

Learn to Read the Bible Effectively Seminar

ECHOES

Workshop/Homework Study Sheet #1

Where Have I Heard This Before?

GALATIANS 3:8 "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, **preached the gospel to Abraham** beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."

What do you know about Abraham? _____

In what book of the Bible is the story of Abraham found? _____

What promises did God make to Abram/Abraham?

GENESIS 12: 1-3 "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. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 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."

What are the promises? _____

GENESIS 13:14-17 "And the LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: "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."

What are the promises? _____

To whom were these promises made? (Be specific 😊) _____

NOTE - There are even MORE important promises given to Abraham recorded in Genesis 15:3-5; 13-21; 17:1-8; 15-21; 22:1-18

Did Abraham receive any of these promises? _____

Were these promises conditional? (i.e. Were there any "IF'S" involved) _____

Have a look at 2 New Testament commentaries on Abraham and the promises:

ACTS 7:1-5 "... And he [Stephen] said, "Brethren and fathers, listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, and said to him, 'Get out of your country and from your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you. 'Then he came out of the land of the Chaldeans and dwelt in Haran. And from there, when his father was dead, He moved him to this land in which you now dwell. And God gave him no inheritance in it, not even enough to set his foot on. But even when Abraham had no child, He promised to give it to him for a possession, and to his descendants after him."

What does Acts 7:1-5 tell us about the promises? Explain. _____

HEBREWS 11:8-19 "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God... These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country..."

What does Hebrews 11:8-16 tell us about the promises? Explain. _____

If you were now to read all the way through Galatians chapter 3, you would notice in verse 16, that there is ONE significant HEIR to the promises. This is Divine commentary on the passages we have been looking at!

GALATIANS 3:16 "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ."

Who is the most significant heir? _____

Has this heir received the promises? Explain. _____

At the end of Galatians 3, we find there are other significant heirs!

GALATIANS 3:26-29 "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Who are the other heirs? _____

PROOF #1

THAT THE BIBLE IS INSPIRED BY GOD

SOUND MEDICAL ADVICE FROM 3500 YEARS AGO



Health regulations in the Bible are based on knowledge far in advance of scientific discoveries of the times. One has only to read through the Law of Moses in the Old Testament (Exodus to Deuteronomy) to discover that at the very beginning the Creator of our world, understood what was best for humans to avoid disease and illness.

The extensive use of water to cleanse, the avoidance of close contact with those who had sicknesses, isolation of the diseased, the regulations against eating "unclean" animals prone to parasites, and so much more, was not even properly understood by doctors in the 1800's, yet the Law of Moses had it right thousands of years ago!

In an excellent online article [Disease and the Law of Moses](#) (see QR code), Dr. Stephen Palmer says: "In the UK today... about one in nine patients admitted to hospital develops an infection... Much of this is the direct result of the failure of staff to wash their hands after handling infected people or materials... How is it possible, then, that the Law of Moses should have such a clear insight into the aspect of preventive medicine?"

He quotes: "One has but to read the Bible carefully and thoughtfully to conclude that the wisdom expressed therein regarding health, hygiene and sanitation form the groundwork of today's public health rules... these biblical rules on health and hygiene were far in advance of, and superior to, any which then existed in the world. Many of these hygienic precepts have been little improved upon to this day, and are as worth following now as when they were first promulgated." Wain, History of Preventive Medicine (1970)

Dr. Stephen Palmer summarises:

"The only explanation for this fact that the Law was 3500 years ahead of its time is the claim the Scriptures themselves make for it. It was... the Law that God gave... If the Law had been a human work then we would have expected to see among the rituals designed by human imagination at least some things that would be dangerous as far as modern medicine is concerned... The contemporary societies surrounding Israel... was a world of magic and incantations. The complete absence of error in Scripture is a strong rebuff to the idea that Moses learned the wisdom of the Law from the Egyptian or Sumerian society."