***THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT – THE MOTHER OF ALL COVENANTS***

A. Background to the Abrahamic Covenant (cf. Gen. 1 – 11)

B. The Importance and Essence of the Abrahamic Covenant

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**.

C. The Abrahamic Covenant Developed

***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

D. The **CONTENTS** of the Covenant as stated in Gen. 12:1-3:

1. To a land that **I will** show you – (cf. v. 1)
2. **I will** make you a great nation – (cf. v. 2)
3. **I will** bless you – (cf. v. 2)
4. **I will** bless those who bless you – (cf. v. 3)
5. **I will** curse him who curses you – (cf. v. 3)
6. Dispensationalism and Zionism
7. ***Dispensationalism:*** Distinction between Israel and the Church.
8. ***Zionism:*** Belief that the land of Israel rightfully belongs to Israel.
9. The Covenant Ratified in Gen. 15:
10. The Seed of Abraham

***Four senses of “the seed of Abraham”:***

1. Biological Jews who descend from Abraham (cf. Rom. 9-11).
2. The Messiah Who is the UNIQUE seed of Abraham (cf. Gal. 3:16).
3. The righteous remnant of Israel (cf. Isa. 41:8, Rom. 9:6)
4. Spiritually, it can refer both to believing Jews and Gentiles (cf. Rom. 4:9-12, 16, Gal. 3:7, 29).

* It is CONTEXT that determines which sense is in view!

1. The Covenant is EVERLASTING – Gen. 17
2. Distinctive from the Mosaic Covenant

E. The ***NATURE*** of the Abrahamic Covenant:

Gen. 12:1-3: The Abrahamic Covenant is STATED.

Gen. 15: The covenant is formally RATIFIED and shown to be UNILATERAL and UNCONDITIONAL.

Gen. 17: The covenant is shown to be EVERLASTING.

The whole of redemptive history flows out of the Abrahamic Covenant! When I was in Bible College, I had a professor who told us that Genesis 12:1-3 was the three most important verses in the Bible. He said we might not understand that now but that upon further study, we would! He was right! The whole of God’s redemptive plan ushers forth from and is connected to this “Mother of all Covenants”.

**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.”