

Reconciliation

The Children of Abraham

by

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Introduction

The promise and presence of the God of the Universe to a man named Abram began with a very simple directive and an equally simple response. This first contact with the human origin of some of the largest religious groups of today is recorded in the following verses from Scripture.

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee: 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.

So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

(Genesis 12:1-4)

There is a most powerful declaration in these words, "*and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed*". It doesn't mention that this man would have an impact on some sections of the world, but on all families. Please note, also, that the LORD did not put a timeframe on that declaration. It is just as active now as it was when it was first made.

Today we know even more about the impact of this man, and his offspring, on the entire earth. To fully understand this impact, let us take a closer look at the components of the covenant that was established by God with the man Abram.

The first part of the covenant is the establishment of Abram, now renamed Abraham, as the source of many nations with a large population base.

And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, 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.

(Genesis 17:1-6)

God continues His declaration of the covenant by establishing a relationship between the seed

of Abraham, throughout their generations, and Almighty God. There is no limit on this relationship between the seed of Abraham and God. Throughout all history there will always be this relationship between the seed of Abraham and God.

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.

(Genesis 17:7)

This relationship is later extended not just to the seed of Abraham but also to anyone who became a part of the nations of Abraham, even those who served and those who entered by displaying the character of Abraham. This is that character which is the foundation of the relationship between Abraham and God. The character trait which Abram displayed is known as *faith in God*.

But who is the God that set up a covenant with Abraham? The Scriptures give us a view of God as having the following attributes and characteristics and powers (this is the extremely short list).

One who possesses heaven and earth

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

(Genesis 14:18-19)

One who commands perfection

And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

(Genesis 17:1)

One who is Master over nature and the elements

Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven; And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.

(Genesis 19:24-25,29)

One who does not tolerate sin

And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.

(Genesis 20:6)

One who controls human birth

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.

(Genesis 20:17-18)

Abraham had the most marvelous human attribute of being reverent to God. He so respected the word of God that he was willing to give God both of his talent and of his substance; and he was even willing to give God his family and self. Abraham's reverence for God was total. When God asked for an action of Abraham he was instant in performing it. It is this Abraham and his many nations that we will explore in the discussion that follows.

But why do so?

There is a great need in the day that I am living for some form of reconciliation between the many nations that have been spawned from the man Abraham. There are many of them who have formed alliances, some weak and some strong. Others of them, however, have developed an intense hatred for others of the nations of Abraham. This is not consistent with the covenant given to the nations of Abraham.

Many people only relate to the land covenant given by God, which we haven't even mentioned up to this point. The first part of the covenant is the establishment of many nations. However, the second part of the covenant from God is for Him "to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee". This part has been lost in the dealings of nation to nation among the nations of Abraham. We will attempt, through the Spirit of God, to show the way back to true honor and reverence for God for all the nations of Abraham.

Reconciliation: this is our objective.

Reconciliation: this can only be accomplished by the nations yielding to the Spirit of God.

Reconciliation: this has to start with all the nations of Abraham respecting all the other nations of Abraham.

Reconciliation; let us begin to evaluate how this must be done. Let all nations of Abraham return to the covenant of God and let God be God. We will first, focus on the covenant with Abraham and the peace that it offers to all the nations of Abraham. Sprinkled throughout this discussion are some thoughts on the later covenants; none of which invalidated the relationship of God with Abraham. The relationship between God and Abraham is "an everlasting covenant".

Furthermore, we will explore some of the benefits that have been introduced to humanity as a result of the relationship of God with Abraham. These are the benefits that are available to all the children of Abraham. Though the benefits have come through a particular set of descendants of

Abraham, they carry the mark of God and are thus available to all. Please keep this in mind as you read of the various facets of the full plan of God for all mankind that started with Abraham.

Please consider your place in the plan of God revealed through Abraham, and as children of Abraham know that your responsibility is to God to use all that He has provided. You cannot afford to restrict yourself to just the subset that has historically marked your existence. All is available and all must be used in righteousness before God.

*The nations of Abraham
You know who you are,
For in God's crown
You each are a star.*

*A part of the covenant
Between God and a man
Who lived on this earth
In an ancient land.*

*Revering his God
He found great favor
That we in this day
Should rightly savor*

*And work toward the things
That guided his life;
The elimination of
Needless strife,*

*The quest to serve God
In all that we do
And to our families
Forever be true.*

*Abraham, serving before God
As the start of many nations
Who all should share
As their common relations;*

*With God Most High
The power binding them all
So that none of them
Into sin need ever fall;*

*Never caught in the trap of Satan
To establish a place supreme
By the destruction of any other
To fulfill one nations dream.*

*Nations before God,
Brother to brother,
Commanded by God*

To respect one another.

*For a brother or cousin
Or even just a friend
We must never plot
To cause their end.*