

Genesis 17-18

Genesis 17:1-2 KJV

[1] 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.**

[2] And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

Genesis 17:3-6 KJV

[3] **And Abram fell on his face**¹: and God talked with him, saying,

[4] As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

[5] 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.**²

[6] And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

Genesis 17:7-8 KJV

[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.

Genesis 17:9-10 KJV

[9] And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

[10] This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; **Every man child among you shall be circumcised.**³

¹ It's important to recognize the posture of Abram. He is bowing in the presence of the Almighty God.

² God renames Abram to Abraham which is the right of the one who has the power.

³ God establishes his covenant with Abraham and the people. God requires a sacrifice to be in his favor.

Genesis 17:11-13 KJV

[11] And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

[12] And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.

[13] He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

Genesis 17:14-15 KJV

[14] **And the uncircumcised** man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he **hath broken my covenant.**

[15] And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but **Sarah shall her name be.**⁴

Genesis 17:16-17 KJV

[16] **And I will bless her,** and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

[17] Then **Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed,** and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

Genesis 17:18 KJV

[18] And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!⁵

Genesis 17:19 KJV

[19] And God said, **Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed;** and thou

⁴ God renames Sarai. Once again establishing his authority. The following verse is the only verse where a woman is blessed by God in the Old Testament.

⁵ Abraham tries to make a case for Ishmael to be the son of the promise, but Ishmael was the son of flesh, and not of the faith, so God ignores his request and reiterates that the son shall come from Sarah.

shalt call his name Isaac:⁶ and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

Genesis 17:20-22 KJV

[20] And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.⁷

[21] **But my covenant will I establish with Isaac,** which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

[22] And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

Genesis 17:23 KJV

[23] And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; **and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.**

Genesis 17:24-27 KJV

[24] And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

[25] And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

[26] In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

[27] And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.⁸

Genesis 18:1-5 KJV

[1] And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: **and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;**

[2] And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, **and**

⁶ Then name Isaac means "He Laughs" which is appropriate because Abraham laughed, as did Sarah when God promised in their old age they would bear fruit.

⁷ God promises to bless Ishmael also. Even though Ishmael is the seed of the flesh, because he is Abraham's son, God still blesses him mightily.

⁸ All had to be circumcised. No exceptions.

bowed himself toward the ground,

[3] And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

[4] Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

[5] And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.⁹

Genesis 18:8-10 KJV

[8] And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.¹⁰

[9] And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.¹¹

[10] And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

Genesis 18:11-13 KJV

[11] Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

[12] Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?¹²

[13] And the Lord said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

Genesis 18:14-15 KJV

[14] **Is any thing too hard for the Lord ?**¹³ At the time appointed I will

⁹ Abraham entreats the visitors well. He is humble, he feeds them, washes their feet, and listens to his instruction. One of the visitors is the Lord.

¹⁰ The combination of dairy and meat is not kosher. This is a combination that is forbidden in the Hebrew faith even until today.

¹¹ It's 13 years after Abraham has left Hebron he still has not built a house.

¹² Sarah laughs as Abraham did when God promises a son from her womb.

¹³ Someone recently preached about this... I wonder who?

return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.
[15] Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

Genesis 18:16-19 KJV

[16] And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

[17] And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;¹⁴

[18] Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

[19] For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Genesis 18:20-22 KJV

[20] And the Lord said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

[21] I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

[22] And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the Lord.¹⁵

Genesis 18:23 KJV

[23] And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?¹⁶

Genesis 18:26,28,30-33 KJV

[26] And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

[28] Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

¹⁴ This verse of scripture confirms the thought that God treated Abraham as a man treats his friend. Because Lot was in the city, He did not want Abraham to find out about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah second hand.

¹⁵ The angels leave, but the Lord remains.

¹⁶ This is a negotiation between God and Abraham for the innocent souls of Sodom.

[30] And he said unto him , Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

[31] And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

[32] And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, **I will not destroy it for ten's sake.**¹⁷

[33] And the Lord went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.



IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?

GEN 18:14 KJV

- Remember the earlier days when, **AFTER YOU HAD BEEN ENLIGHTENED, YOU ENDURED A HARD STRUGGLE WITH SUFFERINGS.** HEB 10:32 HCSB
- Who shall separate us from the **LOVE OF CHRIST?** Shall **TRIBULATION, or DISTRESS, or PERSECUTION, or FAMINE, or NAKEDNESS, or PERIL, or SWORD?** ROM 8:35 KJV
- **No, IN ALL THESE THINGS, WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS** through Him who loved us. ROM 8:37 HNV
- **...The SUFFERINGS OF THIS PRESENT TIME are not worthy to be compared with the GLORY which will be revealed to US.** ROM 8:18 HNV



¹⁷ The Lord actually saved three, it would have been four, but something happened to prevent one from surviving. Do you know what it was?

Questions from Genesis Chapters 14-16

1. Who was kidnapped during the war of the kings?
2. How many men did Abram have to go after Lot with?
3. Who was the king of Salem?
4. What did Melchizedek give Abram?
5. What did Abram give Melchizedek?
6. What did the king of Sodom offer to Abram?
7. What was Abram's response and why?
8. What did God tell Abram after Abram's dismissal of the king of Sodom?
9. What did Sarai suggest to Abram?
10. Who did Sarai chase away from Abram?
11. What was Abram's first son's name?
12. What nationality are the descendants of Ishmael?