

The Nature of a Covenant

- *Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it. 16 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. 17 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, that it should make the promise of no effect. Gal 3:15-18*

God's Initial Covenant with Abraham

- *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. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 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." 4 So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Gen 12:1-4*

Covenant Confirmed

- *By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Heb 11:8-12*
- *Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it.*

A further Aspect of the Covenant

● *And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." 3 Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: 4 "As for Me, behold, **My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.** 5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for **I have made you a father of many nations.***

The Covenant Confirmed

- *Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all 17 (**as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations"**) in the presence of Him whom he believed — God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; 18 who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, **so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."** Rom 4:16-19*

The Covenant Confirmed

- *And **not being weak in faith**, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. 20 **He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. 22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."** Rom 4:19-25*

The Covenant Confirmed to Us

- 23 Now it was *not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.*
- *yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it.*

Third Component to the Covenant

- *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. Gen 22:1-40*

Third Component to the Covenant

- *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. 10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. Gen 22:9-10*
- Abraham did everything God asked him to do. This brought about the third time God confirmed the Covenant.
- Not just to Abraham, but to his descendants after him.

The Covenant Confirmed

- *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. 18 **In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.**" Gen 22:15-18*

Confirmed Covenant = Consolation

- *For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." Heb 6:13-15*
- *Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 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. Heb 6:17-18*

The Threefold Covenant

- When he was called he went.
- When God made an impossible promise he believed, never wavered and gave glory to God.
- When God made a demand that appeared to revoke God's earlier promises Abraham still trusted God.

- *By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," 19 concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. Heb 11:17-19*

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The Nature of this unbreakable Covenant

- *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 11 None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." 13 In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Heb 8:10-13*

The Covenant Confirmed to Us

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- *Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. Gal 4:28-29*
- Everything God swore to Abraham is now ours. We are the beneficiaries!

- *For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal 3:26-29*