

Genesis 16-17
“I Have Seen Him Who Looks After Me.”
“You Shall Be Circumcised... It Shall Be a Sign
Of the Covenant Between Me and You.”

Acts 15:1 But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers,
“Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.”

Key Question: Unless you _____, you cannot be saved.

Key Verse:

Romans 4:11 **He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.** The purpose was to make him the father of **all who believe** without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well...

Review:

“Now Sarai was barren; she had no child”

Genesis 15:3 And **Abram** said, **“Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.”**

Genesis 15:4 And **behold**, the **word of the LORD** came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; **your very own son shall be your heir.**”

Genesis 15:5 And he (*LORD*) brought him (*Abram*) outside and said, **“Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.”** Then he said to him, **“So shall your offspring be.”**

Genesis 15:6 And he (*Abram*) **believed the LORD**, and he (*LORD*) **counted** it to him (*Abram*) as **righteousness**.

Genesis 16:1 Now **Sarai**, Abram’s wife, **had borne him no children**. She had a **female Egyptian servant** whose name was **Hagar**.

Genesis 12:16 And for her (*Sarai*) sake he (*Pharaoh*) dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants, **female servants**, female donkeys, and camels.

Genesis 16:2 And Sarai said to Abram, “Behold now, **the LORD has prevented me from bearing children**. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.” And **Abram listened** to the voice of Sarai.

Genesis 16:3 So, after Abram had lived **ten years in the land of Canaan**, Sarai, Abram’s **wife**, took **Hagar the Egyptian**, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband **as a wife**.

Genesis 16:4 And he went in to Hagar, and **she conceived**. And when she saw that she (Hagar) had conceived, she (Hagar) looked with contempt on her mistress (Sarai).

Genesis 16:5 And Sarai said to Abram, “**May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my servant to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the LORD judge between you and me!**”

Genesis 16:6 But Abram said to Sarai, “Behold, your servant is in your power; do to her as you please.” Then **Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her**.

Genesis 16:7 The **angel of the LORD** found her by a **spring of water** in the wilderness, the spring **on the way to Shur**.

Genesis 16:8 And he said, “**Hagar, servant of Sarai**, where have you come from and **where are you going?**” She said, “**I am fleeing from my mistress Sarai.**”

Genesis 16:9 The **angel of the LORD** said to her, “**Return to your mistress and submit to her.**”

Genesis 16:10 The **angel of the LORD** also said to her, “**I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude.**”

Genesis 16:11 And the **angel of the LORD** said to her, “Behold, **you are pregnant and shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael**, because the **LORD has listened to your affliction**.

Genesis 16:12 **He shall be a wild donkey of a man**, his hand against everyone and everyone’s hand against him, and **he shall dwell over against all his kinsmen.**”

Genesis 16:13 So she called **the name of the LORD who spoke to her**, “**You are a God of seeing**,” for she said, “Truly here **I have seen him who looks after me.**”

Genesis 16:15 And Hagar bore Abram a son, and **Abram called the name of his son**, whom Hagar bore, **Ishmael**.

Genesis 16:16 Abram was **eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram**.

Thirteen years later...

Genesis 17:1 When Abram was **ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram** and said to him, **“I am God Almighty**; walk before me, and **be blameless** (perfect, without blemish),

Matthew 5:48 You therefore **must be perfect**, as your heavenly Father is **perfect**.

Genesis 17:2 **that** I may make **my covenant between me and you**, and **may multiply you greatly**.”

Genesis 17:3 Then Abram **fell on his face**. And **God said to him**,

Genesis 17:4-7 “Behold, **my covenant is with you**, and **you shall be the father of a multitude of nations**. No longer shall your name be called **Abram** (exalted father), but your name shall be Abraham (father of many nations), for **I have made you the father of a multitude of nations**. **I will make you exceedingly fruitful**, and **I will make you into nations**, and **kings shall come from you**.

Genesis 17:7 And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an **everlasting covenant**, to be **God to you and to your offspring after you**.

Genesis 17:8 And **I will give to you and to your offspring after you** the land of your sojournings, **all the land of Canaan**, for an **everlasting possession**, and **I will be their God**.”

Genesis 17:9 And God said to Abraham, “As for you, **you shall keep my covenant**, you and **your offspring** after you throughout their generations.

Natural, physical offspring - Ishmael, Isaac, etc.

Natural, yet special offspring - Isaac and the entire nation of Israel

Promised offspring - Promised offspring (Christ)

Spiritual offspring - Jews and Gentiles who trust in the Messiah

Genesis 17:10 **This is my covenant**, which you shall keep, between **me and you and your offspring after you**: Every male among you shall be **circumcised**.

Genesis 17:11 **You shall be circumcised in the flesh** of your foreskins, and **it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you**.

Genesis 17:12 He who is **eight days old** among you **shall be circumcised**. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring,

Genesis 17:13 both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, **shall surely be circumcised**. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an **everlasting covenant**.

Genesis 17:14 Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin **shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."**

Deuteronomy 10:16 **Circumcise** therefore the **foreskin of your heart**, and be no longer stubborn.

Deuteronomy 30:6 And **the LORD your God will circumcise your heart** and the **heart** of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your **heart** and with all your soul, **that you may live**.

Acts 15:1 But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, **"Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved."**

Acts 15:7 **And after there had been much debate**, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the **Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe**.

Acts 15:8 And God, **who knows the heart**, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us,

Acts 15:9 and **he made no distinction between us (Jews) and them (Gentiles), having cleansed their hearts by faith**.

Acts 15:10-11 Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test **by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to**

bear? But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.”

Romans 2:25 For **circumcision** indeed is of value **if you obey the law**, but **if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision**.

James 2:10 For whoever keeps the whole law but **fails in one point has become guilty of all of it**.

Romans 3:23 for **all have sinned** and **fall short** of the glory of God,

Romans 4:9 Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? **For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness**.

Romans 4:10 **How then was it counted to him?** Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but **before he was circumcised**.

Romans 4:11 **He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised**. The purpose was to make him the father of **all who believe** without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well,

Galatians 3:6 just as Abraham “**believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness**”?

Galatians 3:7 Know then that it is **those of faith who are the sons of Abraham**.

Galatians 3:10 For **all who rely on works of the law are under a curse**; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.”

Galatians 3:11 Now it is **evident that no one is justified before God by the law**, for “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Galatians 3:12 But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.”

Galatians 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—

Galatians 3:14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Galatians 3:16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “**And to your offspring,” who is Christ.**

Galatians 5:2 Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.

Galatians 5:3 I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that **he is obligated to keep the whole law.**

Galatians 5:4 You are severed from Christ, you who would be **justified by the law**; you have fallen away from grace.

“I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless (perfect, without blemish), that I may make my covenant between me and you...

The covenant requires that we be **perfect** and **without blemish.**

Circumcision is the sign that we are blameless.

He (Abraham) received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith.

circumcision indeed is of value **if you obey the law**

if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision.

Any uncircumcised ... **shall be cut off...**

For whoever keeps the whole law but **fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.**

we believe that **we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus**

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Know then that it is **those of faith who are the sons of Abraham.**

Luke 2:21 And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, **he was called Jesus (Yahweh saves)**, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

“I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless (perfect, without blemish), that I may make my covenant between me and you...

John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

2Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made **him to be sin who knew no sin**, so that in him we might become **the righteousness of God.**

Unless you believe that you will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, you cannot be saved.

“The righteous shall live by faith.”

“I have seen him who looks after me.”