

“Created for Covenant: God to His People”

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – November 4, 2012

Gen 12:1-3

1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Gen 17:7

I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

CONTRACT:

- Generally made for specific period of time
- Motivated by desire to get something we want
- Based on “If ..., then ...” mentality

COVENANT:

- Made as permanent commitment
- Motivated for the benefit of the other person
- Based on enduring, steadfast love

I. GOD DESIRES COVENANT

God's Covenant with Abraham:

- Pack up & move @ 75 years old to the land I will show you (Gen 12:1)
- I will make you into a Great Nation (Gen 12:2)
- I will Bless you (Gen 12:2)

- I will make your Name Great (Gen 12:2)
- I will give you this “Promised” Land (Gen 12:7)
- I will make you a Blessing to Others (Gen 12:3)
- I will make an “everlasting covenant” with you (Gen 17:7)
- I will “make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore” (Gen 22:17)

2. GOD IS FAITHFUL TO HIS COVENANT

- God initially makes covenant with Abraham at 75 years old
- Sarah gives birth to Isaac at 90 years of age & Abraham was 100 (Gen 17:17; 21:2)
- God said to Moses: “I have remembered my covenant...I will redeem you with an outstretched arm...I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God.” (Ex 6:6-7)

3. YOU ARE HEIRS TO THE COVENANT THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

Gal. 3:29

If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Luke 22:14-21

14 When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. 15 And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." 17 After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. 18 For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." 19 And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." 20 In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."