

# Further Promises to Abraham

## Quote:

“And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.”

Genesis 13:14-16

Mark These notes above or below Genesis 12-13 - or on an insert:

## Who Is the Seed?

The promises were to Abraham and his seed (Gen 12:7; 13:14-17). Who is meant by the phrase “thy seed”:

**CHRIST** – ONE individual (Gal 3:16; Mat.1:1). Also seen when we consider that the same promises made to Isaac (Gen 26:3-5) and Jacob (Gen 28:13-14). These promises were not fulfilled in Isaac and Jacob, but in a future singular seed – the Lord Jesus Christ.

**THE SAINTS** – Those baptised into Christ become part of Abraham’s seed (Gal 3:26-29). Therefore, being a natural descendent of Abraham (a Jew) does not automatically entitle one to be an inheritor of the promises (Mat 3:9; Jn 8:33-40; Rom 9:6-8).

True children of Abraham are those who display the same faith (Gal.3:7) and works (John 8:39-42; Gen 18:19) as he did. Therefore, faith (manifested in baptism - Gal 3:26-29) and obedience are the family characteristics of the true seed of Abraham.

Mark These Notes in An Insert to Be Placed in Genesis 13 (Or on the insert used for Genesis 12:1-3)

## The Promise to Abraham (Genesis 13:14-17)

**Circumstances:** At Bethel - After Separating from Lot (Genesis 13:14-17)

**Summary:** After being unselfish to Lot, ABRAM is personally promised the entire land. He is also told for the first time that the land would be given to an INNUMERABLE seed FOREVER.

**The Promise:**

**RESURRECTION:** For the first time, Abram is told that he would personally receive this land, as an inheritance forever.

Therefore Abraham must be raised from the dead and be given eternal life. Abraham did not receive any of the promises ([Heb 11:13, 39](#); [Acts 7:5](#)) in his lifetime. This was emphasised when Abraham had to buy a burying place for Sarah and himself ([Gen 23:17-20](#)).

Abraham will be raised and will receive eternal life in the kingdom ([Lk 13:28](#); [20:37-38](#)).

**GOD'S GIFT:** Abraham is also told for the first time that the land was to be GIVEN to him.

It was not earned by "works of law", but given to him by God's grace ([Eph.2:6-8](#)). The promises were God's gift to Abraham, provided to him on account of his faith and obedience to God.

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**Mark These Notes in An Insert to Be Placed in Genesis 15 (Or on the insert used for Genesis 12:1-3)**

## The Promise to Abraham (Genesis 15:18-21)

**Circumstances:** At Hebron - After demonstrating his faith in God, which was counted to him for righteousness ([Genesis 15:18-21](#))

**Summary:** God's promise was made by a sacrificial COVENANT. God also DEFINED THE BOUNDARIES of the land that Abram's seed would receive.

### **The Promise:**

For the first time Yahweh proclaimed the promises to him as a covenant. These events pointed to the sacrificial work of Jesus Christ through which the covenant would be confirmed ([Rom 15:8](#); [Isa 42:6](#); [49:8](#); [Matt 26:28](#)).

The literal Hebrew is "to cut a covenant". Two parties enter into a covenant by cutting sacrifices in half, then passing between the pieces together. Each party is bound by the terms of the covenant for life. The fate of the covenant victim would also be the fate of the party that would break the covenant ([cp Gen 15:10-11](#); [Jer 34:18-20](#)).

Yahweh therefore assures Abraham of His promises by making a covenant ([Psa.105:8-11](#)).

The fate of those who break their covenant with Yahweh ([Psa.50:5](#)) through the Lord Jesus Christ, is to be "cut asunder" or "cut off" ([Mat.24:51](#), [Luke 12:46](#); [Rom 11:22](#)).

### **Genesis 14:1-24 - Armageddon Foreshadowed**

[14:1-7](#) - Invasion by a Northern Confederacy

[14:8-12](#) - Lot Taken Captive

[14:13-16](#) - Abram rescues Lot

[14:17-20](#) - Melchizedek Blesses Abram

[14:21-24](#) - The Spoil shared by Abram's followers

### **Genesis 15:1-16:16 - Birth of Ishmael: The Seed of the Flesh**

[15:1-6](#) - Abram promised a multitudinous seed

[15:7-16](#) - Abram promised his descendants will enter the land

[15:17-22](#) - The boundaries of the promised land defined

[16:1-3](#) - Abram marries Hagar

[16:4-6](#) - Hagar despises Sarai

[16:7-14](#) - Hagar in banishment finds help of God

[16:15-16](#) - Hagar restored gives birth to Ishmael

### **Genesis 17:1-18:15 - Promise of Isaac: The Seed of the Covenant**

[17:1-8](#) - Abram's name changed to Abraham

[17:9-14](#) - Circumcision appointed as the Covenant token

[17:15-16](#) - Sarai's name changed to Sarah

[17:17-22](#) - Birth of Isaac promised

[17:23-27](#) - Abraham circumcises the men of his household

[18:1-8](#) - Abraham entertains angels unawares

[18:9-15](#) - Sarah's unbelief at the promise of a son