

***“The Day of the Lord — The Promises of God to Abraham
Require Both The Land and the Millennial Kingdom”***

Review: Christ As Messiah Will Be the Clear Focus of the Kingdom

- **The Preparation for the Second Coming Requires the Creation of an Elect Nation**
- **The Life of the Kingdom Is Revealed by the Prophets for the Saved Jews and Willing Gentiles**
- ***The Preparation for the Second Coming Requires the Creation of an Elect Nation***
 - And one can rightfully ask, how shall this all be accomplished, the creation of an elect nation, seeing that nothing like this has ever been seen before on this sin-cursed earth?

The prophet Zechariah reveals the answer to this question: It will all be accomplished through Israel's long-promised Messiah, our risen Lord Jesus:

Zechariah 9:9-12

9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

10 And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

11 As for thee also, by the blood of thy covenant I have sent forth thy prisoners out of the pit wherein is no water.

12 Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee;

Zechariah 12:9-10

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only *son*, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

Zechariah 13:1, 6-9

1 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.

...

6 And *one* shall say unto him [*the promised Prophet above all prophets*], What *are* these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, *Those* with which I was wounded *in* the house of my friends.

7 Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man *that is* my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

8 And it shall come to pass, *that* in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off *and* die; but the third shall be left therein.

9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, *It is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

- So many will come to faith in Messiah Jesus as the Great Tribulation comes to a close with Christ's return to this earth. And then the Kingdom begins with its theme necessarily as the worship of and work of the Lord. The focus of the Kingdom will be on the King, of course, and his presence and work. All will be focused upon him:

- ***The Life of the Kingdom Is Revealed by the Prophets for the Saved Jews and Willing Gentiles***

- Let me start by presenting a fundamental principle regarding both the establishing of a kingdom and the life of the kingdom's citizens: An earthly King demands an earthly Kingdom, and that requires the giving of a Law. The nature of Law demands obedience, and failure to keep that Law, inevitable due to the nature of man, then requires a Priesthood. We shall see this principle reflected in our scriptures today. And, as we have already seen in many Old Testament prophecies, the Law of the promised Kingdom also requires a sacrificial system to allow ceremonial cleansing for those who have failed to keep that Law with perfect obedience.

As we saw before, scripture reveals the Lord of Glory as that one prophet, priest, and king. As the central focus of the work of God in the Kingdom, that provides the context for the life of believers in that coming kingdom.

- In our last fellowship here in God's word of truth, we looked at one of the most important promises in the entire Old Testament, the one which sets the stage for all the rest:

Deuteronomy 18:18-19

18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

19 And it shall come to pass, [that] whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require [it] of him.

- Here the Lord promised the Twelve Tribes through Moses a prophet who has the actual words of God in his mouth. This one promised would not be one who was given over to wine, strong drink, or idolatry as so many of the earlier priesthood would be. This promised one would be the one that they could obey with total confidence that they were obeying the very Word of God, as Moses himself had required of them.
- But there would still be the issue of their obedience. But it was also prophesied that there would be a New Covenant made with the elect nation that would be entirely different in many ways to the one Moses was administering. Jeremiah, chapter 31, reviews this so powerfully:

Jer. 31:33 But this [shall be] the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

- But a perfect obedience is never possible for sinful man, even with these special enablements. The prophet Zechariah in 6:12-13 also writes of this coming one that God would send, who would combine these three offices in one: Prophet / King, and Priest — all in one person! One Priest above all priests, and his priesthood will therefore determine the whole character of the coming Kingdom:

Zechariah 6:12-13

12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name *is* The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:

13 Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

- Indeed, the Throne of David shall be reestablished. David, resurrected, will reign along with the Lord Jesus from a throne in Jerusalem, with the resurrected Twelve Apostles as well. After judgment, peace will reign for many generations, and the character of the 1000 years will be peaceful indeed, since open sin will be judged and immediately removed (see the flying scroll of Zechariah). The final rebellion, when satan and his minions

are released from the bottomless pit and wreak havoc on this earth, will be finally put down, and God's enemies will have been destroyed forever.

- So, as we have now seen, the fundamentals of life in the coming Kingdom is revealed to be different in nearly every way from what prevails today during the Dispensation of the Grace of God. Those features have never been seen in any government on this earth, and they are certainly not seen today as we live under the fullness of God's grace through Jesus Christ.
- But one thing is crystal clear: the coming Kingdom will bring the fulfillment of many of the prophecies of the Bible that were still unfulfilled, whether Old Testament or New. And the several covenants of the Bible, whether the Abrahamic, Palestinian, Davidic, or the New Covenant will finally be brought to pass for God's elect nation Israel. After a coming time of "Jacob's Trouble", the Lord's creation of an elect nation will be completed at the Second Coming of Christ to this earth. Importantly, for us who attempt always to "rightly divide the Word of Truth", the several covenants promised to Abraham and to his Seed (and seed, plural as well) must be fulfilled literally, or the entire redemptive plan of God also falls into dust and will be rendered meaningless and without foundation.
- But what a contrast indeed with what the Lord God is doing today, under grace. In the 1000-year Kingdom, all life will be focused on the King, our Lord Jesus, in his manifold ministries as the long-awaited Prophet, Priest, and King.
 - And a sacrificial system will be established in the coming Kingdom. There will be no lack of priests either, due to their uncleanness and rebellion:

Jeremiah 33:14-18

14 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.

15 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.

16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this *is the name* wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.

17 For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

18 Neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.

- And that covenant can never be broken! See also Ezekiel 40-48 for the details. For example:

Ezekiel 43:18-27

18 And he said unto me, Son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; These *are* the ordinances of the altar in the day when they shall make it, to offer burnt offerings thereon, and to sprinkle blood thereon.

19 And thou shalt give to the priests the Levites that be of the seed of Zadok, which approach unto me, to minister unto me, saith the Lord GOD, a young bullock for a sin offering.

20 And thou shalt take of the blood thereof, and put *it* on the four horns of it, and on the four corners of the settle, and upon the border round about: thus shalt thou cleanse and purge it.

21 Thou shalt take the bullock also of the sin offering, and he shall burn it in the appointed place of the house, without the sanctuary.

22 And on the second day thou shalt offer a kid of the goats without blemish for a sin offering; and they shall cleanse the altar, as they did cleanse *it* with the bullock.

23 When thou hast made an end of cleansing *it*, thou shalt offer a young bullock without blemish, and a ram out of the flock without blemish.

24 And thou shalt offer them before the LORD, and the priests shall cast salt upon them, and they shall offer them up *for* a burnt offering unto the LORD.

25 Seven days shalt thou prepare every day a goat *for* a sin offering: they shall also prepare a young bullock, and a ram out of the flock, without blemish.

26 Seven days shall they purge the altar and purify it; and they shall consecrate themselves.

27 And when these days are expired, it shall be, *that* upon the eighth day, and so forward, the priests shall make your burnt offerings upon the altar, and your peace offerings; and I will accept you, saith the Lord GOD.

- So it is clear: Proper worship of the King will require obedience to his law, the Law of the Kingdom. The annual feasts will be required of all by law, the sacrificial system administered by the new priesthood, open sin will be judged whenever needed, and worship of our Lord as King will be required of all.

Deuteronomy 18:18-19

18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

19 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require *it* of him.

- What could be more evident to the student of God's word? The Lord's administration today of his abundant grace is so very different, and those differences are of critical importance. Just as obedience to the Law of Moses was required, and obedience to the Kingdom Law will be required for the living of one's life to the fullest during the Kingdom, today, under grace, we are exhorted to receive the abundance of grace by faith in his completed word. We have no sacrifices to offer beyond our thanksgiving and praise. Amen.

That there will be a continuing sacrificial system in the Kingdom and a priesthood to administer it may seem like a conundrum to us today. But clearly they will be looking back to Christ and his shed blood for their sakes, and not forward as in times past. This will be much like our Lord's Supper in that respect. But with a great difference, since there will be animal sacrifice again in the Kingdom, as we can see in the words of the great prophet Ezekiel:

Ezekiel 43:18 And he said unto me, Son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD; These *are* the ordinances of the altar in the day when they shall make it, to offer burnt offerings thereon, and to sprinkle blood thereon.

- What a blessing his abundant grace is to us today, operating so powerfully in each of us. Amen.

Our Outline Today: The Promises of God to Abraham Require Both The Land and the 1000-Year Millennial Kingdom

- ***The Land Promises Concerning the Seed of Abraham***
- ***The Land Promises Concerning the Twelve Tribes in the Land of Promise***
- ***The Land Promises Concerning the Davidic Kingdom***

I. The Land Promises Concerning the Seed of Abraham:

- The Day of the Lord, the coming Kingdom, perhaps streets paved with gold, buildings made of precious stones, etc. Is this our topic for today? Well, not really.

Yes, the Lord God will establish his Kingdom, and many things will change on this earth when he does. And when we turn our hearts and minds away from the Word of God, Rightly Divided, we may begin to think of God's work today on this earth in even, sadly, political terms, as so many do. For if the Lord God is not fulfilling his promises, then we, through the mighty hand of government, should bring on earth the peace that has always escaped us.

We do live in a time when politics seems to rule the minds of many, so that their reasoning ability seems destroyed. Perhaps that has always been so. But large numbers, even in our own nation, think that "zionism"

is the greatest of evils, and as a result they have come very close to or have entered into antisemitism, hating the Jews and seeking their harm here in our land and around the world, especially in the Middle East. This is because the Jews and Israel in the Middle East seem to stand in the way of having that long-desired “kingdom” on this earth that would make so many things so much better. But scripture shows us that our Lord God is the most ardent supporter of “zionism” in its proper, scriptural understanding.

For the promises to Abraham and to his descendants require both the land and the establishing of the Millennial Kingdom in that land, both of which place the Jews and an elect nation in the last days as dominant over the entire world.

- The Land Promises that provide the background of a great many of the promises God made to his people are revealed in scripture beginning in Genesis 12, where we see the land promise concerning the seed of Abraham:

[READ] Genesis 12:7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him. *[This establishes the foundation of the land promises -- "this land" that you see even though it "belonged" always to other dwellers, among whom these lived as aliens and strangers.]*

- Now, as we continue, we shall see how the Lord God amplified this promise to him and then to his seed often:

Genesis 13:14-17 *[Now, from a high place -- promise of land ownership for him and his seed forever, and a great multitude would be included!]*

14 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, [then] shall thy seed also be numbered.

17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

[READ] Genesis 15:18-21 *[The detailed dimensions of the future land grant are given here, a vast area indeed.]*

18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,
20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,
21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

[READ] Genesis 17:1-8 *[The multiplication of his seed is emphasized, even to the extent of "many nations"! But for some there will also be a personal relationship implying a spiritual one. Amen.]*

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.

3 And Abram fell on his face: 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.

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

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 21:12 And God said unto Abraham, Let it not be grievous in thy sight because of the lad, and because of thy bondwoman; in all that Sarah hath said unto thee, hearken unto her voice; for in Isaac shall thy seed be called. *[Now the number included in the promise is limited to Isaac's seed - Paul makes much of this later by bringing in the expression "children of [the] promise," and that involves personal faith.]*

Genesis 22:15-18 *[All the nations of the world would in some sense also be blessed through Abraham's Seed, AND his Seed would be victorious over their enemies! This is so clearly "millennial" in scope. There is also here the promise of both an earthly seed and a heavenly seed.]*

15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,

16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only [son]:

17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which [is] upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Genesis 28:10-15 *[The further limiting to Jacob AND to his descendants.]*

10 And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran.

11 And he lighted upon a certain place, and tarried there all night, because the sun was set; and he took of the stones of that place, and put [them for] his pillows, and lay down in that place to sleep.

12 And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

13 And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I [am] the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed:

14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

15 And, behold, I [am] with thee, and will keep thee in all [places] whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done [that] which I have spoken to thee of.

- "... the basic promises embodied in the Abrahamic covenant [which] can now be summarized as follows:
 - (1) Abraham's name shall be great.
 - (2) Abraham shall personally have great blessing.
 - (3) Whoever will bless Abraham will be blessed, and whoever will curse Abraham will be cursed.
 - (4) From Abraham will come a great nation, innumerable as the dust of the earth.
 - (5) Abraham will be the father of many nations, not just one.
 - (6) Kings shall come from the line of Abraham.
 - (7) Abraham's seed shall inherit the land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates River as an everlasting possession.
 - (8) God will be the God of Abraham and his seed forever.
 - (9) Abraham's seed shall conquer their enemies.
 - (10) In Abraham's seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.
 - (11) The covenant with Abraham shall be an everlasting covenant.
 - (12) The promises to Abraham's seed are narrowed to the descendants of Isaac.
 - (13) The promises to Abraham's seed are narrowed to descendants of Jacob, especially as pertaining to the land and the promise of blessing to all nations." - John Walvoord

- NOW, THE BIG QUESTION: Is the fulfillment of the land promises required for these promises to be fulfilled? YES! How can this be doubted in the face of such overwhelming scriptural evidence?
- Have the land promises been fulfilled historically or in our current time? The answer is clearly “NO”! Not ever have these detailed promises been fulfilled.

The present Israel is but a microcosm in comparison to what scripture reveals to us. But God is faithful. These promises are unconditional! Amen.

II. The Land Promises Concerning the Twelve Tribes in Palestine Through Moses:

- **Now we will consider what has been called the “Palestinian Covenant”. This was given through Moses about 5 centuries later than the initial promises to Abraham as recorded in Genesis 12:**

[READ] Deuteronomy 28:1-4

1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe [and] to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

3 Blessed [shalt] thou [be] in the city, and blessed [shalt] thou [be] in the field.

4 Blessed [shall be] the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

- This covenant and these promises are about the promised land and the blessings that would come to the Jews in Palestine IF they would be obedient to the terms of the Mosaic Law. As Paul teaches in Galatians, this was like the Mosaic Law added to the unconditional promises given earlier and could not replace them, for they were unconditional. The terms of this covenant were regarding blessing in the Promised Land. They will be fulfilled when the Kingdom is established at the Second Coming, and not until then, since the elect nation is a requirement first.
- Is the fulfillment of the land promises required for these promises to be fulfilled? YES! Of course.
- Have the land promises been fulfilled historically or in our current time? The answer is clearly “NO”! For the elect nation must be created by Almighty God, first.

III. The Land Promises Concerning the Coming Kingdom Through David:

- Now, several hundred years after the promise through Moses we just examined in Deuteronomy 28, we have this amplification in 2 Samuel 7, with what has been called the “Davidic” covenant:

[READ] 2 Sam. 7:12-16

12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

15 But my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took [it] from Saul, whom I put away before thee.

16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever.

- This is clearly an earthly kingdom with an earthly throne. And an earthly house will be built. It is pointing to Christ himself, as many other scriptures also teach. This covenant will result in David, after resurrection, being established as co-regent with our Lord Jesus. That rule will be “forever”. Take note that this is an unconditional promise, not a conditional one as was the previous one to David.
- So the question is whether the land promises are required for this covenant. And the correct answer is YES, INDEED!
- Have the land promises been fulfilled historically or in our current time? Again, “NO”! To say they have is to take all the earlier promises non-literally to an extreme and to try to make them say whatever one wishes, sadly.
- Praise the Lord for the word of the living God, that we might understand the plan of God and know his will and purpose for his people Israel -- and for us saints as well, living in the realm of his abundant grace. Their way of life will be so different from ours, for we have no earthly promises and certainly none regarding land as they so clearly did. But praise be to God for his sovereign work on our behalf now and forever! As we read in Paul’s great letter to the Ephesians:

Ephesians 1:2-7

2 Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

- Streets paved with gold, etc. No. Instead, the abundance of life by grace through faith in our risen savior. We shall reign in life by our precious Lord Jesus. Our upward calling is our next appointment. Amen.
- *Next time: Israel's Hope — Resurrection and the Kingdom ON EARTH!*