at Mtn in Land of Moriah) (Test Location)
A. and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, (Altar Built)
B. and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. (Offering Prepared)
C. 10 Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. (Offering initiated)
- II. 11 But the angel of the LORD called to him (1st Time) from heaven and said, (the angel of the LORD)
A. “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”
B. 12 He said, “Do not stretch out your hand against the lad (Isaac), (Offering stopped)
1. and do nothing to him;
C. for (Reason) now I know that you fear God, (Test Passed)
1. since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”
- III. 13 Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked,
A. and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns;
1. and Abraham went and took the ram (Lev 1:3-7) and offered him up (Killed, Lev 1:5)
a. for a burnt offering (burnt, Lev 1:7) in the place of his son. (Offering changed)
- IV. 14 Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide,
A. as it is said to this day, “In the mount of the LORD it will be provided.”
- V. 15 Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, (the angel of the LORD)
A. 16 and said, “By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, (Sworn Promises of Lord)
B. because (Reason) you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,
1. 17 indeed I will greatly bless you, 12:2,
2. and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens 12:2, 13:16, 15:5, 17:5
3. and as the sand which is on the seashore; 12:2, 13:16, 15:5, 17:5
4. and your seed (descendants) shall possess the gate of their enemies. 24:60
5. 18 “In your seed (descendants) all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, 12:2, 17:4, 17:5
a. because (Reason) you have obeyed My voice.” (Reason for Promises)
- VI. 19 So Abraham returned to his young men, 22:5 (the Journey Back)
A. and they arose and went together to Beersheba;
1. and Abraham lived at Beersheba.

God Tests Abraham – the Burnt Offering Test Procedure

Q1: What 5 Things did Abraham do, in verses 9 and 10 ?

A1: (1) (2) (3)
(4) (5)

Abraham Worshipped God at altars previously, in 12:7, 12:8, 13:18, as well as Noah, in Gen 8:20

Animal Offering is first mentioned concerning Abel bringing the first born of his flock, Gen 4:4, Heb 11:4

Burnt Offering is “a soothing aroma to the Lord” in Lev 1:13. Jesus was a pleasing aroma to God, in Eph 5:2.

An Offering > a personal Offering, as a Sacrifice, done in Obedience and Worship to God.

Q2: What does the angel of the LORD tell Abraham to NOT to Do, in verse 12a ?

A2:

Q3: What is the Reason given by the angel of the LORD for stopping Abraham, in verse 12b ?

A3:

Q4: In verse 14, Why did Abraham call the name of that place (the mount) The LORD Will Provide ?

A4:

Notice: There are many parallels between **Abraham's sacrifice** and **Jesus's sacrifice** Not Discussed.

In **verse 16**, **the Lord** declares By **Myself I** have **sworn**, to do **the listed things**, in **verses 17** and **18**

Q5: What is the **Reason** for **the Lord swearing** to do, **all of these things**, in **verse 18b** ?

A5:

Q6: In **verses 17** and **18**, What **4 things** does **the Lord swear He** will do ?

A6:

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

Notice: Most of these **Covenant Promises** are reaffirming past **Promises of God**

What we learned about the **Abrahamic Covenant Promises**, in **Genesis 22:9–19**

The **Promise** of indeed **I will greatly bless you**, **22:17**

The **Promise** of **I will greatly multiply your seed** as the stars and the sand, **22:17**

The **Promise** of **Abraham's seed** (descendants) shall **possess** the gate of **their** enemies. **22:17**,

The **Promise** of in **Abraham's seed** (descendants) **all the nations** of the earth shall be **blessed**, **22:18**

Abrahamic Covenant – Gen 22:9-19

Abrahamic Covenant is progressively revealed in the following passages.

Gen 12:1-3, 7

Gen 13:14-17

Gen 15:12-21

Gen 17:15-21

Gen 18:18-19

Gen 22:9-19



The **Promise** of indeed **I will greatly bless you**, **22:17**

The **Promise** of **I will greatly multiply your seed** as the stars and the sand, **22:17**

The **Promise** of **Abraham's seed** (descendants) shall **possess** the gate of **their** enemies. **22:17**

The **Promise** of in **Abraham's seed** **all the nations** of the earth shall be **blessed**, **22:18**

Abram + Greatly Blessed

Abram + Greatly Multiplied

Abram + seed (descendants) shall possess the gate of their enemies

Abram + Blessing of all (Nations)

Abrahamic Covenant – Gen 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 22

Calling and Sending of Abram from Ur

Calling of Abram, from your country (Ur of the Chaldeans), 12:1, 15:7, 20:13, Acts 7:3, Heb 11:8

Sending of Abram, to Go the Land of Canaan, 12:1

Promises Concerning: Giving the Land of Canaan

Sending of Abram, to the Land of Canaan, 12:1

Promise to: Give Land of Canaan, to Abram and his (Physical) Descendants, 12:7, 13:15, 13:17, 15:18, 17:8

Promise to: Give Land of Canaan, to them, forever, as and everlasting possession, 13:15, 17:8

Covenant of: Giving this land (Canaan) from river of Egypt to river Euphrates, 15:18

Promises Concerning: Making Abram, into a great nation and exceedingly fruitful

Promise of: Making Abram, into a great nation (Physical Descendants), 12:2, 17:6, 18:18

Promise of: Abram descendants being innumerable, as dust, stars, and sand, 13:16, 22:17

Promises Concerning: God Personally Blessing Abram

Promise of: Blessing Abram and his name, (personally), 12:2, 22:17

Promise of: “you shall go to your fathers in peace; buried at a good old age”, 15:15

Promises Concerning: Abram Blessing and Father, of all families (all nations) and Kings

Promise of: Blessing in Abram, of all families (nations) (Non-Physical Descendants), 12:2, 17:4-6, 18:18, 22:18

Promises Concerning: Abram descendants being strangers in a land ...not theirs

Promise of: descendants will be strangers in a land ... enslaved and oppressed, 15:13

Promise of: the Lord will judge the nation (Egypt) whom descendants will serve, 15:14

Promise of: descendants will come out with many possessions, in 4th generation, to Land, 15:14, 15:16

Promises Concerning: establishing God's Covenant with Abraham and his Descendants

Promise of: establishing My covenant between Me and you, 17:2, 17:7, 15:18

Promise of: establishing My covenant throughout Descendants generations as everlasting covenant, 17:7

Promise of: establishing My covenant with Isaac, 17:19

Promises Concerning: being God to Abraham and to his descendants after him

Promise of establishing being God to you and to your descendants after you. 17:7, 17:8

Promises Concerning: Abraham's descendants possessing the gates of their enemies

Promise of Abraham's seed (descendants) shall possess the gate of their enemies, 22:17