

# Lech Lecha

לך-לך

“You Go”

Now the LORD had said to Avram: “Get out of your country, from your kindred and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you.”

Genesis 12: 1



In this week’s Parasha God commanded a descendent of Shem named Avram (Abram) to leave his father’s house and go to a land He would show him. Avram listened to God’s instruction and obeyed Him.

God made Abram six promises when He commanded him to leave and go. He promised Avram that He would make him into a great nation, He would bless him, He would make his name great, Avram would be a blessing, He would bless those who blessed him and curse the one who cursed him and all the families of the earth would be blessed in him.

Avram’s obedience to God’s commandments resulted in Avram being rewarded with all these promises of God. This serves as a witness to the entire world that God rewards those who demonstrate their faith in Him by obeying His commandments.

Avram was seventy-five years old when he began to follow God. His obedience to God demonstrated to everyone that he had made God the top priority of his life. Avram’s wife Sarai, his nephew Lot and all those Avram had acquired took their possessions, crossed over the Euphrates River and traveled to the land of Canaan. Avram’s relationship with God influenced others to trust in God’s Word.

The LORD first appeared to Avram in the land of Canaan at Shechem. Here the LORD made Avram another promise. He promised to give Avram’s descendants the land of Canaan! God made this seventh promise to Avram after he had obeyed His first two commandments to leave and go. The number seven in the Bible means set apart for a purpose. This Land of Promise is set apart for the coming Kingdom of God! Avram built an altar to worship God in Shechem before continuing on his journey southward. As Avram demonstrated his faith in God by submitting to Him in faithful obedience, God led him through the Land of Promise, revealing greater things to him.

## First Pray

Father God,

We praise You because You know all things. You alone have perfect knowledge and wisdom. Thank You for giving us Your Word and the Holy Spirit to teach us about Your Kingdom. Please give us the desire and discernment to consistently behave in a way that demonstrates our faith in You. We thank You for allowing us to reflect Your glory through the power of the Holy Spirit You have given us.

In Yeshua’s Name we pray. Amen

## Next Read

Genesis 12:1-17:27

It was only when Avram acted in accordance to his own strength and understanding that he failed to demonstrate his faith in the promises of God. He acted this way when he took Hagar as a wife to produce an heir for God's promises. The result of this action was a son born to him outside the covenant God had cut with him. This sin distanced Avram from God, halting God's revelation to him for the next thirteen years! The number thirteen in the Bible refers to unity between man and God. Only when man is united with God can good things happen. During this period of time, God only provided revelation to Hagar as she learned to submit to the authority of His Word.

The LORD God appeared to Avram again when he was ninety-nine years old. At this time God commanded him to walk before Him and be blameless! Avram now understood the only way to walk blameless before God was to trust in His Word instead of acting in accordance to his own strength and understanding.

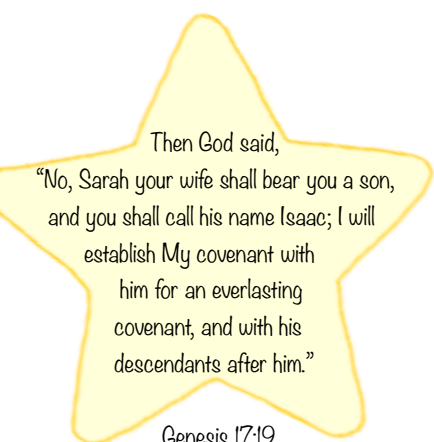
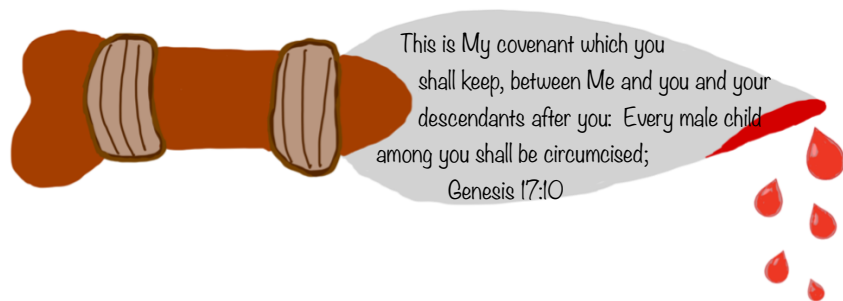
God announced that His covenant would be between Himself and Avram. He promised to make Avram a father of many nations in every generation, and to give Avram and his descendants the land of Canaan as an eternal possession! This teaches us the covenant of circumcision God made with Avram was not only for this world but for the world to come. God then changed Avram's name, meaning Exalted Father, to Abraham, meaning Father of Nations. A new name indicates new life with a new character.

God commanded Abraham to be circumcised and to circumcise all males who belonged to his household. Circumcision would be the sign of God's covenant between Himself and Abraham. It would demonstrate the understanding that the flesh must die before one's soul can be united with God. One must learn to put his

flesh to death by not behaving in accordance to his own strength and understanding, in order to live a life that is pleasing to God. Going forward every male born in Abraham's household would be circumcised on the eighth day. In the Bible the number eight refers to redemption, newness or renewal and the Kingdom of God.

Abraham's first wife would no longer be called Sarai, meaning My Princess, but would now be known as Sarah, meaning in a broad sense Princess to Nations. God revealed to Abraham that He was going to bless Sarah and give him a son by her. Sarah would miraculously conceive a son when she was ninety years old! God vowed to make Sarah a mother of nations after she bore a son for Abraham. Kings of peoples would result from her son's birth, and only her son would inherit all the promises of God!

Abraham found it difficult to believe he and Sarah could have a child at their age and laughed as he bowed before God. He asked God to allow his son Ishmael to be the heir of His promises, but God would not allow it. God informed Abraham that He would bless Ishmael, but all His promises would be inherited by Sarah's son. God commanded Abraham to name his son Yitzchak (Isaac) which means laughter. Abraham obeyed God, and he along with his entire household, including his son Ishmael, were circumcised that day. God always acts according to His perfect wisdom, despite the circumstances created by the sin of man. It is according to God's foreknowledge that He will establish His Kingdom on earth in the Land of Promise through the seed of Abraham!



# ~ Focus Passage of Scripture ~

Genesis 12:9-13:18

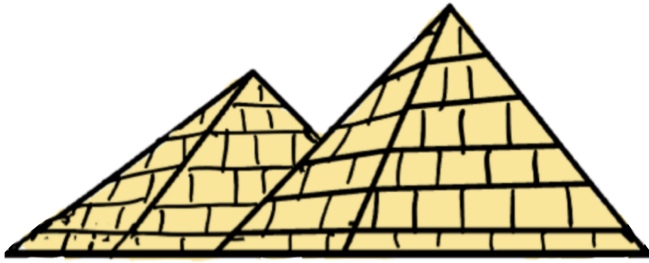
Now there was a famine in the land, and Avram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land.  
Genesis 12:10

In our first focus passage of Scripture we learn that due to a famine in the land of Canaan Avram and Sarai traveled down to Egypt. This foreshadowed God's plan to include this land in Egypt into Avram's inheritance, despite the boundary between the two lands.

In Genesis 12:11-13 we learn that as Avram and Sarai came close to the land of Egypt, Avram asked Sarai to identify herself to the Egyptians as his sister. This was a true statement because Sarai and Avram were related to one another before they became one as husband and wife (Genesis 20:12). When Sarai stated she was Avram's sister, she informed the Pharaoh of Egypt of the truth but not the entire truth.

In Genesis 12:14-16 we learn that Sarai's obedience to her husband's request resulted in him receiving blessing rather than death. The Egyptians treated Avram well for the sake of Sarai, and his riches increased.

In Genesis 12:17-19 we learn that as a result of Pharaoh not knowing the entire truth, he acted in a way that cursed Avram by taking his wife from him. God had already proclaimed that He would bless those who blessed Avram and curse the one who cursed him.



God had joined Avram and Sarai together as one through the covenant of marriage. The two had become one flesh, and even though Pharaoh treated Avram well for the sake of Sarai, he was cursing Avram by separating him from his wife. God responded just as He said He would. He sent great plagues upon Pharaoh and his house because he had cursed Avram in this way.

When Pharaoh realized the error of his actions he called Avram and spoke these words to him:

“What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? Why did you say, ‘She is my sister?’ I might have taken her as my wife, now therefore, here is your wife; take her and go your way.” Genesis 12:18-19

I will bless those who bless you,  
and I will curse him who curses you;  
and in you all the families of the earth  
shall be blessed. Genesis 12:3

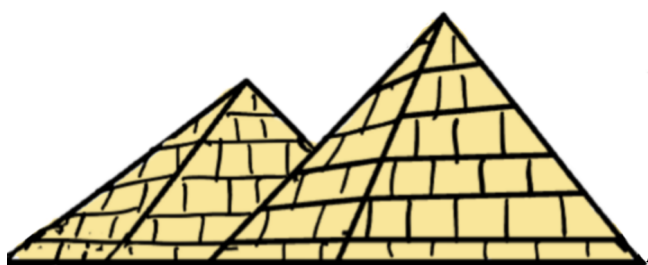
Pharaoh realized that not knowing the entire truth about Avram was dangerous! He realized that his lack of knowledge could have resulted in him behaving in a way that could not be corrected, bringing a more severe curse upon himself and his household from God. As a leader, Pharaoh's ignorance of the entire truth affected all those under him.

In Genesis 12:20 we learn that upon this realization Pharaoh returned Sarai to Avram and commanded his men concerning him. No one harmed Avram, and he was sent away with his wife and all that he had. Although Avram had been cursed by man, he had been protected and blessed by God!



From this focus passage of Scripture we can learn a very important principle: It is crucial for believers to know the entire truth of God's Word. If one only knows part of the truth, they are in danger of cursing the descendants of Avram without realizing what they are doing. This behavior always results in a curse from God! If a believer only knows truth from the New Testament or the Old Testament of the Bible, they do not know the entire truth available to them in the Word of God. They will suffer the consequences of their ignorance.

The moment one realizes they have been living in opposition to God due to a lack of knowledge, they should agree with God, seek His forgiveness and change their behavior.



Not only had Avram been protected and blessed by God while in Egypt, but Lot also had been protected and blessed through his association with Avram. Do you remember that God promised Avram he would be a blessing? As the two continued traveling together, they returned to the place Avram had pitched his tent earlier between Bethel and Ai, the place Avram had built an altar to God and called upon His Name when he first sojourned in the Land of Promise. Avram and Lot had so many people and livestock in their possession that the land could not support them as they dwelt together. Their herdsmen began to quarrel with one another, and Avram asked Lot to separate from him to keep peace between them. Avram gave Lot his choice of the land he would dwell in, and Lot chose the fertile land east of the Jordan River, pitching his tent even as far as Sodom where the men were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.



After Lot separated himself from Avram the LORD spoke to Avram saying these words:

“Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are — northward, southward, eastward and westward; for all the land which you see **I give to you and your descendants forever**. And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.

Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for **I give it to you.**” Genesis 13:14-17

Upon returning to the Land of Promise from Egypt Lot separated himself from Avram, but Avram obeyed the Word of the LORD and moved his tent to dwell in Hebron. There he worshipped God and built an altar to the LORD!



In our second focus passage of Scripture we learn that after all these things, including God giving Avram victory in physical battle to rescue his nephew Lot, the LORD came to Avram in a vision. Victory over the flesh always results in a greater reward or revelation from God!

In Genesis 15:1-8 we learn that while Avram was dwelling in Hebron, the LORD told him to have no fear because He was his great reward! Just as He made Avram victorious in battle, God Himself would insure that all the promises He had made to Avram would come true.

Avram did not understand how his descendants could inherit God's promises to him, because the LORD had not given him a son. He told

the LORD that there was no one to inherit His promises. Without a son his head servant, Eliezer of Damascus, would inherit all that He had given him. But the LORD told Avram that this was not true. The LORD promised him that he would give him a son to inherit all that He had promised. He brought Avram outside and told him that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in heaven!

Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”

Genesis 15:5

Avram believed the LORD, and the LORD accounted it to him for righteousness! The only thing man can do to be counted as righteous in the sight of the LORD is to have faith in His Word. Agreeing with and obeying the Word of God, despite the circumstances a person encounters, is the only way to demonstrate that one has faith in God.

Avram asked the LORD God how he should know his descendants would receive this inheritance from Him. The LORD God cut a covenant with Avram so that he could know that nothing can change his inheritance from God!

In Genesis 15:9-11 we learn that God commanded Avram to bring or offer a three year old heifer, a three year old female goat, a three year old ram and a turtledove or young pigeon to Him. Avram cut the heifer, goat and ram in two pieces down the middle and placed each piece opposite the other. He did not cut the bird in two pieces. The number three in the Bible represents testing, revealing, proving, victory or documentation of a matter. It can also represent the holiness of the One and Only God Who exists in three persons. Can you name the three persons of God?

After Avram arranged the four animals as God commanded him, an unclean bird came down on the carcasses to disturb or destroy the pieces. Avram was diligent to guard and defend the order and commandments of God by driving the birds of prey away! It is important to remember that the number four in the Bible refers to the entire world. The four animals teach us that this covenant God cut with Avram affects the entire world! As you continue reading this focus passage of Scripture, pay close attention to the use of the number four. Whether you read 400 or fourth, apply this meaning to the text.



In Genesis 15:12-16 we learn that at the time of sunset after Avram had obeyed God's instruction and stood firmly in agreement with Him, a deep sleep fell upon Avram as if he were in a trance. Horror and darkness fell upon him. God then spoke to him revealing future events that would take place involving his descendants.

God told Avram his descendants would be strangers in a foreign land. They would be afflicted in this foreign land as servants for 400 years! God informed Avram that He would judge the nation whom they served, and after His judgment, Avram's descendants would come out with great possessions. Do you remember what God promised He would do to the one who cursed Avram?

God told Avram that these things would not happen in his lifetime because he would die at a good old age. His body would be buried, and his soul would go peacefully to his faithful fathers who had died before him. God also told Avram his descendants would return to the Land of Promise in the fourth generation after the iniquity of the Amorites was complete.

The Amorites were the leaders of the Canaanites!



In Genesis 15:17-20 we learn when the sun went down and it was dark, God revealed His restorative plan for His creation to reflect His perfect order. The darkness indicates He will accomplish the outcome of His redemption at a time of horror, dread and complete chaos. God sent a smoking stove and a torch of fire to pass through the three animals that had died to represent the result of sin. The six animal pieces were separated into two groups. This reminds us of the two different

In the Bible the number six means grace. the sixth day? The smoking stove reminds present in the beginning and responded to sustaining order to creation. The torch of consuming Word of God. As Avram through the pieces, he understood that God necessary to fulfill His promises to redeem

Avram demonstrated his faith in God by standing in agreement with God as he Bible a bird can represent a supernatural torch of fire confirmed that God received him. These two symbols teach us that God time of great tribulation on the earth due to the turtledove, which is a clean bird, was not cut

Genesis 15:18 begins with the words "on days. God promised that He is going to be and He is going to judge the enemies of His promises to Avram, including His promise to of Avram. God will give the land of Yisra'el the Euphrates River to Avram's descendants. God is established on earth the descendants of

In Genesis 15:19-21 there are ten nations completeness. This teaches us that God is descendants of Avram over their enemies, and borders of the Land of Promise (Yisra'el) on the last day!



perspectives of the six days of creation. Can you remember what God created on us of the powerful Holy Spirit who was the Word of God by bringing and fire reminds us of the creative and witnessed these two objects passing alone will accomplish everything and restore His creation!

offering the animals to Him, and then chased the unclean birds away. In the force or power. The smoking stove and this offering from Avram and protected will ultimately fulfill His promises at a sinfulness of man. Did you notice that the into two pieces?

that day." These words refer to the last faithful to the covenant He cut with Avram, people. God is going to fulfill all His covenant give the Land of Promise to the descendants (Israel) from the river in Egypt all the way to This teaches us that before the Kingdom of Avram will be living in the Land of Yisra'el! listed. In the Bible the number ten refers to going to give complete victory to the He is going to place them in the expanded

On that day the LORD cut a covenant with Abram saying:

Genesis 15:18

"To your seed I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates."

# ~ Recap Review Fun ~

Directions: Fill in the Blank using the word bank below.

1. God commanded Avram to \_\_\_\_\_ his father's house and \_\_\_\_\_ to the land He would show him.
2. God made six \_\_\_\_\_ to Avram when He commanded him to follow Him.
3. Obedience to God's commands demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_ in His Word.
4. Receiving reward from God for obedience to Him influences others to \_\_\_\_\_ in God.
5. God first promised to give the \_\_\_\_\_ of Canaan to Avram's descendants as he entered it and camped at Shechem.
6. With each demonstration of faith through obedience God provides greater \_\_\_\_\_ of His plans.
7. It is impossible to demonstrate faith in God when acting in one's own \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. In the Bible the number \_\_\_\_\_ represents unity between man and God.
9. Through the covenant of circumcision Avram learned that the unholy flesh must \_\_\_\_\_ for the soul of a man to be united with God.
10. When Avram demonstrated his faith in God's Word by being circumcised, God gave him a new \_\_\_\_\_.
11. In the Bible the number \_\_\_\_\_ refers to redemption, newness or renewal and the Kingdom of God.
12. God changed Avram's name to \_\_\_\_\_, and Sarai's name to \_\_\_\_\_.
13. God proclaimed to Avraham that only \_\_\_\_\_, Sarah's son, would be the heir to all His promises.
14. God always acts according to His perfect wisdom, despite the sinfulness of \_\_\_\_\_.
15. When a wife obeys her husband, he is \_\_\_\_\_ through her.



16. When one does not know the eternal plans of God for the descendants of Avraham, they are in danger of receiving a \_\_\_\_\_ from God.
17. The moment one realizes he is behaving in opposition to God due to a lack of knowledge, he should \_\_\_\_\_ with God, \_\_\_\_\_ His forgiveness and \_\_\_\_\_ his behavior.
18. After returning to the Land of Promise from Egypt, God renewed His promise to give all the land of Canaan to Avram and his descendants \_\_\_\_\_!
19. It is God alone Who makes His promises come \_\_\_\_\_.
20. The only thing that man can do to be seen as righteous by God is to have faith in His \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The number \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible refers to testing, revealing, proving, victory or documentation of a matter.
22. The number \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible refers to the entire world.
23. All the covenant promises of God will be \_\_\_\_\_ by God.
24. The number \_\_\_\_\_ in the Bible refers to completeness, wholeness or entirety.
25. At the complete fulfillment of God's promises the seed of Avraham will \_\_\_\_\_ all the land from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates.

### Word Bank

Inherit	Revelation	Seek	Land	Four	Curse	Promises	Understanding	
Eight	Fulfilled	Blessed	Die	Strength	Avraham	Name	Man	
Three	Agree	Word	Forever	Change	Go	Trust	Ten	Leave
	Faith	Thirteen	Sarah	True	Yitzchak			

# Haftarah

Isaiah 40:27-41:16



In this week's Haftarah Yesha'yahu (Isaiah), a prophet of God, spoke God's Word concerning the establishment of His Kingdom on earth at the second coming of Messiah. Yesha'yahu's name means Yehovah (the LORD) is Salvation! Yesha'yahu spoke these words approximately 740 years before Messiah's first appearance on earth.

Today's prophetic passage of Scripture begins with God asking the descendants of Abraham (Avraham) a question. He asks them why they think they can escape His judgment when they do not submit to and obey His commandments. Even though God will fulfill all His promises through them to bless the entire world, He will not excuse their disregard for His Word. Why do they think that God does not see their sin against Him, and why do they think God has ignored justice toward them?

God has revealed His power and authority over His creation since the beginning of time! With His perfect wisdom He foreknew the end result even before He created all things. Through His wrath God is going to judge everything that is in opposition to Him. God created darkness and chaos in the beginning for His Word to accomplish His perfect order through His Spirit. This serves to teach the entire world of things to come. God will once again achieve His perfect order at a time of chaos and darkness through His Spirit at the command of His Word.

God does not faint or wear out, and He is beyond our understanding! God loves His creation, and gives His power to all those who seek His spiritual strength because they understand victory cannot be obtained through the weakness of the flesh. Even strong, young men fail when they act according to their own power and understanding.

However, those who hope in the LORD will realize the change that will occur when God restores His creation and establishes His Kingdom on earth. Hope is claiming God's promises by faith according to His standards, structure and perfect order. Those who are in a covenant relationship with God through Messiah Yeshua will receive all which God has promised. They will not be disappointed. They will be transformed by His power and rise up with supernatural strength to enter a new reality, a kingdom reality! Only the Messiah can restore man to a state of being where God is comforted, and instead of destroying us for our sin He will forgive us and bless us. God alone supernaturally achieves these things for the one who trusts in Him.

God did not send Yesha'yahu to speak only about salvation, but also about the coming Messiah Who is the Way of salvation. When Messiah Yeshua returns to earth, He will bring about the outcome of His salvation which is the Kingdom of God!

When the Messiah returns to earth the islands or the far away places will be silent before God, because His rule will include them. God's judgment will affect the entire world bringing about a change to His creation. Everyone needs to be aware of and make themselves ready for what God is going to do when Messiah returns!

Who is the One Who goes up from the east to achieve these things for the purpose of righteousness? It is the powerful Word of God, Messiah Yeshua, God's Only Begotten Son. He will defeat the enemies of God, making them like the dust of the earth in victory as He establishes His Kingdom on earth.

The Son of God, the Messiah, will pursue the Will of His Father passing through the pieces as He supernaturally fulfills the promises of God. What He put into order from creation He will complete. He has called every generation from the beginning and has provided all that is needed for victory.

God revealed through His prophet Yesha'yahu that the islands or remote places will see and be afraid, because no one will escape His judgment. The nations or idol worshipers will come together to help one another. They will encourage each other to continue in their dedication to idolatrous teaching that guides their false understanding.

But Yisra'el, the descendants of Ya'kov (Jacob) in contrast to the nations, are the chosen servants of God. The seed of Avraham is His beloved friend. The patriarchs did not choose to live in idolatry, and God will protect their descendants, taking them from the rulers of the world at the ends of earth. He will not reject them nor cast them away. They will have no fear because God will be with them. He will strengthen, help and support the descendants of Avraham with His powerful right hand.

You whom I  
have taken from the ends of the earth,  
and called from its farthest regions,  
and said to you,  
'You are My servant.  
I have chosen you  
and have not cast you away:

Isaiah 41:8-10

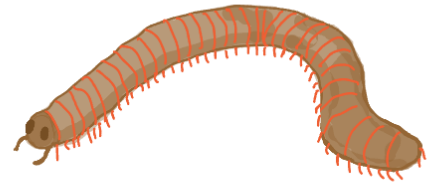
"But you, Israel, are My  
servant, Jacob, whom I have  
chosen, the descendants  
of Avraham  
My friend.

Fear not,  
for I am with you, be not dismayed, for  
I am your God. I will strengthen  
you, yes, I will help you.  
I will uphold you with  
My righteous right hand.

All the nations that angrily come against Yisra'el, the descendants of Avraham, will be disgraced and ashamed! All those who are in conflict with Yisra'el will perish! They will no longer be found because they will be nothing. They will not be remembered, because they will be like one that never existed.

The One Who strengthens Yisra'el is the LORD God. He will accomplish all His promises through the remnant of Yisra'el. In His foreknowledge, God knew all these things when He called Avram, and in His forbearance God always acts faithfully according to His perfect foreknowledge!

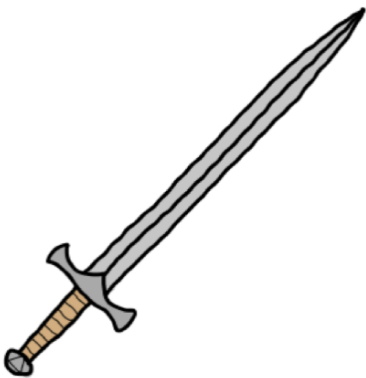
These things will not happen because the descendants of Avraham deserve it. Rather, they will happen while Yisra'el remains in their sinful, unclean and decaying state, like a worm.



The LORD declares that these things will occur for Yisra'el when their Redeemer, the Holy One of Yisra'el has helped them. He will make Yisra'el as a vessel for threshing, like a threshing sledge with sharp teeth or a double edged sword. Yisra'el will thresh the nations making them small or thin, and the wind will blow them away. The hills or rulers will not be able to resist what God will do to them through His servant Yisra'el. When all these things take place Yisra'el, the descendants of Avraham, will rejoice in the LORD and glory in the Holy One of Yisra'el!

“Behold, all those who were incensed against you shall be ashamed and disgraced;  
they shall be as nothing, and those who strive with you shall perish.  
You shall seek them and not find them. Those that contended with you,  
those who war against you shall be as nothing, as a nonexistent thing.  
For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you,  
“Fear not, **I have promised** to help you.”

Isaiah 41:11-13



# New Testament

## Romans 4:1-25



This week's New Testament passage is taken from a letter the apostle Shaul (Paul) wrote to the congregation in Rome. This congregation was comprised of both Jews and Gentiles who shared the same faith making them one group. These believers understood that they had been made righteous by God through the power of their faith in the redemptive work of Messiah Yeshua.

Shaul reminded the congregation in Rome that Father Avraham did not enter into the covenant of redemption with God based on his works or efforts. Rather, he entered into it by his faith in the promises of God!

The one who works receives what he earns. He does not receive his payment through grace, but because it is owed to him. Only the one who understands that righteousness cannot be earned by works can receive righteousness through the grace of God.

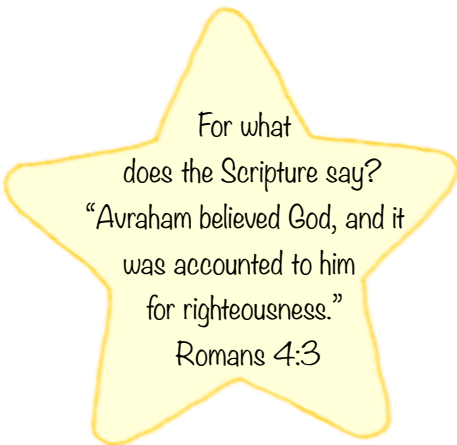
God will extend His grace, crediting His righteousness to all who have faith in the work of His Son, Messiah Yeshua! Messiah Yeshua, Who is the creative and consuming Word of God, pursued the Will of His Father by coming from heaven to earth in human form. He Who was both God and man, making Him righteous in the flesh, suffered and died to pay the debt of death owed for

the sins of the world. He was cursed by God on the tree and buried, taking the sins of humanity to the grave. God the Father supernaturally raised Him back to life after three days and three nights. These events completely fulfilled the work that was required to forgive the sins of man that only God could achieve. There is no other Way for anyone to be forgiven of their sin but to trust in the redemptive work that Messiah Yeshua completed.

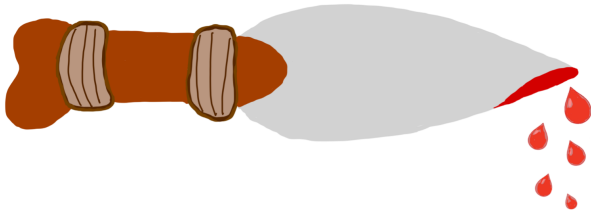
Shaul reminded the congregation in Rome that King David described how the man who receives righteousness by faith in God is blessed without performing works. This one is forgiven of his lawless, sinful deeds, and God covers his sins so that He no longer sees them.

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;  
blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin.”

Romans 4:7-8



Shaul assured the congregation in Rome, comprised of both Jewish believers who had been circumcised and Gentile believers who had not been circumcised, that it is not circumcision but only faith in the redemptive work of Messiah which has the power to establish one as righteous in the presence of God. Abraham's faith allowed him to receive the blessings of God both before and after he was circumcised.



The sign of circumcision was given to Abraham as a way for him to demonstrate his understanding that death of the flesh, where sin originates and thrives, must occur before new life can begin. Messiah Yeshua submitted His sinless flesh to this truth. He willfully took our sin in His flesh to die on the cross. He offered His life to pay the required debt of death for

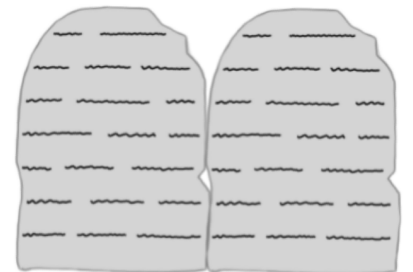
our sins. Anyone who believes on His Name through faith in His work on the cross as the Only Son of God will receive the blessing of forgiveness for their sins by the grace of God.

Because Abraham received the righteousness of God through faith prior to and after his circumcision, he was proclaimed by God to be the Father of Nations. He is the father of both circumcised Jews and uncircumcised Gentiles who walk in faith, being obedient to the call to trust in the Name of Messiah Yeshua for salvation! God first revealed this truth to Abraham when He placed him in a deep sleep and sent the smoking stove and flaming torch to pass through the pieces. Just as Abraham understood that only God could do all that is required to obtain righteousness and restore order, so should the believer understand this simple truth today.

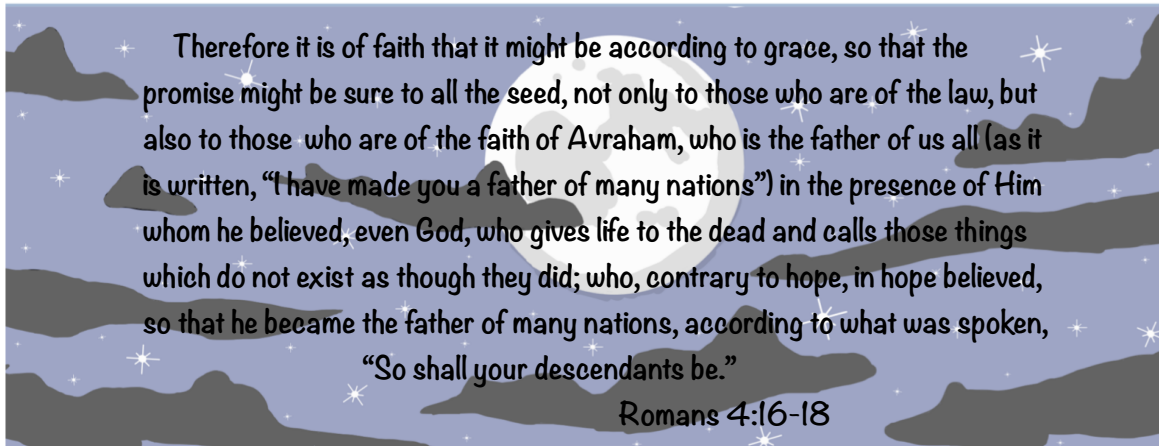
God offers His promises of forgiveness and eternal life to all humanity. God desires to forgive everyone and bring them into His Kingdom where they can receive His blessings for eternity. Because of God's unmeasurable love for the world He desires to extend His grace and reconciliation through Salvation. In order to receive God's free gift of Salvation one must first come to the conclusion that they are sinful and without hope based upon what they can achieve by their works in the flesh. Next, one must believe that God has provided all that is needed for victory over sin. And finally, one must trust in the work of redemption that the Son of God, Messiah Yeshua, completed for the world to experience the gift of eternal life in the presence of God.

God promised Abraham he would become the heir of the world to come or the Kingdom of God. God's promise of inheritance to His Kingdom does not come through obtaining righteousness by the law, but rather through obtaining righteousness through faith in the promises of God! Abraham was found righteous in the sight of God by his faith prior to the giving of the law over 400 years later. Therefore, it is impossible for one to obtain spiritual righteousness by the law!

If the promise of inheritance to the Kingdom of God came by the works of man for obeying the law, there would be no need for Salvation. The law serves only to identify sin that results in death and the wrath of God, and to teach us we are helpless by ourselves and in need of a Savior.



God first revealed all these truths to Avraham who believed Him and placed his faith in Him. It is for this reason that all those who believe these same truths of God today are called the Seed of Avraham. This is the reason it was written in Scripture that God has made Avraham the father of many nations.



When we have faith in the promises of God and believe upon His Word as our only hope for salvation, God gives us life from the dead and makes us His Children. These things that did not exist before happen as the Word speaks them and the power of the Holy Spirit responds to make them a reality, just as it was in the beginning at creation.

When Avraham was eighty-five years old and childless, he believed the Word of God to make that which was impossible through the flesh a reality. It was impossible for Sarah to have a child because her womb was dead. Even though she was past the age of having a child, Avraham had hope and faith in God to make it happen. This caused Avraham to demonstrate his great faith in God by speaking in a way to give God glory. He had faith that the One Who promised life from the dead could make it happen! And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

These things were not written for Avraham alone, but for everyone who believes the Word of God to make that which is impossible through the flesh a reality. It is impossible for man to be righteous because we are sinful from birth. Even though there is nothing we can do to become righteous we must have hope and faith in God to make it happen. We must have faith that the One Who promised it is the Only One Who can do it! When we have faith in the work of Messiah Yeshua to redeem us from our unrighteousness His righteousness is accounted to us just as it was to Avraham.



# ~ Recap Review Fun ~

Directions: Draw a line from the following questions to the correct answer.

1. Who can escape God's judgment? Yisra'el
2. What nation will God use to bless the entire world? Since the beginning of time
3. How will God judge all who oppose Him? No one
4. How long has God revealed His power and authority over His creation? They will be destroyed
5. Who will escape God's wrath and receive new life in His Kingdom? Messiah Yeshua
6. Who is the Word of God? Their sins are forgiven and forgotten
7. What will happen to the nations who gather against Yisra'el? By His Wrath
8. What is the only thing man can do to receive God's righteousness? All those who hope in the LORD
9. How is a person blessed when they confess faith in Messiah Yeshua? The law
10. What does the sign of circumcision demonstrate? Have faith in the Word of God
11. What did God give to man to identify sin and teach our need for a Savior?



