



ABRAHAM'S BLESSING

December 7, 2025 | *Genesis 12:1-7; 22:18; Galatians 3:6-29*

Abraham

After the flood, the sons of Noah — Ham, Shem, and Japheth — repopulated the earth (*Gen. 10-11; Acts 17:26*). Next, God intervened at Babel and dispersed the people into nations with various languages (*Gen. 11:1-9*). The Bible then focuses on one nation in particular — the nation of Israel — which began with a man named Abraham (*Gen. 11:27-32*).

God called Abraham out of Ur, to relocate to the land of Canaan, a place that He promised to give to Abraham and his descendants (*Gen. 12:1-2, 7*). Along with the land, God promised Abraham several other things, among which were a great nation (Israel), a great name, and a great blessing.

God said, “You shall be a blessing, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed” (*v.2-3*). This was a broad promise. What did it mean? Abraham’s descendants would somehow impact everyone on the planet.

God later confirmed His words to Abraham by saying, “In your seed, all the nations of the earth shall be blessed...” (*Gen. 22:18*). But these words contain a more specific phrase — “In your seed.”

God was referring to a future descendant of Abraham, someone special who would be a blessing to the world. Of course, He was referring to the Messiah, Jesus.

The Fulfillment

The fulfillment of God’s promise began with a miracle child, the birth of Abraham’s son, Isaac. Isaac was born to Sarah in her old age, an improbable occurrence had it not been for God’s intervention.

The fulfillment of “Abraham’s blessing” also included the birth of another miracle child, that of Jesus, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of a virgin named Mary (*Matt. 1:20*).

Paul referred to Abraham’s promise in *Galatians 3*, where he wrote these words.

“Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preaching the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, ‘All the nations will be blessed in you.’ So then, those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.”

Paul continues, “The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say ‘to his seeds,’ as referring to many, but rather to one, ‘to your seed,’ that is, Christ. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.” *Galatians 3:6-9, 16, 26, 29*

Consider Paul’s remarks for a moment. The *seed* to which Paul was referring was Jesus. Jesus, Abraham’s descendant, blessed the world with the good news of salvation. Even Abraham, who did not know Jesus, but only the promise of Jesus, believed in God’s promised seed, and “it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Thus, Abraham was saved by faith (like us), believing that Christ would reconcile him to God.

Paul also pointed out that Jesus offered salvation not only to the Jews, but also to the Gentiles (non-Jews). In other words, all nations of the earth can experience salvation in Christ. Thus, the promise — that “through your descendants, all the nations of the earth will be blessed” — was fulfilled in Christ.

Those who believe in Christ for salvation are, thus, the true descendants of Abraham.

The Impact of Christ

While the gospel of Christ was, and is, a wonderful blessing to all nations, salvation is just the beginning; and while salvation affects one’s eternity, Christianity is a blessing to the world now in so many other ways. How so?

No other religion can rival the degree of liberty that people have enjoyed in Christian civilization. Why has it been so successful in producing unparalleled peace, prosperity, and liberty? Here are a few points to consider.

1. The Christian idea of man — that people are image-bearers of God — regards life as precious. Each individual has value, dignity, and purpose. People are, therefore, viewed as equals and treated with respect.
2. Christians view civil government in its proper role, as a servant of God for the people (not a master over them), to protect individual’s God-given rights.

3. Christianity teaches that people are imperfect, sinful, and therefore require the restraints of law. People are not “basically good,” but rather in need of a Savior.
4. Because of salvation, Christ renews individuals from within. His Spirit transforms people’s minds, character, worldview, and potential.
5. Christians are people of conscience and morality. They seek to know and do what’s right by God. Christians make great citizens who stabilize a society.
6. Christianity teaches to love your neighbor as yourself, which is a cornerstone for healthy civilizations. Thus, Christians are unselfish, thoughtful, and generous.
7. The Golden Rule — to treat others as you want to be treated — reduces crime, corruption, violence, dishonesty, vices, and social disturbances.
8. Christianity makes room for freedom of religion. Thus, the biblical separation of Church and State produces liberty.
9. Because people are equals, all people have a voice in who governs them and what laws are passed (the principle of representation).
10. Biblical Christianity frees nations from poverty, socialism, tyranny, slavery, racism, and bigotry. Christ is the greatest agent of peace and unity in history.

These are just a few of the benefits that Christianity bestows on humanity. Christ has truly been a blessing to the nations!

What Child is this in the manger? He is Abraham’s promised blessing, whose gospel changed the world!

Ponder and Pray

If Christianity has been such a blessing to the world, then why are Christ and Christians despised around the world?

As a Christian, are you a blessing to others? Why or why not?

Pray and thank God that you share in Abraham's blessing.

**Have you missed some days?
Click [here](#) to access previously emailed devotions.**

The reading plan and devotions were developed by Aaron Ferguson, one of our Elders and author of the *Study Guide and Daily Reflections for the One Year Chronological Reading of the Bible and the New Testament*. For more details, visit his website at BiAY.org.



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