SEED & BREAD

FOR THE SOWER ISA.55:10 FOR THE EATER BRIEF BIBLICAL MESSAGES FROM

THE WORD OF TRUTH MINISTRY

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ABRAHAM'S SEED TODAY

The word *entail* is a legal term which has to do with limiting an inheritance to a specific line or class of heirs. This can be seen when the LORD appeared unto Abraham and said: "Unto thy seed will I give this land" (Gen. 12:7). And it must be noted here that man's seed is his direct descendants. However, "Abraham's seed" is further restricted when we are told: "For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel, neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but in Isaac shall thy seed be called" (Rom. 9:6,7).

A further directive limiting the "seed of Abraham" is seen when Jacob, a direct descendant of Abraham through Isaac, was visited by God who declared to him: "I am the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed. And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south, and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 28:13,14).

Thus it is that the line of descent was clearly established. Abraham the father was first, Isaac his son was second, and Jacob his grandson was third. Jacob's name was changed by God to Israel. He became the father of twelve men, each one of them became the head of a family, each family became a tribe, and these made up what is commonly called the twelve tribes of Israel or the seed of Abraham. Thus it is that these are the entail of the covenant that God made with Abraham their father.

It is very easy to see the first four steps of descent from Abraham, since they are pointed out in God's Word, but what about the 160 steps (more or less) that would bring us down to Abraham's seed today. Is there today a body of people who can say, "We are direct descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob, and as such we are the heirs of all that God promised to them"?

There are many among the Jewish people today who would say this, and as individuals it may be true of them, but they cannot prove it, neither could they act as a body. Only God could look upon them and see the many steps of descent through the male line down to the professing seed of Israel today. This He will do when the time comes for the purging and restoration of Israel.

During the 430 years that the seed of Abraham spent in Egypt there were outsiders who sought to identify themselves with them. These saw the material and physical blessings that were coming upon Israel and they wanted to share in them. To a certain extent they could do this, but they could never in any way or by any means become one of the descendants of Abraham and enter into the entail of the covenant that promised the land of Canaan to his seed.

When the time came for Israel's deliverance from Egypt there were so many public manifestations of divine power that men were drawn to the people of Israel, so much so that they are spoken of as a "mixed multitude." These left the land of Egypt with Israel. But even though this mixed multitude turned their backs upon Egypt, there was no way they could become heirs of the land God promised to Abraham's seed.

Consequently then the line of descent in God's sight was always clear. It was reckoned from Abraham through the male line of descent. If it ever became confused and mixed in the minds of men, as it certainly is today, it was never so in the mind of God. At any moment in Israel's history, God can look upon them and see which ones are the seed of Abraham and which ones among them are the result of an admixture. He will yet do this in the day when he searches out His flock. See Ezek. 34:11, 17.20.22.31.

It is a positive fact of all law and true justice that no heir can be excluded from his inheritance. Thus, if a man has twelve sons whom he names jointly and severally as his heirs, eleven of them cannot go before the judge and say: "We are the heirs of our father and we claim the inheritance he left to us." The judge will at once say that twelve heirs are mentioned and eleven cannot shut out one of them. Any man who ever came out of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob has a definite claim as a coheir with all other descendants, even though there is provision by which some can be excluded by an act of God.

In his Galatian epistle the Apostle Paul makes declaration concerning this saying: "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made," following which he adds a most pertinent note - "He saith not, and to seeds, as of many; but as of one and to thy seed, which is Christ" (Gal. 3:16). All who read the Bible will know that the man Christ Jesus is a direct descendant of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and he must be given prime consideration when any company of people claim to be Abraham's seed.

This passage has been taken by many to mean that Jesus Christ in His own person constitutes the seed of Abraham, but this is an unreasonable interpretation of Paul's words if one tries to follow it out through other passages which speak of Abraham's seed. Paul's evident purpose in the Galatian passage was to declare that Jesus Christ is a rightful heir to all that God promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Therefore, if all of the estimated 18,000,000 who today claim they are Israelites should unite and lay claim to the land that God promised to them, they could not qualify until Christ is numbered among them. As long as even one rightful heir is excluded, no company of Israelites can lay claim to the land that God promised to Abraham.

Paul's declaration in Gal. 3:16 is of the same construction as Matt. 12:8 where the Greek word *kai* (and) is translated "even" and the Galation passage should read: "He saith not 'And *to* seeds,' as of many, but 'seed' as of one, even to thy seed, which is Christ." Paul's purpose here was to declare Jesus as being a rightful heir (devisee) to all that God promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Therefore, if the estimated 18,000,000 who today claim they are Israelites should unite and agree to lay claim to the land that God promised to Abraham, the righteous Judge of all the earth would in justice need to declare that their claim is false and their action null and void. They have ignored and excluded one rightful heir, one member of that company that constitutes Abraham's heirs. And as long as even one is excluded, no company can say they are Abraham's seed. They cannot rightfully say, "This land is our land, God gave this land to me."

At the present time there are about three million individuals in the land called Palestine who are insisting they are "the seed of Abraham to whom the promises were made." And it is probably true that many of them, if their ancestry could be traced out, could qualify as direct descendants of Abraham through Jacob (Israel). It could also be that some among them are mistakenly claiming to be Israelites who are not. The same is true of the remaining fifteen million who designate themselves as Israelites who are scattered all over the world today. No man living today has the discernment that would allow him to say: "That man is an Israelite indeed," or, "This man is not of Israel."

Nevertheless, some are doing this, saying that the American Indians are the "ten lost tribes of Israel," or that the Anglo-Saxon people are Israelites. Another sits in judgment upon all Jews today and pontifically declares: "All modern' Jews' are descendants of converts to Judaism, and are by no means descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." This *ipse dixit* is pronounced without a shred of proof, and it is a violation of the Spirit's directive: "Judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, Who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and make manifest the counsel of the hearts" (1 Cor. 4;5). No man is qualified to make a judgment

concerning even one individual who claims he is "of Israel" let alone the whole eighteen million who rightly or wrongly make such a claim today.

However, many things that are utterly impossible with men are easily possible. with God. At any moment that He may will to do so, He can look upon everyone of the eighteen million professed Israelites upon the earth today and see every step in their genealogy back to the year 2000 B.C., and He will know whether they are the actual descendant's of the man to whom He gave the name of Israel.

In fact an act such as this will be the first movement when He seeks to cleanse and purge the "seed of Israel" in the day of their great regathering and restoration, as set forth in Ezekiel 20:33-38.

The seed of Abraham, as an existing company of people, has always been protected by a specific promise of God as to their perpetuity.

Through Jeremiah He spoke of the operations of the sun, moon, and stars, yes, even of the waves of the sea, declaring: 'If those ordinances depart from before Me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me for ever. Thus saith the LORD: If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord'' (Jer. 32:37).

The promise here is that "the seed of Israel" will be a "nation before God" in perpetuity. The Hebrew word which is translated "nation" here is **goi**, which basically means a body, fundamentally a corporate body, and is applied to nations, which are corporate bodies of people.

A nation or body composed of "the seed of Israel" has to be in existence under God today, even though it is not in operation. If it does not exist today, then the sublime promise of Jer. 31:36 has not been kept.

God can see the line of descent of the seed of Abraham, even as if it were all happening at this moment. When He acts to regather the seed of Israel, He will not call anyone who is not a part of this body. And even some who are actually the seed of Abraham will need to be purged from this body. "And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter the land of Israel" (Ezek. 20:36). This is God's Word concerning them.

When God governs this earth the only place for the seed of Abraham will be the land God promised to Abraham. No one of another nation will be allowed to reside there: "The people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations" (Numbers 23:9).

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