

Covenant of Change

Genesis Chapter 17

Gen 17:1 Change of Abram's Name vs 1-8

Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.

- 99 years old assured that all Abram's ability to accomplish the promise is dead and gone
 - God doesn't concern Himself with a man's age. He can use a 99 year old or a 8 year old as Josiah (We think a certain amount of ability is required to accomplish God's will. God looks to availability and faithfulness.)
 - God's seeming delay can cause in us anxiety (as we saw in Sarai/Abram when they took matters in their own hands to help the plan along)
 1. Psalm 121:4
 2. 2 Peter 3:9
- Walk Before me (A Concept that can set us free We are walking before Him - in His presence)
 - Enoch walked w/ God and was no more
 - Psalm 119: 105 "Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path"
 - Hebrews 12:1-2 Author & perfecter of faith JESUS!

* Blameless (perfect KJV) - has more of a sense of a man's integrity than that of performance

Gen 17:2 "I will establish My covenant between Me and you, And I will multiply you exceedingly."

- 9x "My Covenant" 3x "Everlasting Covenant" 1x "The Covenant"
- 14x God said He will do something in this covenant. (nasb)

Gen 17:3 Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying,

- Fell on his face (Not my buddy or the man upstairs or the big Kaunas)

Gen 17:4 "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, And you will be the father of a multitude of nations.

Gen 17:5 "No longer shall your name be called Abram, But your name shall be Abraham; For I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.

- Past tense (Already done) After 13 years of possibly feeling that he had blown the opportunity, God tells Abram that His covenant is with Abram. He hadn't blown it. Abram is still the go to guy.
- Name change from exalted father to father of a multitude

Gen 17:6 "I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come forth from you.

Gen 17:7 "I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you.

Gen 17:8 "I will give to you and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

Gen 17:9 **Change In Flesh** vs 9-14

God said further to Abraham, "**Now as for you**, you shall keep **My covenant**, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.

Gen 17:10 "This is **My covenant**, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: every male among you shall be circumcised.

Gen 17:11 "And you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskin, and it shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you.

- *Not THE covenant but a sign (Paul's message in Galatians)*
- *Why a sexual organ This is a reminder of the promise of a Seed Intimacy required to know the covenant*

Gen 17:12 "And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations, a {servant} who is born in the house or who is bought with money from any foreigner, who is not of your descendants.

- *Vitamin K starts clotting approx. 8th day*
- *Pro thrombin 3rd day 30% 8th day 110% 9th Day back to 100%*
- *8 New Beginnings (Music, Calendar)*

Gen 17:13 "A {servant} who is born in your house or who is bought with your money shall surely be circumcised; thus shall **My covenant** be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

Gen 17:14 "But an uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken **My covenant.**"

- *Rom 4:9-12 Abraham received this as a sign of covenant. Righteousness was credited to him before circumcision*
- *Col 2:9-12 In Christ the Fullness of Deity dwells. In Him we are complete. We are circumcised made with out hands (Circumcision of Christ) Same work is done in Baptism.*
- *Philippians 3:1-3 True circumcision is one that worships the Spirit of God and Glory in Christ Jesus and puts no confidence in the flesh.*

Gen 17:15 **Change of Sarai's Name** vs 15-3

Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah {shall be} her name.

Gen 17:16 "**I will** bless her, and indeed **I will** give you a son by her. Then **I will** bless her, and she shall be {a mother of} nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

Gen 17:17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Will a child be born to a man one hundred years old? And will Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear {a child?}"

- *Romans 4:19 -- "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:" ...but believed God*
- *Abraham believed God - Laughed at how this is going to happen even with the impossibility of it Sarah Laughed at the possibility.*
- *A merry heart maketh like a medicine - Studies show that laughter causes a sensation in the lymph nodes and believe that this helps in healing cancer patients.*

Gen 17:18 And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before You!"

Gen 17:19 But God said, "No, but Sarah your wife will bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; and **I will** establish **My covenant** with him for an everlasting covenant for his

descendants after him.

Gen 17:20 "As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, **I will** bless him, and **will** make him fruitful and **will** multiply him exceedingly. He shall become the father of twelve princes, and **I will** make him a great nation.

- Abram loved his son Ishmael
- God said in KJV that he has blessed him

Gen 17:21 "But **My covenant** **I will** establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this season next year."

Gen 17:22 When He finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.

Gen 17:23 Then Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all {the servants} who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's household, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the very same day, as God had said to him.

Gen 17:24 Now Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

- *Personal Obedience (Himself)*

Gen 17:25 And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

- *Parental Obedience (His Family)*

Gen 17:26 In the very same day Abraham was circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

Gen 17:27 All the men of his household, who were born in the house or bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

- *Patriarchal Obedience (His Household)*
- *Positional Obedience (His Social Sphere)*

Application for us.

- *Cost of walking before Him (being a disciple) Luke 14:26-33*

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