

The God Who Keeps Covenant

Genesis 15:7-21; 17:7-8

Psalms 105:1-12

Hebrews 6:11-18



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Pursuing our Goals

- Are we pursuing our goals together? (Hebrews 10:23-25)

What We Learnt Last Week

- Jesus Christ is our Great High Priest after the order of Melchizedek.
- Christ's life, death, and intercession are important for our salvation.

What is a Covenant?

- 'The Cutting' - Biblical definition of the Hebrew word "covenant". (Genesis 15:8-10, 17).
- A bond in blood sovereignly administered.
 - It involves commitments and consequences of life and death.
 - The sovereign Lord of heaven and earth dictates the terms of His covenants.

The Unfolding of God's Everlasting Covenant

- The Adamic - Genesis 2:16-17
- The Noahic - Genesis 9:1-17
- **The Abrahamic** - Genesis 15:17-18
- The Mosaic - Exodus 24:7,8; Exodus 34:27
- The Levitic - Numbers 25:10-13; Malachi 2:4-5
- The Davidic - 2 Samuel 23:5; 2 Chronicles 13:5
- The New Covenant/Messianic - Isaiah 42:6; Jeremiah 31:31-34
- When we make time to study these covenants, our understanding of God's everlasting covenant will be deepened and the Gospel will become more glorious to us.

The Covenant Keeping GOD

- God has revealed Himself in the Scriptures as the covenant keeping God (Deuteronomy 7:9; Nehemiah 1:5; Daniel 9:4).

- All the covenants are from God, none from man. Nothing outside God made Him come up with these covenants. (Remember God's 5 'I Wills' in Genesis 12:1-3; God's 7 'I Wills' in Jeremiah 31:31-40)

The Elements of God's Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 15:7-21)

- The occasion: Abraham looks to God for a confirmation of the promise by asking "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it"? (Gen. 15:8) In a powerful response, God comes down to Abraham's level by showing Abraham how the promise will be fulfilled.
- God is the initiator and author of the covenant.
- This covenant continues to unfold God's Everlasting Covenant - to make a people for Himself.
- It is a covenant of promise - promise of land, descendants, blessing and redemption (Genesis 12:1-3).
- Abraham addresses God as 'Lord GOD' in Hebrew אֲדֹנָי 'Adonay {ad-noy} יְהוָה Yehovih {yeh-ho-vee'} (Genesis 15:8). It is important to note how God reveals Himself here. The name reveals the absolute sovereignty of God.
- It is an unconditional covenant - its fulfilment depended on God alone, no contribution from Abraham was needed. God binds Himself to the covenant and since His glory and name is on the line, it cannot fail (Genesis 15:9-12; 17).
- The covenant is based on blood, sacrifice and death of an innocent substitute, foreshadowing the blood of the everlasting covenant in Christ. Take note of the blood sacrifices in the Adamic, Noahic, Abrahamic and New Covenants (Leviticus 17:11, Hebrews 13:20; Hebrews 9:22).
- God foretells the future of Abraham's descendants many years before it happened- Israel's sojourn in Egypt, their slavery, God's punishment of the Egyptians and Israel's deliverance. God says - 'Know certainly' that all this will happen exactly as I tell you (Genesis 15:13). Meditate!

The Physical Fulfilment of God's Covenant with Abraham:

- God kept His covenant by delivering Israel from the 'House of Bondage' (Egypt) and gave them the land of Canaan, exactly as He had said (Psalms 105).
- God sent Moses to deliver His people out of Egypt. Moses is a picture of Christ as deliverer and servant of God (Hebrews 3:5-6).

The Spiritual Fulfilment of God's Covenant with Abraham

- God kept His Covenant by sending His Son in the fullness of time to deliver His people from a deeper bondage - the bondage of sin (Galatians 4:4-5; Matthew 1:21).
- God kept His Covenant by blessing the nations (both Jews and Gentiles) through the Seed of Abraham - Jesus Christ (Romans 1:16; Galatians 3:28-29; John 1:1-5; John 10:10; Revelation 5:9).

The Future Fulfilment of God's Covenant with Abraham

- God will keep His Covenant - People from every tribe and nation will gather before the throne of God (Revelation 7:9).
- We are looking forward to the new Jerusalem, the new heavens and new earth where righteousness dwells (2 Peter 3:13).
- Are you watching? Are you groaning? Are you purifying yourself? (1 John 3:2-3)
- Know for certain that if God has said it, it shall come to pass exactly as He has said! (Isaiah 55:10-11; Isaiah 45:23; Isaiah 46:9-10; Ephesians 1:11).

The Greatest Treasure in the Abrahamic Covenant and the Gospel

- I will be your God - The greatest treasure in the Covenant is God Himself - not the land, descendants or blessings (Genesis 17:7; Jeremiah 31:31-40; Revelation 21:3). This promise is also found in the Everlasting Covenant.
- God tells Abraham 'I will be your exceedingly great reward' (Genesis 15:1).
- Christ came to bring us to God (1 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 7:19).

Examine Yourself (2 Corinthians 13:5)

- Is God your greatest treasure? (Philippians 3:7-8; Psalm 63:1-3; Psalms 42:1-2; Psalm 73:25-26; Jeremiah 2:12-13).
- Does God occupy the first place in your life? (Matthew 22:37-38; Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 6:24; Matthew 10:37).
- Is your joy in knowing God and being known by Him? (Philippians 3:10; Luke 10:20; John 17:3; 1 John 5:20).
- What shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul? (Mark 8:36-38; Hebrews 11:24-26; Luke 9:25).

- Do you still rejoice in God when things are not going your way? (Habakkuk 3:17-18; Philippians 4:4, Acts 5:41; Acts 16:25; Romans 5:1-3).
- Are you trusting the Covenant Keeping God in all things? (Proverbs 3:5-6; Job 13:15; Psalm 37:3-5).