

The Dispensation of Promise with Emphasis on Covenants, Part 3

Genesis 12:1-Exodus19:8

- I. The Noahic Covenant (Gen. 9:9-16); the first Covenant recorded in Scripture.
- II. Abraham's importance to the church.
- III. Personal Promises to Abram—not called covenant.
- IV. The Four Personal Promises to Abram (Gen. 12:1-3; 12:7-9; 13:14-17; 15:1-5).
- V. The Name for the dispensation (Acts 7:17).
- VI. Abram becomes a believer; he believed the stars represented number of seed (Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:1-4).
- VII. The First Covenant to Abram after salvation: unconditional (Gen. 15:8-21).
 - i. Plural seed; 400 years captivity; Abram will die before land inherited.
 - ii. Absolutely no application to Christians.
- VIII. The Second Covenant to Abram: into Eternity (Gen. 17:1-8).
 - i. Called a covenant (Gen. 17:2, 4, 7); Abram will be asleep with his fathers (Gen. 15:15).
 - ii. Unconditional.
 - iii. Abram will become father of many nations.
 - o Ishmael (Gen. 16:10, 12; 17:19-21; 21:13).
 - o Isaac (Gen. 17:19).
 - o Others (Gen. 25:1-4, 6).
 - iv. Name changed to Abraham "father of nations."
 - v. Covenant will last into eternity for plural seed (Gen. 17:7; Rom. 4:13).
 - vi. Plural seed (Gen. 15:5) given land into Eternity (Gen. 17:8).
 - vii. Land on future New Earth (Rom. 4:3).
 - viii. Absolutely no application to the church.
- IX. The Third Covenant to Abraham: circumcision (Gen. 17:7-14).
 - i. Call a covenant (Acts 7:8).
 - ii. Conditional: must "keep" to be part of nation (Gen. 17:9. 10 *cf.* 14).
 - iii. Plural seed (Gen. 17:9; 15:5).
 - iv. Circumcision sign, "token" of multiple seed as a nation; defines one great Nation (Gen. 17:11; 15:5; 12:2).
 - v. Necessary to inherit the land (Gen. 17:8).
 - vi. Separates the Nation from other nations (Gen. 17:14).
 - vii. Goes into Eternity (Gen. 17:13).
 - viii. Becomes statute under the Law (Lev. 12:3).
 - ix. "Interesting use" of circumcision (Gen. 34).
 - x. Absolutely no physical applications to the Church. The concept is used metaphorically to picture the church's position in Christ (Col. 2:11, 13; 1 Cor. 7:18-19; Gal. 5:2, 6; 6:12-15; Col. 3:11).
- X. Fifth Personal Promise to Abraham regarding Sarah (Gen. 17:15-19).
 - i. Sarai becomes Sarah.
 - ii. Mother of nations; Rebekah: Jacob and Esau (Gen. 25:23).
 - iii. The Second Covenant to Abraham regarding Eternity will be established through Isaac (Gen. 17:19, 21).