

# The Abrahamic Covenant

*Genesis 15*

## Historical Setting

*Abram needs an Heir*

- Abram is now in Canaan and has rescued Lot from his captivity and has encountered Melchizedek. The time frame is about 2,000 B.C.
- Abram and Sarai have been unable to have children and now they are too old to have children and Abram has no heir.
- Abram is not quite 100 years old and Sarai is beyond the years of child bearing.

## What is the Abrahamic Covenant?

*The Unveiling of God's Plan*

### God's Plan of Salvation

The Abrahamic Covenant is the first unveiling of God's plan to have a people and to take them into his land.

### Old Covenant Picture

- From the point of view of the Old Testament and the Old Covenant era the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant was the Old or Mosaic Covenant. This would be the *Genesis* perspective.
- Israel was the literal fulfillment of the promise to Abraham to provide him with a seed that would be as numerous as the stars in the sky. *Psalms 105*
- The land of Canaan was the literal land that was promised to Abraham. *Joshua 11:23, 23:14*

### New Covenant Fulfillment

- From the point of view of the New Covenant era the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant is the New Covenant. This would be interpreting the old through the lens of the new. *Galatians 3:15-18*
- Believers in Jesus Christ are the true children of Abraham. *Romans 9:6-9, Galatians 3:29*

## The Making of the Covenant

*Self-Maledictory Oath*

God is calling a curse upon himself if he does not do what he has promised. May what happened to these animals happen to me if I do not keep my word.

## Abram's Saving Faith

*Romans 4:1-12*

Abraham is the example of a believer who is saved by faith. The forgiveness of sins was given to Abraham as a gift when he believed.

## The Land Promise

*Hebrews 4:1-12*

- Joshua conquered the land of Canaan but that was not what the promise was all about. *Joshua 13:1*
- The land of Canaan was a picture of a land that would not end which is heaven and the new heavens and earth.
- To be with the Lord when we die is to enter our rest.

- When we become a believer we rest from our works and let Jesus work for us by his death on the cross. *Exodus 20:8-11, Matthew 11:28-30*