

Beyond The Sermon A Sermon Application Guide

Title: God's Promise to Abraham

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme & Prayer Focus

Heirs of the Promise

"Father God, I take hold of all you have for me. You are my peace, my rock, and my provider. All I have is in you. Strengthen and encourage me to look to you daily, and to remember you in everything I am and all that I do. Thank you that my life is in Christ, your Son, Jesus, and you are faithful to do everything you say you will do. Amen."

Key Truths

We're part of something so much bigger than just ourselves. In Christ (who the Bible calls "the Seed of Abraham"), we are part of a covenant and called "heirs" according to its promise.

God said all of humanity is going to be blessed as a result of the covenant He makes with Abraham. God promises all sorts of things to Abraham, and those promises extend to us as well when we are in Christ. Looking through scripture, anywhere it says something is a result of being "in Christ", we can recognize it as a promise of the Abrahamic covenant and accept it for ourselves.

When we enter into a covenant like marriage, we have co-ownership of everything our spouse has. The same is true when we enter into a covenant relationship with God, but a covenant is not one-sided. We must be willing to do all the covenant requires, just like Abraham when God tested his faithfulness with his son Isaac in Genesis 22.

Abraham's faithfulness and sacrifice is such a beautiful picture of God's covenant love. In the same place where Abraham stayed true and offered Isaac, God would sacrifice His own Son for us. Many Bible scholars conclude on that day, God even gave Abraham a vision of the crucifixion taking place to prove Himself faithful as well. Because both parties of the covenant upheld their own covenant requirements, we are surely receivers of all of God's promises.

God's covenant love is unfailing, abundant, everlasting, and worthy of praise and thanks. He swore on Himself that He will uphold His covenant, literally saying that if He doesn't do it, then He isn't God.

One way we can consistently remember the promises of being in that covenant is communion. Melchizedek brought bread and wine to Abram to remember the promises that God has fulfilled.

Practical Application

Communion isn't only for church or with a pastor leading it in a specific way. It's a holy and practical act that we can participate in anywhere, at any time, to remind ourselves of the promises of God that are ours in Christ. When we take communion, we are remembering God promised us a redeemer, and a representative for our sins, to make us new. He has seated us in Heavenly places next to Him.

Today, find something to eat and drink in remembrance of the promise, Jesus. Spend some time reminding yourself of our covenant with God and everything made yours by His sacrifice.

Key Verses

- Genesis 12:1-3, 14:18-20, 15:17-18, 22:1-14, 22:15-18
- Galatians 3:29
- John 8:56
- Psalm 130:2-7, 136:1-3, 10-17
- Hebrews 6:13-20, 7:1-3
- 1 Corinthians 11:23-26
- 2 Corinthians 1:19-20

Declarations

"I am in Christ and I am an heir to the promise. All that God promised to Jesus and Abraham is promised to me too. God's promises belong to me. I honor that covenant through obedience to God and following His Holy Spirit's leading. As a part of the covenant, I have healing, redemption, peace, restoration, providence, forgiveness of sin, among so many other things. I will take communion and remind myself of these promises often. All of those promises are "Yes" and "Amen"! I trust that God is faithful to honor His Word, and I release my faith to receive everything God has for me."

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References

God's Promise to Abraham

Luke 4:6 NKJV And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.

Genesis 12:1-3 NKJV Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Genesis 15:17-18 NKJV And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates—

Galatians 3:16-17 NKJV Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ. And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.

Galatians 3:29 NKJV And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Acts 1:4-5 NKJV ...but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Malachi 2:14 NKJV Yet you say, "For what reason?" Because the Lord has been witness Between you and the wife of your youth, With whom you have dealt treacherously; Yet she is your companion And your wife by covenant.

Genesis 22:1 NKJV Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham...

Genesis 22:1-9 NKJV Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to

Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him.

Genesis 22:9-14 NKJV Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place,The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

John 8:56 NKJV Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."

Genesis 22:15-18 NKJV Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, 16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

Psalm 136:1 NKJV Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

Hebrews 6:13-19 NKJV For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul...

Galatians 3:29 NKJV And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

2 Corinthians 1:20 NKJV For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

Genesis 14:18-20 NKJV Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most

High, Possessor of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

Hebrews 7:1-3 NKJV For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace," without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 NKJV For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you...

1 Corinthians 11:25-26 NKJV In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood...

Psalm 103:3-6 NKJV Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. The Lord executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed.