

Elpis Israel

for Young People

Heir of the World – The Promises to Abraham

Class 24

Importance of the Subject:

Our Studies for the day.

- Today we plan on looking at the three vital subjects – or related to each other.
- They form the core of the gospel message
- We plan on looking at these subjects today:
 1. “Heir of the World”: The Promises to Abraham
 - Be a review of what we have been studying
 2. “The Throne of His Father David”: The Promises to David
 - Taking our studies to the next level
 3. “Heirs According to the Promises” - The Inclusion of the Gentiles
 - Looking at how the gospel – the good news – is extended to us!

The importance of the Subject:

- Today’s subject is of vital importance
- You will not find this teaching amongst any other people in the world that we know of
- You find it less and less, even amongst the Christadelphians
- It is vital that we learn it by heart
 1. It needs to become our “Constitution”, our Oath of Allegiance, Our Flag, the rallying point of our faith.
- Brother Robert Roberts – who followed Brother Thomas wrote the following in a book called Christendom Astray:

“On no subject will Christendom be found to have gone more astray than on the subject of the Kingdom of God – a subject which, without exaggeration may be said to constitute the very backbone of the divine purpose with the earth and its inhabitants.”

The Purpose of God in the PROMISES:

- God’s Purpose:

Habakkuk 2:14 *For the earth shall be filled with the **knowledge of the glory of the LORD**, as the waters cover the sea.*

 - Knowledge = YADAH = Experiential Knowledge
 - The GLORY of God = his Character
- Separating the Nation of Israel:

Acts 15:14 *Simeon hath declared how **God at the first did visit the Gentiles, TO TAKE OUT OF THEM A PEOPLE FOR HIS NAME.***

The Gospel was Preached to Abraham:

- The Gospel did not begin in the New Testament.
- The Gospel – GOOD NEWS – was first preached to Abraham:

Galatians 3:6-9 *Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, **preached before the gospel unto Abraham**, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.*

The Gospel – or Good News of What?

- Jesus preached the Good News – more detail is given:
Matthew 4:23 *And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the **gospel of the kingdom**, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.*

The Promises to Abraham

Let's have a look at the promises (which we have been considering)

Genesis 12:2-3 *And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*

- Cataloguing the Promises:
 - Great Nation – The Nation of Israel
 - Bless Thee
 - Name Great
 - Be a Blessing
 - Bless them that Bless Thee
 - Curse Him that curseth Thee
 - In Thee – all families of the Earth Be Blessed – Galatians
- Anachronism:
 - B – Blessing
 - L – Land
 - E – Everlasting
 - S – Seed (singular)
 - S – Seeds (Plural)
 - N – Name Great
 - G – Great Nation
 - C – Curse those who Curse

Isaac and Jacob – included in this as well

- Encapsulated in one verse:
Hebrews 11:9 *By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the **HEIRS WITH HIM OF THE SAME PROMISE:***

Blessing:

Let's have a look at the promises (which we have been considering)

Genesis 12:2-3 *And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will **ble**ss thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a **ble**ssing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be **ble**ssed.*

- Three BLESSINGS:
 1. Abraham Blessed
 2. Those who bless him are Blessed
 3. All nations Blessed in Abraham's seed

1. Abraham would be blessed:

- This is evident from the promises themselves – but we should not lose sight of it.
- These were promises given primarily to HIM - therefore HE has to be around to benefit from them
- Speaks to the resurrection – which will come up later.
 - Important as we go through them – see that he hasn't received them yet.
 - He isn't floating around on a cloud in heaven enjoying his reward – clearly taught by the scriptures:

2. Those who Bless him will be Blessed

- We'll look at this in later classes when we begin to see how the treatment of Israel by the nations has either benefited or adversely affected them.
- One little example of the curse:

Genesis 12:17 *And the **LORD** plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues **because of Sarai** Abram's wife.*

Genesis 20:17-18 *So Abraham prayed unto God: and **God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.** For the LORD had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.*

3. All Nations Blessed in Abraham's Seed:

Galatians 3:8-9 *And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. **So then they which be of faith ARE BLESSED WITH FAITHFUL ABRAHAM.***

- Nobody is blessed without ABRAHAM
- We need to find out what the promises to Abraham were – in order to be “blessed”

John 4:22 *Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: **FOR SALVATION IS OF THE JEWS.***

- We will look at this more in our last class today

The Land:

God Restates his proposition:

Genesis 15:7 *And he said unto him, I am the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, **TO GIVE THEE THIS LAND** to inherit it.*

Promise is re-iterated – Dimensions of the LAND given:

Genesis 15:18-21 *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, **FROM THE RIVER OF EGYPT UNTO THE GREAT RIVER, THE RIVER EUPHRATES:** The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.*

When would he receive it?

Hebrews 11:8-16 *By faith Abraham, when he was **called to go out into a place which he should AFTER receive for an inheritance**, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For **he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose BUILDER AND MAKER IS GOD...** These all died in faith, **NOT HAVING RECEIVED THE PROMISES**, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country...*

Not in heaven:

Acts 7:3-4 *And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come **into the land which I shall shew thee**. Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, **HE REMOVED HIM INTO THIS LAND**, wherein ye now dwell.*

- Not in heaven
- Not spirited off somewhere else
- Is the land of Israel – WHICH HE NEVER RECEIVED YET

Everlasting Possession

The Vanity of the World we live in:

1 Timothy 6:6-7 *But godliness with contentment is great gain. For **we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.***

The TIME LIMIT of God's promise to Abraham:

Genesis 17:7-8 *And I will **establish my covenant** between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations **FOR AN EVERLASTING COVENANT**, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, **FOR AN EVERLASTING POSSESSION**; and I will be **their** God.*

Everlasting:

Strongs# 5679 – Olam, perpetual, evermore, indefinitely, continuous existence

- The possession promised to Abraham is the only EVERLASTING possession a man can ever have.

God doesn't go back on his promises:

Romans 11:29 *For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.*

Therefore: Abraham will have to be RAISED and will have to LIVE FOREVER in order to receive the promises

Luke 20:37-38 *Now that the dead are raised, even Moses shewed at the bush, when he calleth the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. **For he is not a God of the dead, but of the living:** for all live unto him.*

Immortality is necessary for all those who will receive the promises to Abraham – both Jew and Gentile alike

- Nobody can receive the promises without this special INGREDIENT
- The only way to receive it is tied into the SINGULAR SEED

Singular Seed:

Promises to Abraham ONLY realized through his SEED – CHRIST

- Same seed that would BRUISE THE HEAD OF THE SERPENT
Galatians 3:16-17 Now **to Abraham and his seed were the promises made.** He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but **as of one,** And to thy seed, which is Christ. And this I say, that **the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ,** the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.
 - The covenant was CONFIRMED before of God in CHRIST
 - The only way to receive the promises was through FAITH in CHRIST – for both Jew and Gentile

Jesus Christ – by his DEATH confirmed the NEW COVENANT

- He made it possible for people to actually PARTICIPATE in the NEW COVENANT
- He put to death FLESH – demonstrating to all that God’s judgment in Eden was righteous – and that all who wanted to participate in the promises had to AGREE with this
Hebrews 9:15 And for this cause he is the **mediator of the new testament [COVENANT],** that by means of death, **for the redemption of the transgressions** that were under the first testament, **THEY WHICH ARE CALLED MIGHT RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL INHERITANCE.**
- Mankind released from death by the “BLOOD OF THE COVENANT OF ABRAHAM”
Zechariah 9:11 As for thee also, **BY THE BLOOD OF THY COVENANT I HAVE SENT FORTH THY PRISONERS OUT OF THE PIT** wherein is no water.

Multitudinous Seed:

Name to be Changed:

Genesis 17:4-8 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be **A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS.** Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be **Abraham;** for a **father of many nations have I made thee.** And I will make thee **exceeding fruitful,** and I will make **nations of thee,** and **KINGS SHALL COME OUT OF THEE.**

After Isaac Sacrificed:

Genesis 22:15-18 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in **blessing I will bless thee,** and in **multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore;** and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And **IN THY SEED SHALL ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED;** because thou hast obeyed my voice.

- Abraham to be blessed
- His seed to be multiplied as stars of heaven and sand on the sea shore

The nation of Israel is the MULTITUDINOUS SEED:

Exodus 19:5-6 *Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then **ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people:** for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.*

- They have been chosen above all nations because of the promise to Abraham
Deut 14:2 *For **thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God,** and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.*

- Even though the original kingdom ended – and the nation was scattered – does not mean that God is finished with them – they are still at the center of his purpose:

Rom 11:25-29 *For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that **blindness in part is happened to Israel, UNTIL the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.** And so **ALL ISRAEL SHALL BE SAVED:** as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching the election, they are beloved for the fathers' sakes. **FOR THE GIFTS AND CALLING OF GOD ARE WITHOUT REPENTANCE.***

Posses the Gate: The Conquer the World:

Same Scripture – different aspect:

Genesis 22:15-18 *And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and **THY SEED SHALL POSSESS THE GATE OF HIS ENEMIES;** and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*

- Gate in Scripture:
Gate: 8179 – Shahr – the place of judgment within a city
c/p Deut 25:7 – go up to the elders in the gate
c/p Ruth 4:11 – elders in the gate
c/p 2 Sam 19:18 – David sat in the gate

- To “Possess the gates” means to RULE over the Cities

How Big is the Kingdom?

- Daniel chapter 2 describes the struggle between two kingdoms – a kingdom of Men and a Kingdom of God
- The Kingdom of men is the Image
- The Kingdom of God is the little stone:

Daniel 2:34-35 *Thou sawest till that a **stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image** upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and **the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.***

- The Little Stone is to fill the earth when it becomes a great mountain

Daniel 2:44-45 *And in the days of these kings shall the **God of heaven set up a kingdom**, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but **it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms**, and it shall stand for ever. (v45) Forasmuch as thou sawest that the **stone was cut out of the mountain without hands**, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.*

- The Little stone is the KINGDOM that will break in pieces and consume all the kingdoms of the world.

Optional Support Verses:

Malachi 1:11 *For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same **MY NAME SHALL BE GREAT AMONG THE GENTILES**; and **IN EVERY PLACE** incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.*

Zechariah 9:10 *And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and **HE SHALL SPEAK PEACE UNTO THE HEATHEN; AND HIS DOMINION SHALL BE FROM SEA EVEN TO SEA, AND FROM THE RIVER EVEN TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.***

The Kingdom – the Agent by which the Purpose of God is to be fulfilled:

Psalms 72:1 ***Give the king thy judgments**, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.*

Psalms 72:7-11 *In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth. **HE SHALL HAVE DOMINION ALSO FROM SEA TO SEA, AND FROM THE RIVER UNTO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.** They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and **HIS ENEMIES SHALL LICK THE DUST.** The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. **YEA, ALL KINGS SHALL FALL DOWN BEFORE HIM: ALL NATIONS SHALL SERVE HIM.***

Psalms 72:17-19 *His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun: and men shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed. Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed*

be his glorious name for ever: and **LET THE WHOLE EARTH BE FILLED WITH HIS GLORY; AMEN, AND AMEN.**

When Jesus is ruling – he will rule the world

Revelation 11:15 *And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, **THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD ARE BECOME THE KINGDOMS OF OUR LORD, AND OF HIS CHRIST;** and he shall reign for ever and ever.*

So what was Abraham Promised?

Romans 4:13 *For the promise, that **he should be the heir of the world (kosmos)**, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.*

- Everything!
- There is nothing left.