

THE SEED OF ABRAHAM

Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law [Israel], but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham [New Creation]; who is the father of us all [both Israel and New Creation].—Romans 4:16

ABRAHAMIC PROMISE

- Heb 6:17 Wherein God, . . . to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed¹ [mediated] *it* by an oath:
- Gen 22:17,18 17 That in blessing I [God] will bless thee [Abraham], and in multiplying² I will multiply² [make preminent] thy seed as³ [like] the stars of the heaven [heavenly seed], and as³ [like] the sand which is upon the sea shore [earthly seed]; and thy seed [both the heavenly and the earthly] shall possess the gate⁴ of his enemies; 18 And *in*⁵ [through] thy seed shall all the nations⁶ [peoples] of the earth [all of fallen humanity] be blessed; . . .
- Gal 3:8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen⁷ [peoples] through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In⁸ thee shall all nations⁷ [peoples] be blessed.⁹
- 1 Pet 1:9 Receiving the end¹⁰ [or, goal] of your¹¹ [the] faith, even the¹¹ salvation of your¹¹ souls.
- Heb 3:1 . . . holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling . . . ;
- Phil 3:14 . . . the mark for the prize of the high calling of God . . .
- 2 Pet 1:4 . . . given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: . . .
- Matt 6:10 . . . Thy will be done in earth, as *it* is in heaven.

THE HEAVENLY SEED

- Heb 10:20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us . . .

¹ *mesiteuo*, #3315—to mediate. ⁵ *be*, Hebrew prefix—by, through, by means of.
² *rabah*, #7235—to increase in number, greatness, power. ⁶ *goy*, #1471 (plural)—nations, peoples.
³ *ke*, Hebrew prefix—like (expresses resemblance in respect of some attribute, action, character, appearance, etc). ⁷ *ebnos*, #1484 (plural)—nations, peoples.
⁴ In ancient communities the “gate” was the venue for conducting civic affairs and resolving societal problems (Ruth 4:1-12; Dan 2:49; Amos 5:15). ⁸ *en*, #1722—in.
⁹ The Greek verb is passive. ¹⁰ *telos*, #5056—outcome, end (result), purpose, goal.
¹¹ Not supported by the Greek texts. ¹² The Greek has the definite article.

- Deut 29:1 These *are* the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab . . .
- Deut 29:4 Yet the LORD hath not given you [Israelites] an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day.
- John 6:60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard *this*, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?
- Acts 15:14 Simeon [Peter] hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.
- 2 Cor 6:14-17 14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? . . . ? 15 . . . 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,
- 2 Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ¹³ [Anointed], *he* is a new creature: old things [in Adam] are passed away; behold, all things [in Jesus] are become new.
- 1 Cor 15:47-49 47 The first man [father Adam] *is* of the earth, earthy: the second man [glorified Jesus] *is* the Lord from heaven. 48 As *is* the earthy, such *are* they also that are earthy: and as *is* the heavenly, such *are* they also that are heavenly. 49 And as we [as sons of Adam] have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also [as a New Creation] bear the image of the heavenly.
- Rom 6:3,4 3 Know ye not, that so many of us were baptized into [anointed]¹⁴ Jesus Christ¹³ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ¹³ [Anointed] was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- Matt 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.
- John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father . . . draw him: . . .
- Phil 3:14 . . . the prize of the high calling of God . . .
- Heb 3:1 . . . partakers of the heavenly calling . . . ;

¹³ *christos*, #5547 anointed, anointing, “Christ” is not a translation but a transliteration. Its use as a name, or title, is particularly misleading. “Jesus Christ,” or “Christ Jesus,” obscures the true relationship between the heavenly Father and his anointed Son, especially for those not familiar with the meaning of *christos*. On the other hand, *christos* translated and used as a descriptor, “Jesus anointed” or “anointed Jesus,” makes evident the Son’s subordinate station to the Father. The Son, anointed by the Father to serve him and his divine purpose, makes manifest the Son is not coequal with the Father (Acts 10:38).
¹⁴ Many Greek texts have “anointed” first.

- Heb 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.
- Heb 4:11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief [Israel’s failure to enter the land].
- 2 Cor 6:17 . . . be ye separate, saith the Lord . . . ; and I will receive you,
- 1 Pet 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ¹³ [anointed], which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively¹⁵ [living] hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ¹³ [anointed] from the dead,
- 1 John 3:1,2 1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: . . . 2 Beloved, now [as a New Creation]¹⁶ are we the sons of God . . . we shall be like him [God]; for we shall see him as he is.
- Gal 3:7-29 7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. 8 . . . 16 Now to Abraham and his seed [of faith] were the promises made [the repeated promise that all “peoples of the earth” are to be blessed]¹⁷ . . . 17 . . . 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ¹³ [Anointed] have put on Christ¹³ [Anointed]. 28 . . . 29 And if ye be Christ¹³ [of Anointed], then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise¹⁷ [heirs of the promise that all “peoples of the earth” are to be blessed].
- Rev 2:10 . . . be thou [Church (New Creation)]¹⁶ faithful unto death, and I [God] will give thee a crown of life.

A HEAVENLY PRIESTHOOD

- Isa 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.
- 1 Pet 2:5-9 5 Ye also, as lively¹⁵ [living] stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ¹³ [Anointed]. 6 . . . 9 . . . ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye [as “stars”]¹⁹ should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:²⁰

¹⁵ *zao*, #2198—to live (present participle). ¹⁸ *christos*, #5547 (genitive). See note 13.
¹⁶ 2 Cor 5:17; Gal 6:15. ¹⁹ Gen 22:17.
¹⁷ Gen 12:3; 18:18; 22:18; 26:4; 28:14. ²⁰ Isa 29:18; 42:7.

- Isa 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee . . .

THE NATURAL SEED

- Gen 26:4 And I [God] will make thy [Isaac’s] seed to multiply² [to be preminent] as³ [like] the stars of heaven [heavenly seed], and will give unto thy [earthly] seed all these countries²¹ [lands] [erets, lands given Israel]²²; and *in*²³ [by] thy seed [both heavenly and earthly] shall all the nations⁶ [peoples] of the earth be blessed;
- Gen 15:7-18 7 . . . I *am* the LORD that brought thee [Abraham] out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land²¹ [erets] to inherit it. 8 . . . 18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land²¹ [erets] . . .
- Gen 17:8 And I [God] will give unto thee [Abraham], and to thy seed after thee, the land²¹ [erets] wherein thou art a stranger, all the land²¹ [erets] of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; . . .
- Gen 28:13,14 13 . . . I *am* the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land²¹ [erets] whereon thou liest, to thee [Jacob] will I give it, and to thy seed [land is their heritage]; 14 And thy seed [the twelve tribes of Israel] shall be as³ [like] the dust²⁴ of the earth [an earthly seed], and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south [they will cover the Earth]: and *in*⁵ [through] thee and *in*⁵ [through] thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

THREEFOLD PROMISE

PERSONAL, NATIONAL, UNIVERSAL

PERSONAL²⁵

- Gen 12:2 And I [God] will make of thee [Abraham] a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing;
- Rom 4:18-20 18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he [Abraham] might become the father of many nations . . . 19 . . . considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara’s womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

²¹ *erets*, #776—earth, ground. ²³ *ke*, Hebrew prefix—to, at, in, in reference to, of, by, etc. ²⁵ Gen 15:4; 17:19; Heb 11:11; Eph 3:5,6; 1 Pet 1:12.
²² Gen 15:18-21; Psa 105:44. ²⁴ *aphar*, #6083—dust.

NATIONAL²⁶

Gen 17:7,8 7 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.
8 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.

UNIVERSAL²⁷

Gen 27:29 Let people serve thee [Jacob], and nations bow down to thee: be lord over thy brethren, and let thy mother's sons bow down to thee: cursed *be* every one that curseth thee, and blessed *be* he that blesseth thee.

Deut 7:6-8 6 For thou *art* a holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, **above** all people that *are* upon the face of the earth [they are to be preeminent and possess the world's gate].
7 The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:
8 But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen ...²⁸

AN EARTHLY PRIESTHOOD

Ex 19:5,6 5 Now therefore, if²⁹ [when] ye [seed of Jacob] will obey unto my [God's] voice ... ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me **above** all people [they are to be preeminent]: for all the earth *is* mine:
6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests and an holy³⁰ nation. ...

Deut 7:12 *margin* Wherefore ... if [because] ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers:³¹

²⁶ Jer 31:31.²⁷ Gen 22:17,18; 26:4; Num 24:9.²⁸ Isa 14:27; Eph 3:10,11. (Gen 1:26; Matt 25:34; Acts 15:18; Eph 1:4; 3:9; 1 Pet 1:20; Rev 13:8).²⁹ *im*, #518—if, when.³⁰ *qadoush*, #6918—holy, sacred, set apart for sacred service.³¹ Deut 9:5,6. Election of Israel (Deut 7:6; 14:2; 45:4; 65:9,22; Matt 24:31,32). Anointing of Israel (1 Sam 2:35; Psa 28:8,9; Isa 10:27; Lam 4:20; Heb 11:24-26).

1 Kings 18:21 And Elijah ... said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. ...

Gal 3:6-16 6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7 Know ye therefore that they which are **of faith**, the same are the children of Abraham [heavenly or earthly, the children of Abraham are "of faith"].

8 ... 16 Now to Abraham and his seed [of faith] were the promises made [one promise conveyed repeatedly]. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed [of faith], which is **Christ**¹³ [anointed].

DUST OF EARTH/SAND OF SEA

Gen 22:17 ... I will **multiply**² [make preeminent] thy seed **as**³ [like] the stars of the heaven, and **as**³ [like] the sand which is upon the sea shore; ...

Gen 28:14 And thy seed shall be **as**³ [like] the dust²⁴ of the earth²¹ ...

EARTH

Ecl 12:7 Then shall the dust²⁴ return to the earth²¹ as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

DUST³⁶

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust²⁴ of the ground,³⁷ and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

1 Cor 15:47 The first man [Adam] *is* of the earth, earthy: ...

Job 34:15 All flesh shall perish together, and man shall turn again unto dust.²⁴

Psa 103:14 ... [God] knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.²⁴

Job 19:25 For I [Job] know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall **stand**³⁸ [rise] at the latter day upon the **earth**²⁴ [dust] [earthly creation]:

Job 31:14 What then shall I [Job] do when God riseth up [just as the sun rises on the land]? and when he visiteth, what shall I answer him?

Prov 8:26 While as yet he [God] had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust²⁴ of the world [the highest, or chief, part of the "dust" is the human race].

³⁶ "Dust of earth" and "sand of sea" are also used to indicate a large number (Gen 13:16; 41:49; Jos 11:4; Judg 7:12; 1 Sam 13:5; et al).³⁷ *adamah*, #127—earth, ground, land.³⁸ *qum*, #6965—rise, arise, stand.

Ezk 36:27,28 27 And I [God] will put my spirit³² within you [Israel (vss. 12,22)], and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

28 And ye shall dwell in the land²¹ [erets] that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Ezk 36:24 For I [God] will take you [Israelites (vs. 22)]³⁴ from among the **heathen**⁶ [peoples],³⁵ and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land²¹ [erets].

Isa 61:6 But ye [Israelites (vss. 7,8)] shall be named the Priests of the LORD: *men* shall call you the Ministers of our God: ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles,⁶ and in their glory [in the glory of a restored human creation] shall ye boast yourselves.

Isa 66:21 And I will also take of them [children of Israel (vs. 20)] for priests and for Levites, saith the LORD.

Isa 26:9 With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy [God's] judgments are in the **earth**²¹ [land] [refers to Israel], the inhabitants of the world [human creation] will learn righteousness.

Rom 3:30 Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision [Jews] **by**³⁴ [out of] faith, and uncircumcision [non-Jews] through³⁵ [the]¹² faith [of the "circumcision" (Jews)].

NOT ALL OF ISRAEL ARE ISRAEL

Rom 2:28,29 28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; ... :

29 But he *is* a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision *is that* of the heart, in the spirit, *and* not in the letter; whose praise *is* not of men, but of God.

Rom 9:6 Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they *are* not all Israel, which are [out] of³⁴ Israel:

Heb 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him* [God]; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Jos 24:15 ... choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood [the Nile], or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

³² The spirit of love (Rom 5:5).³⁴ *ek*, #1537—out of.³⁵ Deut 28:63,64.³⁵ *dia*, #1223—through, by means of.

SEA

Isa 57:20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

SAND³⁶

Jer 5:22 Fear ye not me? saith the LORD: will ye not tremble at my presence which have placed the sand *for* the bound³⁹ of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it: and though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it?

Rom 3:1,2 1 What advantage then hath the Jew? ...

2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.

Deut 32:8 When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds⁴⁰ of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

Dust of the Earth → ISRAEL'S HUMANITY
Sand of the Sea → ISRAEL'S EARTHLY MINISTRY

GOD'S DUAL PRIESTHOOD

Rom 9:10-12 10 ... when Rebecca also had conceived ... ;

11 ... 12 It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger.

GOD'S DUAL PRIESTHOOD REVEALED IN BIBLICAL FIGURES

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| > Elder and younger sons (Cain & Abel, Ishmael & Isaac, Esau & Jacob, Manasseh & Ephraim); | > Moon and Sun; > Fig Tree and Vine; > Two wives of Abraham; |
| > Holy and Most Holy of the Tabernacle; | > Two goats of Atonement Day sin offering; |
| > Earth and Heavens; | > Two olive trees of Zechariah 4. |

Rom 6:3,4 3 ... [the New Creation] were baptized into [anointed]¹⁴ Jesus **Christ**¹³ ... ? 4 ...

1 Cor 10:1,2 1 ... 2 And were all [of Israel] baptized unto Moses ... ;

Zech 8:23 ... ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the **nations**⁶ [peoples], even shall take hold of the [hem of the]⁴¹ skirt of **him that is** [a man],⁴¹ a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard *that* God *is* with you.

³⁹ *gebuul*, #1366—border, boundary.⁴¹ So reads the Hebrew text. See YLT, NIV.⁴⁰ *gebuulab*, #1367—border, boundary.