

Genesis 17:1-14

Scripture is written to learn and apply to our daily lives. If we don't apply the lessons physically in our daily lives, the bible just becomes a history book. Take the lessons and apply them please. Chapter 17 is probably the pivotal chapter in the book of Genesis, if not the entire bible. This chapter sets precedence for the rest of the bible.

- 1 ¶ **And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be you perfect.** God tells Abram, all you have to do is have faith in me and I will take care of you. You will be fine if you just believe in me, have faith in me, trust me, and don't worry about the rest.
- 2 **And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.** Notice this word "covenant". It means "agreement". It is used 13 times in this chapter, so it is very important. Abram is 99 years old at this time, and the agreement is that Abram and Sarai will have a multitude of descendants. But they don't have any children at this time.
- 3 **And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,** God toned down His appearance to Abram, but it was still so intense that Abram fell on his face in front of God.
- 4 ¶ **As for me, behold, my covenant *is* with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.** "Covenant" is mentioned again. The promise is between Abram and God alone.
- 5 **Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made you.** God is changing Abram's name at 99 years old to Abraham because what Abraham is going to do with the rest of his life is a big change.
- 6 **And I will make you exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come out of you.** Many great descendants will come from Abraham.
- 7 ¶ **And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God to you, and to your seed after you.** God is making an everlasting promise, one that will last forever, literally. God is not finished with Israel. Israel is Abraham's seed, so the promise continues. This promise has nothing to do with the Gentiles.
- 8 **And I will give to you, and to your seed after you, the land wherein you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.** Again, there are people all over the Mideast that want to wipe Israel out, want to commit genocide. But they are wasting their time and money, because God is not going to let that happen. Israel has only ever controlled 35000 square miles of the Promised Land so far, but they will rule that whole area and God will be with them.
- 9 **And God said to Abraham, You shall keep my covenant therefore, you, and your seed after you in their generations.** This is my promise between Me and you and all your descendants.
- 10 **This *is* my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your seed after you; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.** The mark of promise between Me and you and your descendants shall be circumcision of all the men. Nothing for the women; just the men.
- 11 **And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant between me and you.** Abraham must circumcise himself at 99 years old.
- 12 **And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which *is* not of your seed.** The boys that are born from then on from Abraham and his descendants must be circumcised at 8 days old. Not 2 days, not 12 days; 8 days specifically. A baby will have enough Vitamin K and prothrombin that are both needed for clotting of blood when they are 8 days old. Babies don't have enough clotting factors at 0-7 days old. Nowadays we inject vitamin K and/or transfuse platelets and prothrombin when clotting is needed. God doesn't care where the boy child came from, if the boy is under Abraham's care, he must be circumcised.

- 13 He that is born in your house, and he that is bought with your money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.** This is a promise between God and Abraham and all Abraham's descendants. It doesn't involve Gentiles or the church of God.
- 14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.** "Soul" means "life". If a boy under Abraham doesn't get circumcised, his life shall be cut off from the promise.