

Bereans Bible Institute
Module V – Redemption of the Creation
Lesson 7: The Abrahamic Covenant (Part 3)

- I. Many claim to be “Abraham’s seed” because they can trace their descent back to Abraham.
- A. The promises were given “to Abraham and to his seed.”
 - B. Jews (sons of Jacob), Arabs (sons of Ishmael), Jordanians (sons of Esau) all claim to be “Abraham seed.”
 - C. The fighting in the Middle East over who owns the Land that God promised to Abraham is based on this question.
- II. Four Key Passages that Identify Abraham’s Seed that inherit the promises:
- A. Romans 9:1-13
 - 1. All of the covenants were originally given to Israel (Jacob) (vs. 1-5)
 - 2. Not all who descended from “Israel” (Jacob) are “Israel” that receive the promises (vs. 6).
 - a. God chose Isaac only as Abraham’s promised seed, excluding Ishmael (vss. 7-9)
 - b. of Isaac’s children, God chose Jacob only, and rejected Esau because he sold his birthright (vss. 10-13)
 - B. Romans 11:1-32
 - 1. The “Olive Tree” parable was borrowed from Jer. 11:16-17 & Jer. 12:1-12
 - 2. The “Olive Tree” in both passages refer to Abraham’s seed (Israel)
 - 3. The “stumbling” of Israel when they rejected Christ is temporary
 - 4. Paul wanted to “provoke” his fellow Jews to jealousy (from Deut. 32:21), showing that their inclusion depended on their choice.
 - 5. The broken off branches are those who have rejected Christ
 - 6. Branches from a wild olive tree (see Jer. 12:1-2) are grafted into Israel.
 - 7. Remaining in the “tree” depends on continued faith
 - 8. Gentiles may be broken off as well.
 - 9. God will bring back a remnant of unbelieving Israel.
 - C. Galatians 3:26-29
 - 1. Jesus is the intended ‘Seed’
 - 2. By being joined to Jesus Christ in baptism, we become “Abraham’s seed” and heirs of the inheritance promised to Abraham.
 - D. Galatians 4:21-31
 - 1. The seed of promise is likened to Sarah, Isaac, and the promised restored Jerusalem
 - 2. The Jews who were clinging to the Law of Moses, are likened to Hagar, Ishmael, and the present city of Jerusalem (which was about to be destroyed)