

Lesson #5 Old Covenant (Abraham) – Promises Made

Opening Shot:

Four thousand years ago God spoke to a man named Abram directly. He promised Abram some amazing things! He told Abram that He would make him to be the father of many nations and that through him and his descendents the whole world would be blessed. He also promised Abram the land of Canaan. Even though Abram was too old to have children (99 years old) he believed God! God counted that as righteousness towards Abram. And God changed Abram's name to Abraham.

Introduction to Bible Truths:

**Genesis 17:1-8** *When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers." Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. 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. The whole land of Canaan, where you are now an alien, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."*

**Genesis 18:18** *Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation, and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) Why did God change Abram's name to Abraham?
- 2.) How could God know what was going to happen to Abraham later in his life?
- 3.) Did Abraham really believe God?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

- 1.) The Bible tells us that God changed Abram's name (Abram means "exalted Father") to Abraham (meaning "Father of many") because God had made him the father of many nations. See **Genesis 17:5**.
- 2.) God sees the past, the present and the future with absolute clarity. **Revelation 1:8** *"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."*
- 3.) **Genesis 15:6** *Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.* Abram believed God and God credited to him as righteousness. In other words, Abraham had faith in God and that is how Abraham was saved.

Parting Shot:

God sees what is in our hearts. It is no mystery to Him that what He promises sometimes seems impossible to us. We wonder how He will accomplish His promises to us. But surely it is not our problem to figure it all out, or to make it all come true. Our job is to believe and to trust God. He will do exactly what He says He will do!

