

ISRAEL: Yesterday, Today, and Forever
(The “I wills” of the Abrahamic Covenant)

The Abrahamic Covenant – Genesis 12:1-3

- 1) The Covenant is to be interpreted **LITERALLY/NORMALLY**.
- 2) The Covenant was given **UNILATERALLY** by God.
- 3) The Covenant is **ETERNAL** in its expanse.
- 4) The Covenant is **UNCONDITIONAL** in nature.
- 5) The Covenant is made with **ABRAHAM AND HIS DESCENDANTS** (Israel) and not with Gentiles (although Gentiles also benefit).
- 6) The Covenant relates to **LAND, SEED, & BLESSING**.

Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)

1 Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To **a land** that I will show you.

2 I will make you **a great nation**; I will **bless you** And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

3 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.”

Note that while the Church does partake of the “blessing” aspect of the Abrahamic Covenant and thus shares in **spiritual** aspects of the New Covenant, the Church does not partake in the **physical** (Land) promises of the covenant (cf. Mt. 26:28, 2 Cor. 3:5-6, Heb. 9:15, 12:24).

The Abrahamic Covenant Developed

The Abrahamic Covenant is stated in its various aspects several times in the book of Genesis in regard to Abraham (cf. Gen. 12:1-3, 7, 13:14-17, 15:1-21, 17:1-19, 18:18, 22:15-18); in regard to Isaac (cf. Gen. 26:3-5); and in regard to Jacob (cf. Gen. 28:13-15, 35:9-12, 48:3-4).

Given To Abraham:

Genesis 12:1-7

Genesis 13:14-17

Genesis 15:1-21

Genesis 17:1-21

Genesis 18:18&19

Genesis 22:15-18

Given To Isaac:

Genesis 26:3-5, 24

Given To Jacob:

Genesis 28:13-15

Genesis 35:9-12

Genesis 46:1-4

Genesis 48:3-4

God WILL do this!

The first thing stated in Gen. 12:1 is in regard to A LAND that God would show to Abram. God had a specific land in mind; but at this point, Abram did not even know where it was.

God spoke of ***“a land that I will show you”***. This is the first of 5 “I will” statements that God makes to Abram in Gen. 12:1-7. Contrast the 5 “I will’s” of Satan in Isaiah 14:12-14, which would be better understood as the 5 “I cant’s” of Satan.

- 1) To a land that **I will** show you (v. 1).
- 2) **I will** make you a great nation (v. 2).
- 3) **I will** bless you (v. 2).
- 4) **I will** bless those who bless you (v. 3).
- 5) **I will** curse him who curses you (v. 3).

From the very outset, we see that God has WILLED to do this. God is determined to make this happen. The repeated use of ***“I will”*** without any qualifying conditions makes this a unilateral and unconditional covenant. God Himself will do this!

Satan is doing all he can to make it NOT happen. Satan has the entire world system under his sway (1 Jn. 5:19). And as such, the world in doing Satan’s bidding has consistently abused God’s people Israel and divided up His holy land (Joel 3:2). But God will have the last word and all that He promised the patriarchs will yet be fulfilled. It’s just as sure as God’s promise. When God says, “I will” that settles it!