



Session #2

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Genesis 17:1-16 | God's Covenant with Abraham

God's ultimate goal for establishing covenants with humanity:

- ① I will be your God.
- ② You will be my people.
- ③ I will dwell among you.

(Exodus 6:7; 29:45; Ezekiel 11:20; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Revelation 21:3)

A Simple Grid for Understanding Covenants:

- ① Who originates the covenant?
- ② Who all are included in the covenant?
- ③ What is the purpose of the covenant?
- ④ What is the length of the covenant?
- ⑤ What is the sign of the covenant?

Genesis 17:1-16

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am El-Shaddai—'God Almighty.' Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. ²I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants."

³At this, Abram fell face down on the ground. Then God said to him, ⁴"This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of a multitude of nations!

⁵What's more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. ⁶I will make you extremely fruitful. Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them!

⁷"I will confirm my covenant with you and your descendants after you, from generation to generation. This is the everlasting covenant: I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸And I will give the entire land of Canaan, where you now live as a foreigner, to you and your descendants. It will be their possession forever, and I will be their God."

⁹Then God said to Abraham, "Your responsibility is to obey the terms of the covenant. You and all your descendants have this continual responsibility. ¹⁰This is the covenant that you and your descendants must keep: Each male among you must be circumcised. ○

¹¹You must cut off the flesh of your foreskin as a sign of the covenant between me and you. ¹²From generation to generation, every male child must be circumcised on the eighth day after his birth. This applies not only to members of your family but also to the servants born in your household and the foreign-born servants whom you have purchased.

¹³All must be circumcised. Your bodies will bear the mark of my everlasting covenant. ¹⁴Any male who fails to be circumcised will be cut off from the covenant family for breaking the covenant."

¹⁵Then God said to Abraham, "Regarding Sarai, your wife—her name will no longer be Sarai. From now on her name will be Sarah. ¹⁶And I will bless her and give you a son from her! Yes, I will bless her richly, and she will become the mother of many nations. Kings of nations will be among her descendants."

Ten Blessings or Promises to Abraham:

① Verse 2a - **Genesis 17:2**

²I will make a covenant with you,...

② Verse 2b - **Genesis 17:2**

²...by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants."

③ Verse 4 - **Genesis 17:4**

⁴"This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of a multitude of nations!

④ Verse 5 - **Genesis 17:5**

⁵What's more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations.

⑤ Verse 6a - **Genesis 17:6**

⁶I will make you extremely fruitful...

⑥ Verse 6b - **Genesis 17:6**

⁶...Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them!

⑦ Verse 7 - **Genesis 17:7**

⁷"I will confirm my covenant with you and your descendants after you, from generation to generation. This is the everlasting covenant: I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

⑧ Verse 8a - **Genesis 17:8**

⁸And I will give the entire land of Canaan, where you now live as a foreigner, to you and your descendants. It will be their possession forever...

⑨ Verse 8b - **Genesis 17:8**

⁸...I will be their God."

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