

**God's Promise to Abraham**

**Galatians 3:15-18**

November 4, 2018 – Pastor Nick Neves

**Last Week:** The Apostle Paul explained that the law wasn't a means of fixing our broken relationship with God. The problem – no one can keep the law perfectly, so the law is not a solution to our sin, it's a curse!

**This week we will see that through three important concepts, COVENANT, PROMISE, and INHERITANCE, God has provided a way to break the curse and overcome our sin.**

**Term #1 – COVENANT**

**WORD FOCUS:** Covenant – διαθήκην – (dee-ath-ay-kayn)  
An agreed upon set of terms that legally defines a \_\_\_\_\_ between two parties.

In Genesis 12:1-4, we see that God uses 4 promises and 1 requirement to define his relationship with Abram:

1. I will give you a \_\_\_\_\_ that I will show you.
2. I will make you a great \_\_\_\_\_
3. You will be a \_\_\_\_\_ to all the families of the earth
4. I will treat people according to how they treat you.

The only requirement – Abram had to accept the terms of this covenant on \_\_\_\_\_. He had to *leave* what he knew and *receive* what God offered.

How do the terms of this covenant extend *beyond* Abram to us?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In Genesis 15, we see how God ratified His covenant with Abram. Based on the way it was ratified, is this a conditional covenant, or an unconditional covenant? Why is that important to understand?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Paul makes an argument from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ – if flawed human beings try their best to stick with covenantal promises, won't God, the very standard of what is just and true, hold steady to the promises He makes?**

**Term #2 – PROMISE**

**God didn't make a deal with Abram so much as He made a promise to him. What is the difference?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\*Unconditional Promises can't be \_\_\_\_\_. God is only obligated to fulfill these promises in so much as He has declared He would!**

How does mankind treat promises? How might our disappointing experience with the empty promises of men affected our openness to receiving God's promises on faith?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Through covenant, God has made promises to Israel. Those promises **MUST** be kept. Otherwise the name of God is slandered, and His perfection is called into question.

**TERM #3 – INHERITANCE**

That term there in the Greek that we translate 'covenant' can be translated more specifically as a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**To be a part of the offspring of Abraham and to rightfully receive the blessings of His inheritance, one has to be \_\_\_\_\_, to belong to Him, the OFFSPRING of the line of Abraham.**

**Ephesians 1:13-14** – <sup>13</sup>*In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*