

April 2, 2023 Worship Service Pastor Bruce Adrian WeAreLifeBridge.com

ABRAHAM: God of Promise & Life of Faith

Lesson Eight • Genesis 17

Our Covenant God

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Our God KEEPS His covenant with His people.

The covenant that was cut by God in chapter 15 is confirmed by God in chapter 17 with the covenant sign of circumcision.

What Does It Mean to Have a Covenant God?

1. It Means Having a God Who <u>BAFFLES</u> Us with His Covenant Delays!

When God Delays

It doesn't mean He isn't $\underline{WORKING}$; God's promises are not affected by Abraham's failure of faith (vs. 16:16 - 17:1).

What God Desires

- God wants us to KNOW that He is God Almighty (vs. 1).
- God wants us to WALK faithfully before Him (vs. 1-2).

2. It Means Having a God Who <u>REASSURES</u> Us with His Covenant Promises!

Confirmation of God's Covenant Promises

God pledged His promises to <u>ABRAHAM</u> by giving him a new name (vs. 3-8).

God pledged His promise to <u>SARAH</u> by giving her a new name (vs. 15-16).

Abraham's Reaction

Abraham <u>LAUGHED</u> in amazement at God's plan to fulfill His promises in ways that seemed impossible (vs. 17-22).

3. It Means Having a God Who <u>SETS US APART</u> with His Covenant Sign!

Sign of God's Covenant Promises

- God instituted CIRCUMCISION as the sign of His covenant (vs. 9-13).
- ➤ God <u>WARNED</u> against disregarding the sign of His covenant (vs. 14).
- Abraham OBEYED God by keeping the sign of His covenant (vs. 23-27).

The Circumcision Done by Christ on the Cross

Jesus underwent the ultimate circumcision on the Cross that we might receive the ultimate circumcision of the heart.

Jesus was <u>CUT OFF</u> from God so that we can be <u>BROUGHT IN</u> a covenant relationship with God through faith.

In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised Him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, thorough forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross. Colossians 2:11-14

The Heart of God's Covenant Promise

God promises His <u>PRESENCE</u>; to be our God, now and forever. *Genesis 17:7-8, Exodus 6:7, Leviticus 26:12, Jeremiah 24:7, Revelation 21:3*