

Session 4: The Promised Kingdom

Scripture reading: Gen. 12:1-7; 15:1-7; 17:1-21; 22:1-18; 26:1-5; 28:13-15; Exod. 6:2-8; Gal. 3:7-29.

- I. God’s covenant with Abram (Gen. 12:1-7):**
- A. God’s people – descendants becoming a great nation.
 - B. God’s place – the Promised Land, i.e., the land of Canaan.
 - C. God’s rule and blessing – blessing for Abram’s descendants and for the nations.

- II. God reaffirms his covenant with Abraham:**
- A. God credits Abraham’s faith as righteousness (Gen. 15:1-7).
 - B. Circumcision as the sign of the Abrahamic covenant (Gen. 17:1-21).
 - C. Abraham in faithful conformity to the covenant (Gen. 22:17-18; cf. Heb. 11:17-19).

- III. God’s covenant with Abraham’s descendants:**
- A. God affirms his covenant with Isaac (Gen. 26:1-5).
 - B. God affirms his covenant with Jacob (Gen. 28:13-15).
 - C. God affirms his covenant with the children of Israel (Exod. 6:2-8).

- IV. God’s covenant with Abraham in relation to believers in Christ (Gal. 3:7-29):**
- A. Those who are of faith, including Gentiles, are the genuine descendants of Abraham because he was justified by faith – therefore, those who are of faith are the legitimate inheritors of covenantal blessing (Gal. 3:7-9).
 - B. Abraham believed that God would give him an offspring, i.e., the Messiah, through whom all the nations would be blessed (Gal. 3:15-18).
 - C. Therefore, those who believe in the Messiah Jesus shares the faith of Abraham and are therefore eligible recipients of the promised blessing (Gal. 3:14a, 29).
 - D. The promised blessing is the Holy Spirit (Gal. 3:14b).

V. The state of the kingdom:

The kingdom of God	The pattern of the kingdom	The perished kingdom	The promised kingdom
<i>God’s people</i>	The man and the woman	Few to none	Abraham’s descendants
<i>God’s place (presence)</i>	The Garden of Eden	Banished from Eden	The land of Canaan
<i>God’s rule and blessing</i>	Creation blessing, wholesome relationships	Curses, broken relationships, and death	Blessings to Israel and to the nations