

## The Blessing of Abraham through the SEED

### Introduction

The blessing of Abraham is both a personal blessing for him and his natural offspring and those who exercise the SAME “faith as Abraham.” The latter is the spiritual offspring and would include both the circumcised and the uncircumcised. These are the “spiritual heirs” of the promise made to Abraham. That promise of blessing came through Jesus, Abraham’s Seed and natural heir.

### The Blessing of Abraham for the Jew

#### Galatians 3:13-18

13 Christ has redeemed us [*Israel*] from the curse of the law [*of Moses, Jewish Law, etc.*], having become a curse for us [*Israel*] (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),

14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

15 Brethren, I speak in the manner of men: Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is confirmed, no one annuls or adds to it.

16 Now to **Abraham and his Seed were the promises made**. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to your Seed,” who is Christ.

17 And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ, that it should make the promise of no effect.

18 For if the inheritance is of the law, it is no longer of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise

It may seem that Paul was parsing his words in this passage, but he was not. His attempt to the Galatian Gentiles was to show them that they were accepted into the “commonwealth of Israel” only by the graciousness and grace of God because they never were under the Mosaic Law.

The Blessing of Abraham, which was eventually offered to ALL nations, was made available to Israel FIRST by “covenant” in the Law of Moses. [*Deut 28ff*].

#### Romans 3:28-30

28 Therefore, we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

29 Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also,

30 since there is one God who will **justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith** (NKJV)

### The Blessing of Abraham for the Gentile

The Blessing of Abraham came to **both Jews and Gentiles** through the resurrection of the “incorruptible Seed” [*Jesus*], who was “the Seed” that produced the “new man.” “God extended “mercy” to those who were the Law because Jesus fulfilled the Old Covenant Law for Israel.

There are several essential things to consider in Galatians 3:13-18:

- Gentiles were “mystery recipients” of Abraham’s blessings. They became eligible after Christ fulfilled the Law of Moses for Israel. He removed the Law’s hostility so Gentiles would be included in the Promise of Abraham. As the Messiah of Israel, he redeems Israel from the Law’s curse. He also fulfills the Law of the Covenant, making Him the perfect sacrifice to remove all sin.
- He is the “Savior of the world [*Gentiles*].

“Christ redeemed us [*Israel*] from the curse of the law.”

This statement also means that a curse was never God's will for His people.

There were two conditions in Law:

- The BLESSING of the Law produced “life” (joy, peace, right standing or righteousness, abundance, protection, etc.) if a person lived by it. No one except Jesus could fulfill this agreement.
- The CURSE of the Law produced “death” (lack, sickness, exposure to the enemies of God) if Israel turned away from the Law.

Jesus was the perfect Lamb whose blood would redeem Israel from their covenant’s curse and extend grace from Abraham’s blessing to the Gentiles.

## The Blessing of Abraham through the SEED

- The blessing of Abraham, which is the “promise of the New Man”, now belong to Gentile believers in Christ just as it belongs to Jewish believers in Christ. When God created Adam, He blessed him. When God created the “new Adam,” which is Christ, He also blessed Him. Both could never be cursed. The first Adam was a “living soul,” the second Adam was a “life giving spirit” in the image of God-effect.
- The evidence of Baptism in the Holy Spirit shows proof of Abraham’s blessing. It is proof that a person has received Abraham’s blessing. It IS the “blessing of Abraham,” which, just like Abraham, leads ALL who are in Christ into righteousness, joy, peace, prosperity, health, deliverance, and safety. It is the same “promised blessing,” which is Jesus, the Seed of Abraham, who provides redemption for both Jew and Gentile.

The blessings of Abraham (the inheritance) are by promise (obtained through faith), not by the works of the law.

### A New Covenant for Israel, NOT for Gentiles!

**Jeremiah 31** states the New Covenant is with Judah and Israel. Israel is the Northern Ten Tribe, and Israel is the Southern Two Tribes. Because all covenants are conditional on the acceptance of both parties, Israel had to accept the New Covenant just as they did the Old Covenant. They rejected the covenant that Jesus mediated for them in His blood. God then, by His grace, turned to the Gentile because the covenant was placed into effect by Jesus accepting and mediating it.

**Jer 31:31-34** "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah-

32 "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them [*Israel*] by the hand to lead them [*Israel*] out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they [*Israel*] broke, though I was a husband to them [*Israel*], says the LORD.

33 "But this is the covenant that I will make with the **house of Israel** after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

34 "No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

In Hebrews (written to “Hebrews,” not Gentiles), Chapter 8, Paul expounds on Jeremiah 31. He teaches that Christ fulfilled the Old Testament Law and instituted the New (blood) Testament for Jews. He tells them that Jesus was a “perfect and perpetual” priest. Paul further explains that Jesus, through His sacrifice, can “perfect others” who accept Him as the Messiah, who was prophesied to “save them from their sins.”

**Matthew 1:21** “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people (*Israel*) from their sins.”

According to Jeremiah 31:31, God provided a New Covenant that would be a covenant of “mercy.” The reason given is that Israel (Jews) was incapable of keeping the Old Covenant, the Law. This New Covenant would require no further atonement other than that of Christ.

Because they rejected the New Covenant, He turned to “whosoever would call upon Him,” namely, the Gentile. His redemptive plan provided “grace to the Gentile” because of the completed work of Christ.

Jews are redeemed because God initiated a New Covenant of mercy. Gentiles, who are without a covenant, are redeemed by “grace through faith for their salvation.

**Romans 3:30** “since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith.

### **Ephesians 2:4-6**

4 “But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, (*Jews*)

5 even when we (*Jews*) were dead in trespasses, made us (*Jews & Gentiles*) alive together with Christ (by grace you (*Gentiles*) have been saved),

6 and raised us (*Jews & Gentiles*) up together, and made us sit together (*Jews & Gentiles*) in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,”

**Ephesians 2:8** “For by grace you (*Gentiles*) have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it

## The Blessing of Abraham through the SEED

is the gift of God,

**Galatians 3:26** “For you (*Gentiles*) are all sons of God **through faith** in Christ Jesus.”

The Law of Moses to Israel demands justice. Jesus fulfilled all the Law requirements for Israel to bring about God’s “just-ness.” Jesus, by God’s design of the cross, removed all sins by taking sin upon Himself. This act was one of mercy by God. Israel could not meet the demands of the Law.

The Gentile is not a party to any covenant. Again, by design, God extended “grace through faith” to the Gentile apart from the Law of Moses and the Covenant of Abraham (Circumcision). These are two separate means by which ALL become saved if they “call upon the name of the Lord.”

Paul explains this truth in his teachings, especially in the Letter to the Ephesians. Paul writes to the Ephesians, a Gentile (not Jewish) congregation, to explain how God brought both Jew and Gentile into one man – Jesus Christ. It is crucial to place scripture in context to know “who the audience is” to understand what Paul was saying. Many Gentile believers have taken Jeremiah 31:31-34 not only out of context but wrongly applied it to themselves and the church. The New Covenant was exclusively for Jewish Believers who would accept Christ. This truth has created much confusion and false teachings over the centuries.

*(Note that the italics emphasize to whom Paul refers in this letter to a Gentile congregation.)*

### **Eph 2:1-22**

1 And you [*gentile*] He made alive, who [*gentile*] were dead in trespasses and sins,  
2 in which you [*gentile*] once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, [*gentile*]  
3 among whom also we all [*gentile & Jew*] once conducted ourselves [*gentile & Jew*] in the lusts of our [*gentile & Jew*] flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath [*gentile*], just as the others [*unsaved gentiles*].

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, [*gentile & Jew*]

5 even when we [*gentile & Jew*] were dead in trespasses, made us alive together [*gentile & Jew*] with Christ (by grace you [*gentile*] have been saved),

6 and raised us [*gentile & Jew*] up together, and made us [*gentile & Jew*] sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us [*gentile & Jew*] in Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you [*gentile*] have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves [*gentile*]; it is the gift of God,

9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

10 For we [*gentile & Jew*] are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we [*gentile & Jew*] should walk in them.

11 Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh--who are called Uncircumcision [*gentile*] by what is called the Circumcision [*Jew*] made in the flesh by hands--

12 that at that time you [*gentile*] were without Christ, being aliens [*gentile*] from the commonwealth of Israel [*Jew*] and strangers [*gentile*] from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

13 But now in Christ Jesus you [*gentile*] who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

14 For He Himself is our [*gentile & Jew*] peace, who has made both [*gentile & Jew*] one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two [*gentile & Jew*], thus making peace,

16 and that He might reconcile them both [*gentile & Jew*] to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

17 And He came and preached peace to you [*gentile*] who were afar off and to those who were

## The Blessing of Abraham through the SEED

near [*Jew*].

18 For through Him we both [*gentile & Jew*] have access by one Spirit to the Father.

19 Now, therefore, you [*gentile*] are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, [*Israel*]

20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,

21 in whom the whole building [*gentile & Jew*], being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

22 in whom you [*gentile*] also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

## The Blessing of Abraham through the SEED

### Commentary:

1. Paul explains that the Gentiles who once walked after their fleshly desires. Before accepting Jesus, this lifestyle was due to the absence of a relationship with God.
2. Only the Jews had a relationship through the covenant of the Law of Moses. Their covenant required that they perform all the Law so that the Blessings of Abraham manifest in their lives. When they failed to meet the standard, they suffered a lack in all areas of their lives. Because they disobeyed the standards of the Law, they were sent into the bondage of the Gentile nations.
3. God did allow Israel mercy for their transgressions in the form of animal sacrifice. This type of sacrifice could never remove the sin in their lives. It only served as a covering to keep their relationship with God going. By not using this approach, they would eventually lose their knowledge of God.
4. What sin does is destroy a knowledge of God. God continued to work with and show mercy to the Jews when they broke the Law. One only needs mercy when there is a law in place.
5. Breaking a law requires either judgment or mercy for a lawbreaker. The Gentiles were never “law observers” or “lawbreaker” because they had no covenant with God. Only Israel had the Law. The Gentiles had “no hope” of ever being part of God’s household.
6. The Law served as a “stopgap” until Jesus would come to “redeem” Israel and “save” the Gentiles.