The People Who Prevail

A Bible Study in Galatians

Session 10: The Nation of God
Galatians 3:5-7,14-16,27-29

"He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham (Gal. 3:5-7).

"That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto. Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ" (Gal. 3:14-16).

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise" (Gal. 3:27-29).

The Story of Abraham – the Story of the Nation of God

"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" (Gen. 12:1-3).

Without Question God Promised a Great Nation Would Come!

The Nation Would Be Blessed by God.

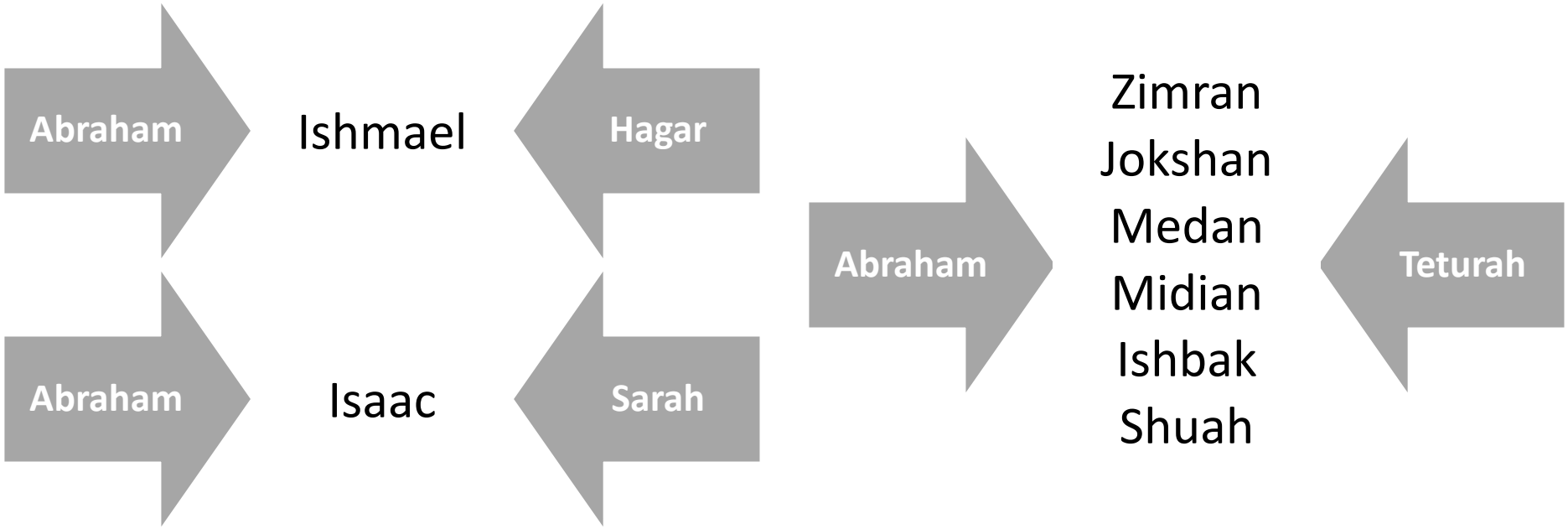
He Would Not Only Bless the Descendants of Abraham, But He Promised to Bless the People That Would Honor and Revere the Nation that God Would Establish.

He Also Promised to Curse the People Who Would Curse This Nation.

The Promise of God to Abraham forever Produced in His Descendants the Expectations of a Nation that Would Be Blessed and Protected by God Himself.

The Question that Needs to Be Raised Is, "Who Is this Nation?"

In the Promise, God "Saith Not, And to Seeds, As of Many; But As of One."



Abraham Had Eight Sons

"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ" (Gal. 3:16).

From the Beginning, There Was a Selection Process that Would Determined the Nation of God.

The Emphasis of Galatians and the Entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation Is the Created Life Is by Grace and Not by Performance.

From the Beginning to the Revelation of Jesus Christ, It Is All About the Faithfulness of God.

As Paul Stated, “that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith” (Gal. 3:11).

The Question Is, “Is It My Faith or the Faithfulness of God?”

Second Question: Just Exactly Where and When Do I Experience the Faithfulness of God?”

“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Gal. 3:27-29).

Third Question: “How Do We Get Baptized into Christ?”

The Mystery of the Seed, the True Seed, Has Been Mysterious from the Beginning.

Out of Abraham's Eight Sons, there Was Only One that Was the True Seed .

The True Seed Was Isaac.

This Mystery of the Seed Goes Back Further than the "Selection" of Isaac.

It Goes Back to the Creation of Man.

Flesh and Blood Body

In-Breathed by the Spirit of God

Living Soul – Breathing Creature

Question: "Is the Soul to be Controlled by the Flesh or by the Spirit?"

Is It Controlled by the Fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil,

Or, by the Tree of Life?

What Made the Seed to Be the Seed Was Not Isaac, But How Isaac Was Produced.

The Nation of God Is Not the Nation of God Because It Is a Nation, But Because It Is OF GOD.

The Child of Promise Was Not the Child of Promise Because It Was a Child But Because It Was OF PROMISE.

Isaac Cannot Claimed He Is Selected Because He Is Isaac But Only Because of How He Came into Being.

It Was Not Isaac that Was Predetermined, But It Was the Selection Process that Was Predetermined.

Israel Is Not Israel Because It Is the Physical Nation of Israel But It Is Only Israel If It Is Being Produced by God.

How Did Isaac Become Isaac?

Two Miracles by God Had to Be Performed.

The Bearer of the Seed Had to Be Made Able to Bear the Seed.

The Ground in Which the Seed Was to Be Planted Had to Be Prepared.

God So Arrange the Impregnation of Sarah that No Question Could Be Raised.

They Both Were Well Past the Time of Life to Reproduce: It Was 100% God.

The Child, Isaac, Was One Hundred Per Cent Produced by the Faithfulness of God to Fulfill His Promise.

Do You Catch the Connection for Us today?

In the Light of the Parable of the Sower . . .

Two Miracles

The Seed Has to Be Sown.

The Gospel Must Be True:

"Renounced the hidden things of dishonesty;"

"Not walking in craftiness;"

"Nor handling the word of God deceitfully."

The Ground Has to Be Prepared.

The Adversary Must Be Conquered:

The God of this World that Has Blinded the Mind of the Lost Must Be Brought to Its End.

The Promise of God to Abraham Was Fulfilled by the Faithfulness of God.

Is Not the Faithfulness of God in the New Testament Produced by the Promise?

The Promise of the Holy Spirit to Come into Our Lives Thereby Enabling Us to Experience the Faithfulness of God Being Manifested in Our Lives.

Unfortunately, It Seems that Most Men Keep Missing the Mystery and the Miracle of the Seed.

The Mystery and the Miracle of the Seed Is Sadly Not Understood by Most.

Adam and Eve Missed the Mystery of the Seed.

They Thought It Was by the Flesh.

Abraham and Sarah Missed the Mystery of the Seed.

They Thought It Was by the Flesh.

Descendants of Abraham Missed the Mystery of the Seed.

They Thought and Think It Was and Is by the Flesh.

Unfortunately, Many of Christianity Today Missed the Mystery of the Seed.

They Think It Is by the Flesh.

The Mystery of the Seed Still Proclaims that God Has to Prepare the Bearer of the Seed and He Has to Prepare the Ground in Which It Is Planted.

The Mystery of the Seed Was Not to Many But to One.

Was it Ishmael, Isaac, Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, or Shuah?

It Was Isaac, But the Mystery of the Seed Proclaims that It Was How Isaac Was Produced.

If the Promise Was Fulfilled Not by the Actual Child But How the Child Was Produced, It Should Put a Different Meaning to the Phrase, the Nation of God.

Paul Understood "Israel" Differently Than Others in His Day:

"I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh" (Rom. 9:1-3).

But, He Knew that God Was Faithful:

"Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel" (Rom. 9:6).

Being an Israelite Does Not Make You "Israel," the Nation of God.

The Children of Promise Or the Children of the Flesh Is the Issue.

Not All Israel Is Israel:

Neither, Are All the Seed of Abraham the Nation of God.

Only in Isaac Shall the Seed of Abraham Be Called (Rom. 9:7).

The Children of the Flesh Are Not the Children of God, Even Though They Are the Descendant of Abraham.

From the Very Beginning of the People Who Would Be Called Israel, the Nation of God, a Distinction Is Being Made.

Only the Children of the Promise Are Counted for the Seed – the People Produced By God.

"For this is the word of promise, At this time will I come, and Sarah shall have a son" (Rom. 9:9).

The People of Israel Defined Even Further

Not All Israel Is Israel

Not All the Descendants of Abraham Are the People of God

Not All the Descendants of Isaac Have the Right Relationship with God.

"And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac; (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, The elder shall serve the younger. As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated" (Rom. 9:6-13)

It Seems that Paul Is Making a Case for True Israel Being Only Those Who Are Produced by Grace and Not by Performance.

Even All the Descendant of Jacob Are Not the Children of the Promise.

"I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying, Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal. Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace" (Rom. 11:1-5).

In the Time of Elijah, Seven Thousand Were Living by the Promise.

In the Time of Paul, "There Is a Remnant According to the Election of Grace."

Although Most of Israel "Was Accursed from Christ" the Seed Had Been Given the Promise that It "Shall Possess the Gate of His Enemies." As Jesus Stated, "the Gates of Hell Would Not Prevail Against [True Israel]."

Then, Paul Closed His Discussion of the "Selection Process."

“O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counselor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen (Rom. 11:33-36).

What God Had Promised to Abraham He Has Fulfilled.

The Blessing of the Nations Would Not Be By Performance but by Grace;

Not by the Faith of Man, But by the Faithfulness of God;

Not to a Physical Nation, But to a Spiritual Nation that Knows No End..

Paul Final Statement to the Galatians Was:

“And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16).

Is Paul Calling Israel the People Who Are Living by Grace?

What Did the Early Followers of Jesus Believe About Abraham and the Nation that Was Promised Him?

Hear the Words of Peter:

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ . . . . But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy" (1 Pet. 2:5,9,10).

Hear the Words of James:

"James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting" (James 1:1)

The Words of Paul:

"And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God" (Gal. 6:16).

The Words of the Writer of Hebrews:

"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." (Heb. 11:8-10).

"By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise."

Is Not the Writer of Hebrews Saying that Abraham, although Not Seeing the Physical Fulfillment of the Promise, Is in All Reality Experiencing the Real Essence of the Promise – the Faithfulness of God at Work in His Life?

"For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." – Is This Not the Nation, Which Is of God – Not Physical?

The Writer of Hebrews Continued:

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Heb. 11:13).

Is He Not Saying that They Were Strangers and Pilgrims on the Earth Because They Were of Another World – In the Words of Jesus, "In the World but Not of the World?"

"But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city" (Heb. 11:16).

Is Not He Saying, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob "Desire a Better Country, that Is, Heavenly," Because Regardless of the Physical Circumstances, They Knew the Essence of Life Was Spiritual – Righteousness, Peace, and Joy?

By these Words, the Writer of Hebrews, Along Peter, James, and Paul, Seems to be Saying that the Nation Promise of God to Abraham Was, in Deed, the Kingdom of God Being Experienced by the Followers of Jesus.

Hear the Words of Jesus:

"And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it . . . . And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power" (Mark 8:34,35,9:1).

With the Promise of the Holy Spirit And Its Consequential Coming, God Fulfilled His Promise to Abraham That through His Seed, Christ, there Would Be a Great Nation that Would Be the Blessing for All Nations.

The Nation of God, People Living Through the Grace of God Empowered by the Holy Spirit Because the Seed of Abraham, Christ, Now Dwells Within Them, Has Been, Is Now, and Will Be the Means by Which the Nations of the World in Every Generation Will Be Blessed.

“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise” (Gal. 3:27-29).