



GENESIS

THE PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:1-7

When **Abram** was **ninety-nine years old** the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, that I may make my **covenant** between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." Then Abram fell on his face.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:1-7

And God said to him, "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called **Abram**, but your name shall be **Abraham**, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:1-7

I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will **establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring** after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be **God to you and to your offspring after you.**



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:15-21

And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name **Sarai**, but **Sarah** shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover, **I will give you a son by her**. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:15-21

Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!"



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:15-21

God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:15-21

As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. But I will **establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear** to you at this time next year."



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Now regarding circumcision...



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:9-14

And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. **This is my covenant, which you shall keep,** between me and you and your offspring after you: **Every male among you shall be circumcised.**



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:9-14

You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a **sign of the covenant between me and you.**



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:9-14

You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a **sign of the covenant between me and you.**

He who is **eight days old** among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring,



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:9-14

both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. Any **uncircumcised** male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be **cut off** from his people; he has broken my covenant."



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:22-27

When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham. Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born in his house or bought with his money, **every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised** the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him.



GENESIS
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Genesis 17:22-27

Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised. And all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.



GENESIS
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Understanding Circumcision



GENESIS
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1. Misconception



GENESIS
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1. Misconception

Way to be saved?



GENESIS
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Genesis 15:6

And he believed the LORD, and he
counted it to him as righteousness.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Romans 4:10

How then was it counted to him?



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Romans 4:10

How then was it counted to him?

Was it before or after he had been circumcised?



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Romans 4:10

How then was it counted to him?

Was it before or after he had been circumcised?

It was not after, but before he was circumcised.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Romans 4:11

He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.



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1. Misconception



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1. Misconception

Way to be saved?



GENESIS
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1. Misconception

~~Way to be saved?~~



GENESIS
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2. Meaning



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Genesis 17:11

You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a **sign of the covenant** between me and you.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Romans 4:11

He received the **sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness** that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Deuteronomy 30:6

And the LORD your God will **circumcise your heart** and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.



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Jeremiah 9:25–26

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will punish all those who are **circumcised merely in the flesh**—Egypt, Judah, Edom, the sons of Ammon, Moab, and all who dwell in the desert who cut the corners of their hair, for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are **uncircumcised in heart.**”



GENESIS
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Romans 2:28–29

For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly,
nor is circumcision outward and physical.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Romans 2:28–29

For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly,
nor is circumcision outward and physical.

But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the
heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter.



GENESIS
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Circumcision then is



GENESIS
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Circumcision then is

Not a way to salvation (man's own works)



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision then is

Not a way to salvation (man's own works)

It's a physical reminder of God's covenant with Abraham



GENESIS
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Circumcision then is

Not a way to salvation (man's own works)

It's a physical reminder of God's covenant with Abraham
and of cleaned hearts for all who believe in the promised savior.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision then is

Not a way to salvation (man's own works)

It's a **physical reminder** of God's covenant with Abraham
and of cleaned hearts for all who believe in the promised savior.



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3. Message



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Acts 15:5

But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, "It is necessary to circumcise them and to order them to keep the law of Moses."



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Acts 15:6

The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter.



GENESIS
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Acts 15:7

And after there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "Brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.



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Acts 15:8–9

And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith.



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Acts 15:10

Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing a yoke on the neck of the disciples that neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear?



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Acts 15:11

But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."



GENESIS
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Galatians 2:3

But even Titus, who was with me, was **not forced to be circumcised**, though he was a Greek.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Galatians 5:6

For in Christ Jesus **neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything**, but only faith working through love.



GENESIS
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1 Corinthians 7:18–19

Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised?



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

1 Corinthians 7:18–19

Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised?
Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision.



GENESIS
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1 Corinthians 7:18–19

Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised?
Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision.
Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised?



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

1 Corinthians 7:18–19

Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised?
Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision.
Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised?
Let him not seek circumcision.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

1 Corinthians 7:18–19

Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised?

Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision.

Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised?

Let him not seek circumcision.

For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God.



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But you do need a circumcision!



GENESIS
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Deuteronomy 10:16

Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart,
and be no longer stubborn.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Deuteronomy 30:6

And the LORD your God will **circumcise your heart** and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.



GENESIS
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Jeremiah 9:25–26

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will punish all those who are circumcised merely in the flesh—Egypt, Judah, Edom, the sons of Ammon, Moab, and all who dwell in the desert who cut the corners of their hair, for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are **uncircumcised in heart.**”



GENESIS
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Galatians 6:15

For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor
uncircumcision, but a **new creation**.



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Colossians 2:11

In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Galatians 5:6

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only **faith** working through love.



GENESIS
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Circumcision of the heart



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision of the heart

→ New creation



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision of the heart

- New creation
- Without hands



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision of the heart

- New creation
- Without hands
- Putting off the body of the flesh



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision of the heart

- New creation
- Without hands
- Putting off the body of the flesh
- By Christ



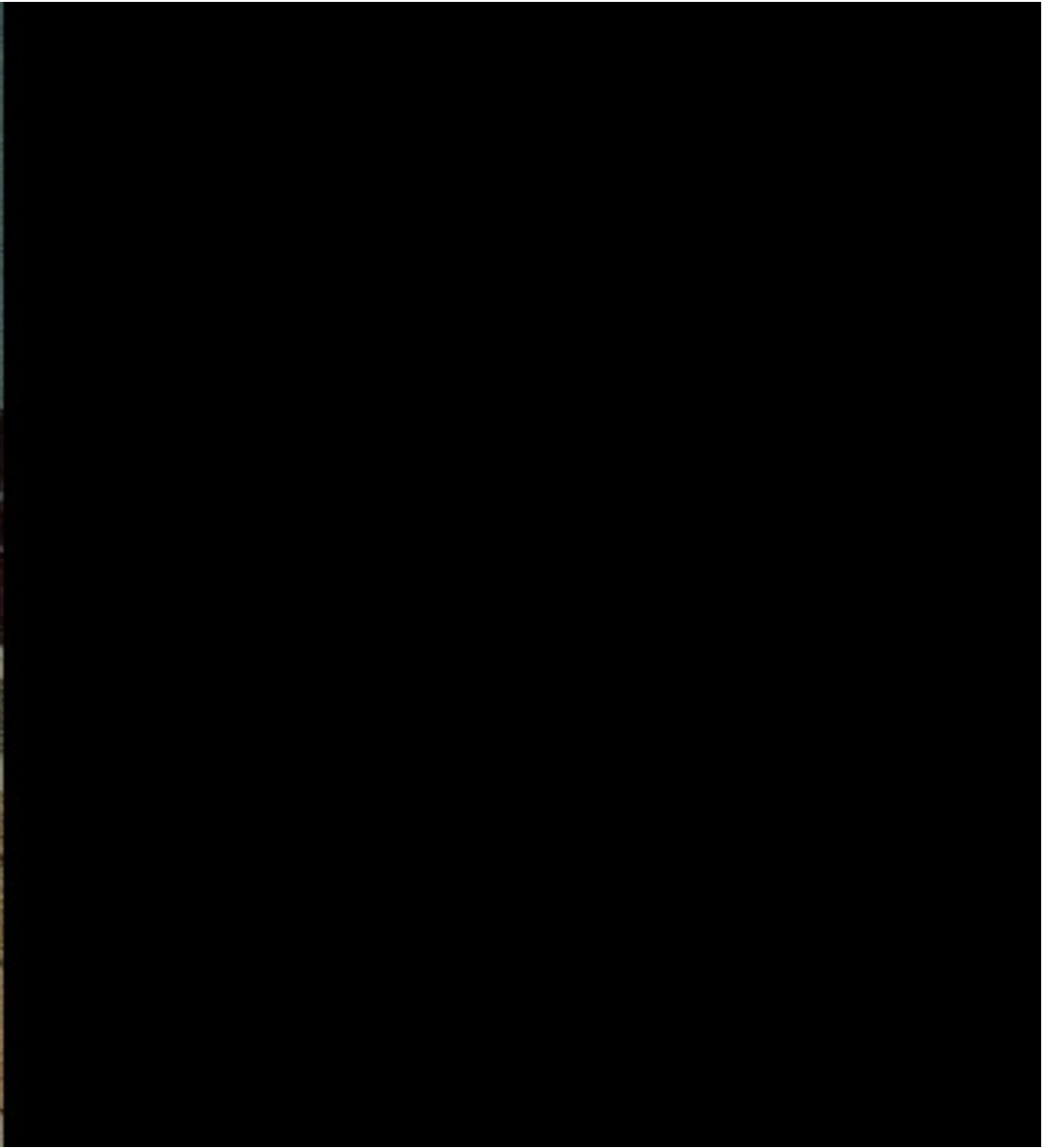
GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE

Circumcision of the heart

- New creation
- Without hands
- Putting off the body of the flesh
- By Christ
- By Faith



GENESIS
PROMISE OF A MULTITUDE





John 3:3

**Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is born again
he cannot see
the kingdom of God.**



John 3:5

Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is born of
water and the Spirit,
he cannot enter the
kingdom of God.



Ezekiel 36:25–27

I will **sprinkle clean water** on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.



Ezekiel 36:25–27

And I will give you **a new heart, and a new spirit** I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.



Ezekiel 36:25–27

And I will **put my Spirit** within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.



John 3:5

Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is **born of
water and the Spirit**,
he cannot enter the
kingdom of God.



John 3:3

Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is **born again**
he cannot see
the kingdom of God.



John 3:14–15

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever **believes** in him may have eternal life.



John 3:16

For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son,
that whoever **believes** in him
should not perish but have
eternal life.