

CHILDREN OF PROMISE

“If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise”
(Galatians 3:29).



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THE GLOBAL PICTURE

Approximately 4,000 years ago, God revealed to Abraham His plan for the redemption of all mankind. Through the Seed of Abraham, all of mankind from every nation and every tongue will be saved.

PAUL EXPLAINS THIS POINT – CHRIST IS THAT SEED: “The promises were spoken to Abraham and to **his seed**. Scripture does not say ‘and to seeds,’ meaning many people, but ‘and to **your seed**,’ meaning **one person, who is Christ**” (Galatians 3:16).

“What then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until **the Seed to whom the promise referred had come**” (Galatians 3:19).

“But because of **his great love for us**, God, who is **rich in mercy**, **made us alive with Christ** even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved” (Ephesians 2:4-5).

“God has bound all men over to disobedience so that **he may have mercy on them all**” (Romans 11:32).

Jesus Christ is a descendant of Abraham from the house of Judah. The good news is that he lived a sinless life, paid our penalty of sin through his blood, was resurrected back into his former glory, and finally, we await our resurrection. All of mankind who accept Christ’s sacrifice and live the way of God are now heirs with him, waiting the resurrection to rule with Christ.

ALL OF MANKIND CAN NOW BECOME SONS OF GOD: “You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, **for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ**. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for **you are all one in Christ Jesus**. **If you**

belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Galatians 3:26-29).

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" (1 John 3:1)

"But to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:2).

"For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children" (Romans 8:15-16).

TODAY, WE AWAIT THE RESURRECTION: **"But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body"** (Philippians 3:20-21).

AS A SON OF GOD, YOU WILL ALSO BE A HEIR IN THE SUPREME RULING ROYAL FAMILY: **"Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, 'Abba, Father.' So, you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir"** (Galatians 4:7).

"And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church" (Ephesians 1:22).

"If we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us" (II Timothy 2:12).

"My Sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. 'My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one'" (John 10:27-30).

"To the one who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne" (Revelation 3:21).

"He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations" (Revelation 2:26).

"He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name" (Revelation 3:12).

“Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years” (Revelation 20:6).

THE NATIONAL PICTURE

The Hebrew seed who descended from Abraham through Isaac are also the children of promise. They were promised:

- **LAND**

Genesis 12:1 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.”

Genesis 13:14-15 “The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, ‘Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.’”

Genesis 15:18-21 “On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘**To your offspring I give this land**, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites.’”

Jeremiah 3:16-18 “When ye be multiplied and increased in the land in those days...**the house of Judah** shall walk with the **house of Israel** and they shall come **together** out of the land of the north, **to the land that I gave for an inheritance unto your Fathers.**”

Ezekiel 11:17 “Therefore say: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will gather you from the nations and bring you back from the countries where you have been scattered, and **I will give you back the land of Israel AGAIN.**’”

- **DESCENDANTS**

Genesis 12:2 “And I will make of you a **great nation**, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.”

Genesis 17:6 “I will make you **exceedingly fruitful**, and **I will make you into nations**, and kings shall come from you.”

Genesis 26:3-4 “Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you, for to you and to your offspring I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father. **I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven** and will give to your offspring all these lands.”

II Samuel 7:12-13 “When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He [Christ] shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his [Christ] kingdom forever.

- **BLESSINGS** – The blessings go beyond physical resources and riches, but more importantly the knowledge of God and His way will eventually flow out of a re-united kingdom of Israel and the world will all come to know the Almighty God.

Genesis 12:3 “I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**”

Genesis 17:6 “I will make you exceedingly fruitful...”

Genesis 28:14 “Your **offspring shall be like the dust of the earth**, and **you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south**, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.”

IN A TIME OF TROUBLE BOTH HOUSES WILL REPENT AND SEEK GOD: Jeremiah 30:4,7 “These are the words concerning **Israel (the northern house – 10 tribes)** and **Judah (the southern house – 2 tribes)**... How awful that day will be! No other will be like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but **he will be saved out of it** [Note: ‘saved’ means that they will repent and be saved spiritually].”

Jeremiah 50:4-5 “In those days, at that time, the **people of Israel** and the **people of Judah together** will go **in tears to seek the Yahuah, their God**. They will ask the way of Zion and turn their faces toward it. They will come and bind themselves to the Lord in an **everlasting covenant** that will not be forgotten.”

GOD WILL ACCEPT THEIR REPENTANCE WHILE THE WORLD WATCHES: Ezekiel 39:7 “I will make known my holy name among my people Israel. I will no longer let my holy name be profaned, and **the nations will know that I the Lord am the Holy One in Israel.**”

Ezekiel 39:27-29 “When I have brought them back from the nations and have gathered them from the countries of their enemies, **I will show myself holy through them in the sight of many nations**. Then **they will know that I am the Lord their God**, for though I sent them into exile among the nations, **I will gather them to their own land, not leaving any behind. I will no longer hide my face from them, for I will pour out my Spirit on the house of Israel**, declares the Sovereign Lord.”

THE REPENTANT ISRAELITES NOW BECOME A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS AND THE GOSPEL WILL GO OUT TO ALL THE EARTH: Isaiah 49:6 “It is too small a thing that you should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; **I will also make you a light of the nations**, so that **My salvation may reach to the end of the earth.**”

- **REDEMPTION** – The New Covenant is better than the Old because it includes the plan of forgiveness of sins through the blood of Christ and the receiving of the Holy Spirit, which allows us to understand the spiritual—the way of God. Hence, the old heart of stone (rebellion) transforms in a new heart of flesh (willing obedience in love).

Jeremiah 31:31-33 “‘Behold, the days are coming,’ declares the Lord, ‘when I will make a **new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah**, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,’ declares the Lord. ‘For this is the covenant that

I will make with the house of Israel after those days,' declares the Lord: **'I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.** No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,' declares the LORD. **'For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.'**"

Hebrews 8:6-10 "But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as **the covenant he mediates is better**, since it is enacted on **better promises**. For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

I Timothy 2:5 "For there is one God and **one mediator between God and mankind**, the man **Christ Jesus.**"

The New Covenant includes the full payment of our sins, hence forgiveness. Hebrews 8:13 "In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away."

A SUMMATION: While not yet born at the time of Babel, not for another 200 years, Abraham and his descendants were chosen by God to be His inheritance. Previously, the nations were divided between the number in God's heavenly court. The goal was for all nations to be taught God's way of love and righteousness, but the sons of God rebelled against the God Almighty. They taught the nations to worship them and to be like them, revelling in self-glory, self-elevation, self-determination, self-reliance. Large cities were built, armies instituted, weaponry developed all were striving to grasp the ring that rules them all.

The ancient Israelites, especially the northern kingdom looked at these nations and craved their ideology. Eventually, the house of Judah followed the house of Israel away from God. Both houses fell backwards into corruption worshipping the rogue gods.

"Behold, you [Moses] will rest with your fathers; and this people will rise and play the harlot with the gods of the foreigners of the land, where they go to be among them, and **they will forsake Me and break My covenant**, which I have made with them. Then My anger shall be aroused against them in that day, and **I will forsake them, and I will hide My face from them, and they shall be devoured. And many evils and troubles shall befall them**, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?' And I will surely hide My face in that day because of all the evil which they have done, in that **they have turned to other gods**" (Deuteronomy 31:16-18).

God's inheritance, his people were intended to be a holy kingdom of royal priests teaching and living the way of God through their example, but they failed.

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" (I Peter 2:9).

Despite their choice, God has refused to destroy them totally. They are alive and well today.

"I am as likely to reject my people Israel as I am to abolish the laws of nature!" (Jeremiah 31:36).

"Surely the eyes of the Sovereign LORD are on the sinful kingdom. I will destroy it [the sinful kingdom, Babylon] from the face of the earth. Yet, **I will not totally destroy the descendants of Jacob,**" declares the LORD" (Amos 9:8).

"No, **God has not rejected his own people, whom he chose from the very beginning.** Do you realize what the Scriptures say about this? Elijah the prophet complained to God about the people of Israel and said, Lord, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars. I am the only one left, and they are seeking my life as well"? (Romans 11:2-3)

God has a teaching and a saving plan for His creation. Jesus Christ, the Seed of Abraham saved all of mankind through his perfect sacrifice and re-established the teaching plan through his disciples, rejecting the self-righteous, leaven filled practices of the Jewish leaders and the pagan practices of the gods. This newly established group grew into many, but over time and under malicious attacks and martyrdom the original teachings of the Apostles became a mix of the original and old pagan teachings, forming churches with differing beliefs.

Christ has called out to the seven churches in Revelation throughout time, to heed and overcome and return to the pure truth originally taught by his Apostles. This religious confusion is worldwide. Fortunately, God's plan cannot be thwarted. A time of trouble is coming that will ignite a revival, clean up the churches, and test the houses of Judah and Israel. God is not satisfied with a remnant, the few who follow Christ wherever he goes. He is commanding that all of His people in the two houses of Israel in this 21st century, take a stand and choose between whom they will be loyal. His plan remains firm for a repentant holy kingdom of royal priests. Hence, a time of trouble awaits, on the horizon that will force a position—a second captivity, back into Egypt, they will go.

"The LORD will send you back in ships to Egypt on a journey I said you should never make again. There you will offer yourselves for sale to your enemies as male and female slaves, but no one will buy you" (Deuteronomy 68:28).

A second captivity, a second exodus is in the forecast. This time, they will sincerely repent and God will rescue them, **again**. Finally, the work originally given to Abraham's children of promise will be fulfilled. They will be an example to the world and the world will come to know the love of their Creator—the Almighty God. At the end of the final 100 years of God's earthly plan, the whole world will have entered into His family, His kingdom as sons—**ruling sons of God**.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich