

WHAT IS IN A NAME ? ~ Genesis 17:1-27

→ Scripture Reading - Genesis 17:1-6

FATHER OF NATIONS AND KINGS ~ Genesis 17:1-8

[1] When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. [2] I will CONFIRM my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers." [3] Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, [4] "AS FOR ME, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. [5] No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. [6] I will make you very FRUITFUL; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. [7] I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. [8] The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

PROMISES EXPANDED AND EXPLAINED

- Father of MANY Nations vs. 6
- KINGS will come from you vs. 6
- Covenant is EVERLASTING vs. 7
- LAND will be Everlasting Possession vs. 8

APPLICATION

Genesis 15:1 (NIV) After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. **I am your SHIELD, your very great REWARD.**"

I am El Shaddai - God Almighty - Omnipotent - Sovereign who can do Anything

GOD SAYS...

...I am El Shaddai, Almighty, Sovereign God - **this is WHO I AM**

..Walk Before Me and be Blameless - **this is what I EXPECT of you**

17:1 (HCS) "I am God Almighty. Live in My presence and be blameless.

SIGN OF THE COVENANT ~ Genesis 17:9-14

[9] Then God said to Abraham, "AS FOR YOU, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. [10] This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised. [11] You are to undergo CIRCUMCISION, and it will be the SIGN of the covenant between me and you. [12] For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner - those who are not your offspring. [13] Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. [14] Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

MEANING OF CIRCUMCISION Hughes

- SIGN of OBEDIENCE
- Symbol of Spiritual COMMITMENT to God
- Reminder of the COVENANT
- Symbol of BELONGING
- Showed the Covenant was ENDURING and IRREVOCABLE
- SUBMISSION to God's WAY

APPLICATION

John 14:6 (NIV) Jesus answered, "I am **THE way** and **THE truth** and **THE life**. No one comes to the Father **EXCEPT through me**."

MOTHER OF NATIONS AND KINGS ~ Genesis 17:15-22

[15] God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. [16] I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her." [17] Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?" [18] And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!" [19] Then God said, "Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. [20] And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. [21] But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year." [22] When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God went up from him.

WAS THIS UNBELIEF?

YES - Abraham QUESTIONS if it is Physically possible

YES - He asked that Ishmael be ACCEPTABLE to God

NO - God does not REBUKE him

NO - God explained and Abraham OBEYS

GOD'S RESPONSE TO ABRAHAM

- Sarah WILL HAVE a son - call him ISAAC vs. 19
- MY everlasting covenant will be WITH ISAAC vs. 19
- Ishmael will be the father of twelve RULERS vs. 20

ABSOLUTE OBEDIENCE ~ Genesis 17:23-27

[23] On that VERY DAY Abraham took his son Ishmael and all those born in his household or bought with his money, every male in his household, and circumcised them, as God told him. [24] Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised, [25] and his son Ishmael was thirteen; [26] Abraham and his son Ishmael were both circumcised on that same day. [27] And every male in Abraham's household, including those born in his household or bought from a foreigner, was circumcised with him.

APPLICATION

Philippians 2:8 (HCS) He humbled Himself by becoming **OBEDIENT** to the point of death - even to death on a cross.

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and **teaching them to OBEY everything I have commanded you.** And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

We teach Obedience - by SAYING it and DOING it ourselves

TAKE AWAY ??

AS UNBELIEVERS WE WERE CALLED...

Ephesians 2

DEAD in transgressions and sins
FOLLOWER of Satan
Objects of WRATH
SEPARATED from God
Without HOPE
Without GOD
Foreigners & Aliens

1 Corinthians 6

UNRIGHTEOUS - ungodly impure
sexually IMMORAL
IDOL Worshipers
Adulterers
Thieves
Drunkards
Swindlers

AS CHRISTIANS WE ARE CALLED....

Ephesians 1 & 2

Chosen
Adopted
Redeemed (bought and paid for - set free)
Forgiven
Sealed (to show I belong to GOD)
God's Possession
Alive with Christ
God's Workmanship

1 Corinthians 6

Washed
Sanctified
Justified