

ISRAEL'S DIVINE RIGHT

GENESIS 12:1-3

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. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. 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."

If life had gone according to plan, I would've began today on top of the Mount of Olives with a panoramic view of the Old City of Jerusalem. By now I would've walked the Palm Sunday Road and visited the Garden Of Gethsemane. At this moment, I'd be splashing in the stream that flows through Hezekiah's Tunnel. **I would be leading my eleventh tour of Israel...** *But as we all know, life doesn't always go according to our plans.*

On October 7th Hamas terrorists invaded the Israeli neighborhoods around the Gaza Strip, and killed 1400 Jews. They committed heinous and unspeakable crimes in the process. Israel has since invaded Gaza to retrieve the 237 hostages still held by Hamas, to root out the terrorists who orchestrated the attack, and to demilitarize the Gaza Strip. Sadly, as in all wars, the fighting threatens and endangers innocent civilians.

In response to this war, protests around the world have erupted - some in support of Israel, but many in opposition. The pro-Palestinian slogans you hear say it all. "Glory to our martyrs" exalts the butchering of Jews that occurred on October 7th... "End the Occupation" implies that the Jews have no indigenous claim to the land and are modern-day colonizers... "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" designates the boundaries of a desired Palestinian state... but from the borders of the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea presupposes the elimination of modern Israel. The Implied idea is that a national home for Jews in their ancestral lands has no legitimacy, or right to exist.

Yet the Bible declares that it does! The Bible is clear, God chose to bless the world through the Jewish people. He made **promises** to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - the Hebrew family... *among which is a parcel that includes the current borders of the state of Israel.* I believe the Zionist migration of the Jews back to their God-given land is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy!

I'm not saying the Palestinian Arabs shouldn't have their own country. Israel has made proposals in the past. *Their chief request in return has just been the*

acknowledgement of Israel's right to exist. Sadly, that seems difficult for Palestinian leaders to concede. Who knows the future compromises Israel may accept, under the right conditions, as a political path to peace.

But biblically, the Jews have every right to the land they currently occupy. *In fact, their land grant involves us. It's tied to every Christian's salvation...* If you love the Bible - if you're a Bible person - realize God's Word teaches the Jewish nation has a special role in God's redemptive plan, and with that role comes a homeland. It's Israel's *divine right* to live in their God-given land.

This morning, I'd like to discuss the foundation of God's promises to Israel - [His covenant with Abraham](#).

If asked to divide the Bible in half most people would do so between Malachi and Matthew - between Old and New Testaments. But an equally valid dividing point would be between Genesis 11 and Genesis 12.

In Genesis 1-11 God works to redeem mankind as a whole, *but with little success.* "[Chapter 11](#)" - of all chapters - shows how morally and spiritually *bankrupt* mankind became. After the global flood of Noah's day God hoped to start over with the flood's survivors. They were to scatter and multiply; instead they huddled up.

The flood changed life on planet earth. *Harsh climates, rugged topography, predatory animals* made life for its inhabitants more difficult. The world was now a frightful place. And the question became *will we trust God or fend for ourselves* in this scary, new world?

A man named Nimrod played on people's newfound fears. He denied God's rainbow sign and questioned His promise to never flood the Earth again. Nimrod told the survivors that God was the bad guy. He was their Savior. That's why he built a tower and coated it with pitch. *Why else would you build a water-proof tower in the desert, unless you were expecting another flood?*

Nimrod waged war against God. His water-proof Tower doubled as an observatory. He consulted the stars. He was the world's first astrologer. He coaxed humans into bowing to creation, instead of the Creator.

Satan chose [a man, Nimrod - a place, Babel](#) - and [a means, fear](#). And God had to bust up the mutiny. He crashes Nimrod's party. He alters the mono-tongue of mankind, and confuses the languages. The Almighty forces the human family to finally separate and scatter.

But in light of the rebellion, God doesn't wash his hands of humanity. Never! He loves us, and constantly pursues a relationship with us. He just employs a new strategy. Beginning in Genesis 12 God no longer works with humanity in mass, instead He picks one family.

In Genesis 12 God chooses **a man, Abram** - **a place, Canaan** - and **a means, faith**. And the rest of the Bible is the story of the salvation God works through the Jewish people - aka the family of Abraham.

Genesis 12:1 begins, **“Now the LORD had said to Abram...”** Realize, this man, Abram, began an idol-worshipper. In 11:28 we’re told he was from Ur of the Chaldeans. Ur was a Babylonian city known for its luxury and sophistication. Bathtubs were first used in Ur. It was *the hot-tub hotbed* of the Fertile Crescent.

Yet the day came when the one true God spoke to Abram, and unlike his peers he trusted what he heard. From then on Abram believed in Yahweh - *not always perfectly* - but time after time he went against the grain of his skeptical culture, and believed in God’s promise.

While living in *Ur*, Abram married a *her* - a gal named **“Sarai.”** The name means **“contentious,”** which proves marriages in those days were arranged. For what man in his right mind willing weds **“Miss Contentious?”**

Yet the Lord spoke to Abram, **“Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you.”** One day, Abram comes home from work, and says to Sarai, **“Baby, pack up, we’re moving!”** She’s so excited! **“You got a raise! Uptown Ur here we come. We’ll live in a swim and tennis.”** *Sarai was already thinking new furniture.* But then she asks him, **“Honey, where are we moving?”**

And she wasn’t ready for Abram’s answer. He tells her, **“Sarai, God told me to move. He just didn’t tell me where!”** Recall the meaning of her name, **“contentious.”** Trust me, a heated discussion must’ve followed!

Abram’s initial foray in faith was more like *a stumble* than *a step*. God said, **“get out of your father’s house..”** Instead he let his father and nephew, Lot, tag along.

Abram was also told to go to **“a land God would show him.”** On his first attempt he didn’t make it that far. Abram moved 600 miles west of Ur, but stopped 400 miles short of Canaan. **He followed God half-way.**

And this can happen to us. We can make a move toward God, yet pull up short of all He’s asking. We hold on to elements of our old life, rather than shake free. We have one foot with the Lord and one foot in the world. Some people have too much of the world to enjoy God, and too much of God to enjoy the world.

Donald Barnhouse use to put it, **“They have enough Christianity to be miserable in a nightclub, but not enough to be happy in a prayer meeting.”** **Rather than relocate to a new land, we only move upstream.**

And a partial follower of Jesus is a miserable man or woman. Abram's compromise landed him in "Haran." The name means "parched." And when we make concessions - and dilute our commitment to Jesus - we become *spiritually dry* - our soul becomes parched.

If you're spiritually dehydrated and thirsty for living water; perhaps the problem is you've been following God half-way. Abram didn't fully follow God until his father died. Terah had held him back. *So what's the Terah in your life?* What needs to die for you to be fully-devoted to Jesus? **Often faith begins with a funeral!**

But God also made another promise in His covenant to Abram. Verse 2, "I will make you a great nation..."

The name "Abram" means "father." But this was an embarrassment to Abram. He was 75 years old, *and childless*. Every time Abram met someone new he was asked about his kids. *His name invited the question...* And ole "father" had to say he didn't have any kids.

Yet here God promises Abram descendants, offspring. You can't sire a great nation without a *child*.

Later in 13:16 God tells Abram, "I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered." In Genesis 15, God takes Abram out under a night sky and promises his descendants will be as the stars. Imagine, a 75 year old geezer, will have a family as numerable as *the dust particles on Earth* and the *stars in the heavens*.

And God makes Abram a third promise, verse 2, "I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing." Ultimately, this "blessing" is **our salvation**. The Gospels emphasize that Jesus was born of Abram's lineage. All the blessings that in Christ come through God's promised blessing to Abram.

It's interesting, Nimrod had said, "Let us make a name for ourselves," but sought greatness apart from God - in rebellion to God... Yet Abram chose to live by faith and followed God even into the unknown. As a consequence God promised to make his "name great."

At first glance you might miss the importance of God's covenant with Abram. It's disarmingly simple, yet Genesis 12:1-2 is one of the most strategic passages in the Bible. From time to eternity, history turns on the deal God struck with Abram, **The Abrahamic Covenant**.

Notice again the three-fold promise God makes here with Abram: *a chunk of land - a great nation - an ultimate blessing*. Here's the condensed version - three simple words

- **land, nation, blessing**. Or an even easier way to remember it - **sod, seed, salvation**.

And I hate to belabor the point, but the significance of this agreement can't be overstated. **The Abrahamic Covenant is the bedrock of the Bible**. The rest of the book, Genesis 12 to Revelation 22, fills in the details of this three-fold promise. The Bible is all about **the land God gives to Abram, the nation he births, and the blessing that comes through his lineage**. Grasp these three promises, and you'll understand the Bible.

And notice what else God promises Abram and his offspring in verse 3. God takes an oath, **"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."** Not only does Scripture bear this out, but so does secular history. *Nations have prospered or crumbled* based on how they treated Abram's family.

Egypt declined in power after they enslaved the Hebrews... After **Babylon** sacked Jerusalem they were conquered by Persia... **Greece** declined after Antiochus desecrated the Temple... **Rome** persecuted the church, and were overrun by Barbarians... The **Byzantines** sunk into the Dark Ages when they started punishing Jews... Jewish Inquisitions ended **Spain's** greatness... Hitler's attempt to exterminate the Jews sealed **Germany's** defeat... And one reason for the sudden fall of the **Soviet Union** was its cruel treatment of Jews and its opposition to the state of Israel...

And God continues to shed His grace on America because we remain staunch allies of Israel. If we ever pull that support - *mark it down* - judgment will follow.

In Genesis 13:14, God wants to give Abram a deeper appreciation of His promise. God wants to make it real and tangible, so He says, **"Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are - northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever..."**

Farther than the eye can see... that was the land God promised Abram. And notice the duration of the promise, **"all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever."** **"Forever"** is a long lease.

Thus, today, and in the future, it doesn't matter what the US, or EU, or UN, or G8, or OPEC says about Israel's borders - the land God gave Abram belongs to the Jews. **God said so! It's a divine right**. At times Israel may trade land for peace, and strike deals with Arabs to share land, but biblically it belongs to Israel to share.

And look at what God tells Abram in 13:17, **"Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you."** Abram's feet need to pound the ground. God wants him to experience firsthand His blessing!

And this verse is important, especially for Christians who try to spiritualize these promises, and say God's promise of the land was just metaphorical. *O, Abram's exploits are figurative of our spiritual journey. "Walking the land" is just analogous for "growing spiritually."*

I'm sure there're some spiritual parallels between Abram's journey and the Christian life, **but don't try to spiritualize away God's promises.** God told Abram to put feet to dirt - to walk the land God promised him.

The point is, God's land grant to Abram was a literal parcel - *a specific chunk of dirt - a clod of sod - some sod from God.* The Abrahamic Covenant involves *real land to real people.* Its heirs are not just *spiritual children of Abram.* They're the DNA-marked, bloodline descendants of Abram. God has literal promises on the books, that deal with literal land, and historical people.

In fact, God even provides Abram literal borders. In Genesis 15:18 God tells Abram, **"To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt (that is the Nile) to the great river, the River Euphrates."**

In light of today's conflict in Gaza this is shocking. The Palestinian slogan, *the river to the sea*, means the west bank of the Jordan River. But God's land gift to Abram was from the west bank of the Euphrates River all the way to Egypt's Nile River. That not only includes the disputed territories - but a lion's share of Egypt, the Sinai, Lebanon, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait. I'm sure Arabs in Egypt are in **de-nile** of this, but the land God promised Abram includes *the Nile.*

Today's Israel consists of 8000 square miles of real estate, *a slither the size of New Jersey.* But one day, and it may not be until Jesus returns, Israel will possess all 300,000 square miles God has promised them. And according to Genesis 13:15 this is the land that has been given to the heirs of Abram... **"forever."**

But who was Abram's heir? That's the big question. And two episodes from his life clear up any confusion.

In Genesis 15 it had been a decade since God first promised Abram descendants. He's 85 years old now and he's starting to worry... *He realizes there's an expiration date on child-bearing. Fertility is not forever.*

Abram suggests that God make his servant, Eliezer, his heir-apparent. But that's not God's plan. In Genesis 15:4 we're told, **"The word of the LORD came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir."**

Abram has been on social security for twenty years. He's no spring chicken, yet God is going to solve his problem of an heir not by adoption, or by in-vitro, or by surrogates.

Even before the days of Viagra and Cialis - this Ole Boy will sire a son from his own body!

And notice Genesis 15:6. Here's a key verse in your Bible. It says of Abram, "**And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.**"

This is an oft-quoted verse. It appears four times in the NT. In Romans 4:3, in Romans 4:22, in Galatians 3:6, and in James 2:23... This is the verse the Apostle Paul uses to prove that we **obtain** and **maintain** a right standing with God - *not because of what we do or don't do*, but because of our faith in Jesus Christ! Hey, all God's blessings are received by faith and faith alone!

As Mark Twain once said, "**Heaven goes by favor. If it went by merit, you would stay out, and your dog would go in.**" This is why God bestows His blessing on both the Jew *and you* - not because either has earned or deserved it, but because of His amazing grace.

And what happens next is one of the most interesting and monumental events in all the Scripture. Abraham believes God's promise - but his faith isn't perfect, so Abram asks for some corroboration. He wants God's signature! *And God signs all His covenants in blood...*

God responds to him in 15:9, "**Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.**" *What in the world is going on?* Is God starting a petting zoo? Verse 10, "**Then (Abram) brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two.**"

This is how people in antiquity signed their contracts. You've heard the expression "**cut a deal.**" They literally *cut a deal*. They would slaughter a series of animals.

Abram cut them in cross-sections from head to toe; then arranged the animal halves into a corridor. The more important the covenant, the more animals it required... *And you think a house closing is a hassle, just imagine entering into this type of an agreement!*

After the animals were sacrificed, the two parties of the covenant would meet in the middle, and walk arm-in-arm between the animal halves, as a commitment to their part in the transaction. Note the imagery, they walked between the same animal, thus becoming one.

Well, Abram got out his knife and went to work. And after slicing the sacrifices he sat down to wait on God.

Abram literally expected God to walk with him through the animal halves. He waited all day, deep into the evening... Abram exhausted himself shooing away the hungry vultures, waiting on God to appear.

That night he fell asleep and had a nightmare. *God revealed the future of His offspring - their 400 years of bondage - exodus from Egypt - how God will use them to judge the evil Amorites when they return to the land.*

Then what happens next astonishes me every time I read it, 15:17. **"And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces."** Again, ancient covenants were signed when both partners joined arms and walked through the animal carcasses. In essence saying, **"if I don't fulfill my end of the deal; then I'll be dead meat!"**

Abram was expecting God to appear, join arms with him, and the two of them walk the corridor of blood together. But that's not what happened. God appeared while Abram slept. He came in the form of *a burning torch and a smoking censor* - as **smoke and fire**. Later God will guide Israel through the wilderness with *a cloud by day and a fire by night - the smoke and fire*.

Here's what happened... God walked through the animal parts without Abram - **all by Himself**. Perhaps Abram woke up just in time to see God walking through the carcasses... **He woke up, looked on, and believed.**

And in doing it this way God established a unilateral covenant. It was totally one-sided. This was not *man's part and God's part*... **It was all God!** God took sole responsibility to complete His promises. All God expected from Abram was to rest and look on in faith.

And here's the lesson for us. Salvation is not a tag-team effort. It's not up to us to meet God half-way. The blessing of God is not received by Jesus doing half the work, and the recipient doing the other half.

In our covenant of salvation, **God does all the work!** He takes sole responsibility for earning the blessing. All we're required to do is **wake up, look on, and believe.**

And you would've hoped the signing of this covenant might've steadied Abram's wobbly faith, but not so. God uses Abram as an example of faith, but His example *isn't perfect faith* - there's no such thing.

In Genesis 16, Abram and Sarai wobble together. Sarai is at least 75 years old now and has for years been taking mega-doses of fertility medications - *but it just ain't happening*... So she concocts a plan.

Sarai has a maid named Hagar. *Maybe Hagar can bear a child in Sarai's place* - an attempt at surrogate motherhood. Abram goes along with Sarai's scheme.

Hagar enters Abram's tent a maid and comes out a mom. She has a boy. Finally, Father Abram has a few baby photos on his I-phone. His son is named *Ishmael*.

Yet the birth of Ishmael teaches Abram a painful lesson. Almost immediately Sarai's plan backfires. Abram learns firsthand the agonizing truth that **a sinful plan never produces godly results**. We're told in Genesis 16:4-5, "When (Sarai) saw that (Hagar) had conceived, her mistress became despised in her eyes. Then Sarai said to Abram, "My wrong be upon you!"

Ole contentious is now acting the part again. She blames Abram for her idea. The baby isn't even born when a war erupts. Hagar is haughty. Sarai is jealous. Poor Abram gets caught between two *feuding females*.

And this ancient sibling rivalry is still what victimizes the Middle East to this very day. Ishmael is the father of the Arabs. Isaac is the father of the Jews. And both their progenies are still at each other's throats.

The current hostilities between Jews and Arabs are the result of Abram's lack of faith. Remember, try to do *God's will your way* and you'll make a mess every time.

Yet on the heels of Abram's failure God prepares him for the miracle birth. The Abrahamic Covenant is so significant God attaches to it a symbol. In Genesis 17 God instructs Abram and his heirs to be circumcised.

Imagine a man 99 years old having a surgical procedure on his privy member. *That's rough stuff*.

But what this symbol stresses is that the Abrahamic Covenant was passed reproductively. The **land, nation, blessing** were intended for the heirs from Abram and Sarai's own body. It's poetic justice that God places the covenant symbol on the fountain of reproduction.

In Genesis 17 the two waiting parents receive new names. Abram is 99 years old, and freshly circumcised. *To me, that alone qualifies him as a man of faith!* And because of his faith God gives him a new name, "Abraham" or "father of many nations." The name anticipates a son. He goes from *father* to *Big-Daddy*.

And God also gives Sarai a name change. She goes from "*Sarai*" or "**contentious**" to "*Sarah*" or "**princess...**"

When God reaffirms His promise to give a 90 year old, Sarah, a son from her own body - Abraham, shows his great faith! He fell "**on his face and laughed.**" *All he could think of was I've been on Medicare for 45 years!*

Actually, when God mentions that the time has come, in 17:18 Abraham shouts, “**Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!**” He considers Hagar’s boy his son. But God’s reply has profound theological and political ramifications to this day. In verse 19 God corrects him, “**Then God said, “No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.”**” Here’s the underlying issue in today’s Jew-Arab squabble. The heir to the Abrahamic Covenant is Isaac, not Ishmael.

Mohammed was a shepherd-merchant who became disillusioned with life in the Arabian city of Mecca. One day he wandered into a cave in the mountains outside the city. And there had a series of heretical visions that denied the Christian God, and His Triune nature of Father, Son, and Spirit. Mohammed claimed the only way to please Allah was to surrender to him personally.

Mohammed was a upstart prophet who needed religious corroboration for his visions, so he claimed a connection to Abraham through his son, Ishmael.

In fact, *in the Koran, Mohammed does a rewrite*. In at least 16 passages the Bible refers to the God of the land and covenant as “**the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob...**” But the Koran, written 2000 years later, refers to Allah as “**the God of Abraham, Ishmael, and Isaac.**”

Mohammed exalted *Ishmael, father of the Arabs*, over *Isaac, father of the Jews*. The Koran falsely states that Ishmael was the son who had the miraculous birth.

According to Mohammed, Ishmael is later offered by Abraham on the mountain top. Also, it was Abraham and Ishmael who built the Moslem temple in Mecca.

The Koran steals the covenant from Isaac and bestows it on Ishmael. Mohammed claimed that Ishmael became the keeper of the “**true faith,**” and passed it down to him - while Isaac “**strayed,**” and his descendants, the Jews, lost God’s inheritance...

The Bible teaches that *the blessing* which comes through the Abrahamic Covenant *is Jesus*. While Islam blasphemously asserts that the blessing of Abraham points to Mohammed. **This denies the biblical truth.**

Read through Genesis, and the covenant God makes with **Abraham** in chapters 12, 13, 15, 17, and 22, gets repeated to Abraham’s son, **Isaac**, in chapter 26, and to his grandson, **Jacob**, in chapters 28 and 35.

Certainly, not everything the modern state of Israel does is righteous. And the Arabs aren’t always wrong.

In fact, God promised to bless and multiply both Jews and Arabs. But the Covenant God made with Abraham - the **land, nation, blessing** - belongs to the descendants of

Isaac, not of Ishmael. Abraham might have once laughed, but today it's no laughing matter!

And not only did Abraham laugh at God's promise, so *did Sarah!* In Genesis 18 heavenly messengers show up at their tent to reaffirm God's promise of a son. Sarah eavesdrops in on their conversation, and in verse 12 we're told "**Sarah laughed within herself...**"

That's when the Angel replies, "**Is anything too hard for the Lord?**" Of course, **there's not**. The proof comes in 21:2, "**Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him - whom Sarah bore to him - Isaac.**"

Did you hear about the cool video games Abraham had running on his laptop. Isaac was checking them out when a concerned look came over the boy's face.

"Dad, I don't think your computer has enough memory to run all these games." Abraham replied, "Son, God will provide the RAM!" Which brings us to the ultimate test of Abraham's faith - **Genesis 22**.

In verse 2 God tells Abraham, "**Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love...**" God doesn't recognize Ishmael as his son. To God Isaac alone was the promised heir. Abraham is to take Isaac, "**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.**" Imagine raising a knife with the intent of slitting the throat of your son. On top of that, Isaac was heir to God's promise. Abraham had waited 25 years for his birth, *now he's suppose to sacrifice him back to God?*

According to Hebrews 11:19, Abraham had thought this over, and concluded "**that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.**" Abraham believed that if he sacrificed Isaac, God would resurrect him!

This was a *test for Abraham, and a picture for us*: Father Abraham offered *His only son* on Mount Moriah. While 2000 years later, the Father God made the same journey to offer His only Son, Jesus, on the very same mountain. Moriah was one of the hills of Jerusalem.

In Abraham's day there was a settlement about halfway up the mountain - this means Abraham probably climbed above that settlement, to the top of the hill. This was the place later called "**Calvary**" or "**Golgotha.**" The exact spot where Jesus was crucified.

Notice a few details in this story... Abraham **took wood** for the sacrifice and laid it on Isaac. Jesus also carried wood, a cross... **Two men** travel with Abraham. There were also two thieves on the cross beside Jesus

On top of Moriah **God stopped Abraham from laying the knife** to Isaac's throat. *His willingness passed the test.* At that moment, a voice spoke. It pointed to a ram stuck in the thicket. God provided the sacrifice that day, just as He would 2000 years later when He offered His Son, Jesus, the sinless sacrifice that blots out our sin.

And the voice that spoke on top of Mount Moriah talked to Abraham again. In Genesis 22:18 He said, **"In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed."**

He reiterates the *"blessing"* promise of the covenant. And here's where it gets really interesting. In Galatians 3:16 Paul quotes this verse from Genesis 22:18 and makes a big deal of the word **"Seed."** Paul becomes emphatic - it reads **"Seed"** (*singular*) not **"Seeds"** (*plural*). The Apostle Paul uses this verse to prove the covenant God made with Abraham ultimately pointed to one **"Seed,"** Jesus - *not just "Seeds," the Jews.*

And this is why **the Abrahamic Covenant** is so vital to us personally. It not only outlines God's dealings with Israel, but clarifies the root of our salvation, Jesus!

So before you dismiss the Jewish claim to the land God promised them, *remember our salvation hinges on that same promise!* The land is tied to a people, the people are tied to a blessing, the blessing is tied to Jesus, and hopefully, prayerfully Jesus is tied to you!