

Timeline of Truth – God Renames Abram & Gives Him a Sign (Gen 17:1-27)

God Renames, Gives Specifics, & Gives a Sign

God Renames Abram & Sarai, Gives More Promises Detail, and Gives a Sign of the Covenant

<p>¹ When Abram was ninety-nine years old,</p>	<p>1. The <u>Timing</u> (<i>cp. Gen 16:16</i>)</p>
<p>the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I <i>am</i> Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.</p>	<p>2. God <u>Appears</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FAITH</u> walk! (<i>waiting...</i>) • Faith <u>WALK!</u> (<i>living...</i>)
<p>² "And I will make My <u>covenant</u> between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." ³ Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: ⁴ "As for Me, behold, My <u>covenant</u> is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. ⁵ "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶ "I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.</p>	<p>3. Covenant Detail: <u>Seed</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between</u> Abram & God • Abram → Multiply <u>exceedingly</u> • Abram → Father of <u>many nations</u> • Abram → Renamed <u>Abraham</u> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">"Father of a <u>multitude</u>" • Abraham → <u>Exceedingly</u> fruitful • Abraham → <u>Nations & kings</u>
<p>⁷ "And I will establish My <u>covenant</u> between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an <u>everlasting covenant</u>, to be God to you and your descendants after you. ⁸ "Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an <u>everlasting</u> possession; and I will be their God."</p>	<p>4. Covenant Detail: <u>Land</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between</u> God, Abraham/Descendants • <u>Everlasting</u> Covenant • Land of <u>Canaan</u> • <u>Everlasting</u> Possession
<p>⁹ And God said to Abraham: "As for you, you shall keep My <u>covenant</u>, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations. ¹⁰ "This <i>is</i> My <u>covenant</u> which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised; ¹¹ "and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the <u>covenant</u> between Me and you. ¹² "He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised, every male child in your generations, he who is born in your house or bought with money from any foreigner who is not your descendant. ¹³ "He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised, and My <u>covenant</u> shall be in your flesh for an <u>everlasting covenant</u>. ¹⁴ "And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My <u>covenant</u>."</p>	<p>5. Covenant Sign: <u>Circumcision</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 – For Abraham & descendants • 10 – Every born <u>male</u> circumcised • 11 – As a <u>sign</u> • 12a – <u>Timing</u> – 8 Days Old • 12b-13a – <u>Targets</u> – Every male born... • 13b – <u>Everlasting</u> covenant • 14 – Covenant <u>breaker</u> treatment
<p>¹⁵ Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah <i>shall be</i> her name. ¹⁶ "And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be <i>a mother of</i> nations; kings of peoples shall be from her."</p>	<p>6. God Specifies <u>Sarai as the Mother</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 – Sarai → Renamed Sarah <li style="padding-left: 20px;">From princess to "<u>noblewoman</u>" • 16a – Sarah → Be blessed • 16b – Sarah → Have a son • 16c – Sarah → Mother of nations • 16d – Sarah → Kings & peoples
<p>¹⁷ Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Shall <i>a child</i> be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear <i>a child</i>?"</p>	<p>7. Abraham <u>Laughs (& Doubts)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham <u>ROFL</u> (rolls on floor laughing) • Because of his <u>age</u> (100) • Because of Sarah's <u>age</u> (90)
<p>¹⁸ And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!"</p>	<p>8. Abraham's <u>Expectation</u></p>

<p>¹⁹ Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My <u>covenant</u> with him for an everlasting <u>covenant</u>, and I will have his descendants after him.</p>	<p>9. God's Clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah → Will bear Abraham a <u>son</u> • Son → Will be named <u>Isaac</u> • "Laughter" • Isaac → <u>Everlasting</u> covenant
<p>²⁰ "And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.</p>	<p>10. God's Blessing of <u>Ishmael</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ishmael → God had <u>blessed</u> him • Ishmael → God will make him <u>fruitful</u> • Ishmael → God will <u>multiply</u> exceedingly • Ishmael → Will beget <u>12</u> princes • Ishmael → God will make a great <u>nation</u>
<p>²¹ "But My <u>covenant</u> I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year." ²² Then He finished talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.</p>	<p>11. God's Clarification of the <u>Covenant</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21a – Isaac → Covenant established • 21b – Isaac → Time of his birth • 22 – God is gone again (<u>faith</u>)
<p>²³ So Abraham took Ishmael his son, all who were born in his house and all who were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very same day, as God had said to him. ²⁴ Abraham <i>was</i> ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁵ And Ishmael his son <i>was</i> thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁶ That very same day Abraham was circumcised, and his son Ishmael; ²⁷ and all the men of his house, born in the house or bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.</p>	<p>12. Abraham <u>Obeys</u> the Covenant Sign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23a – <u>All</u> in his house circumcised • 23b – <u>Same day</u> obedience • 24 – Abraham's age at circumcision (<u>99</u>) • 25 – Ishmael's age at circumcision (<u>13</u>) • 26-27 – Every male circumcised that day

Related NT Passages

God of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob (line of blessing & official connection)

- Matt 1:2 Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.
- Mark 12:26 "But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the *burning bush passage*, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I *am* the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob '? (cp. Matt 22:32; Luke 20:37; Acts 7:32)
- Luke 13:28 "There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves thrust out.

Isaac the Son of Promise (not Ishmael)

- Rom 9:7 nor *are they* all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed shall be called."
- Gal 4:28 Now we, brethren, as Isaac *was*, are children of promise.
- Heb 11:18 of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called,"
- Acts 7:8 "Then He gave him the covenant of circumcision; and so *Abraham* begot Isaac and circumcised him on the eighth day; and Isaac *begot* Jacob, and Jacob *begot* the twelve patriarchs.
- Luke 2:21 And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called JESUS, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

Circumcision and Today

- Rom 2:25—3:19 (Explanation of the value of circumcision to Israel)
- Rom 4:11-12 And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which [he had while still] uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also, and the father of circumcision to those who not only [are] of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham [had while still] uncircumcised.
- Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. (...but new creation 6:15)
- Gal 5:11 And I, brethren, if I still preach circumcision, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased.
- Phil 3:3 For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,
- Col 2:11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,