

HOW TO RECEIVE THE LEGACY OF GOD'S BLESSINGS LEGACY SUNDAY

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TEXT: Genesis 12:1-3 Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. **2** I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Proverbs 13:22 A good *man* leaves an inheritance to his children’s children, But the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

INTRO: Legacy is a covenant promise of an inheritance. It started with God’s covenant promise to Abraham and His family. What was the legacy that Abraham received from God the Father? Two things:

I. GOD PROMISES TO BLESS ABRAHAM AND HIS FAMILY

A. Genesis 12:2-3 “I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you;”

- 1.** The blessing of God is heaven on earth. It is the full meaning of salvation.
- 2.** Salvation, favor, health, prosperity in the whole sense of the word. In short, experiencing heaven on earth.

II. GOD WILL BLESS ALL FAMILIES THROUGH ABRAHAM’S BLOODLINE

A. Genesis 12:3 “And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

- 1.** From the beginning, God wanted a large family that would reflect His image and likeness and would rule with Him over a united heaven on earth. So He created Adam and Eve and put them in the Garden of Eden, which was a place where heaven and earth united. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve sinned, allowing evil and death to come to earth.



How to Receive the Legacy of God's Blessing

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2

2. Because of His great love for us, God's plan was to restore what Adam lost by having another family, Abraham's family, to bring forth the Messiah, Jesus, who would rescue the world from evil and bring God's Kingdom to all who believe. They would be restored to the original intent and purpose He had with Adam and Eve. So He makes a promise of legacy to Abraham.
3. God promised Abraham that his descendants would be blessed (know God) and will be used to bless (help others to know God) from every family, nation and tribe.

B. THROUGH JESUS THE MESSIAH, THE LEGACY THAT GOD PROMISED TO ABRAHAM IS NOW OURS

1. Galatians 3:9 So then those who *are* of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.
2. Galatians 3:13-14 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "*Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree*"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
3. The Blessing of Salvation in the full sense of the word (i.e. heaven on earth now) is ours and for our children.
4. It doesn't mean that our children will automatically be saved because of our salvation. As Billy Graham famously said, "God has no grandchildren."
5. But we are to train up a child in the way he should go; the first responsibility is to lead them to know Jesus.
6. God does want us to train our children, pray for our children, model Christlike character to them, with the hope and confidence that they, too, will make a decision to believe in Jesus and follow Him.

III. TWO REQUIREMENTS OF ABRAHAM RECEIVING HIS LEGACY

A. ABRAHAM BELIEVED AND OBEYED GOD

1. Genesis 12:1 Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you."
2. Faith and obedience are used interchangeably throughout the Bible.
3. Abraham grew up in the midst of paganism and idolatry.
4. He becomes a believer in the One True God. We don't know how he went from being a polytheist to a monotheist, but he believed God and obeyed Him.



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5. Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

6. Genesis 15:4-6 And behold, the word of the Lord *came* to him, saying, “This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir.” **5** Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” **6** And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

7. Romans 4:19-22 And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. **20** He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, **21** and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. **22** And therefore *“it was accounted to him for righteousness.”*

8. To be declared righteous, God was saying that he was now qualified to receive his legacy.

B. ABRAHAM GAVE GENEROUSLY

1. ABRAHAM GAVE GENEROUSLY TO HIS NEPHEW LOT

2. He sowed the best part of the land to Lot, his nephew.

3. Genesis 13:7-11 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. The Canaanites and the Perizzites then dwelt in the land. **8** So Abram said to Lot, “Please let there be no strife between you and me, and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen; for we *are* brethren. **9** *Is* not the whole land before you? Please separate from me. If *you take* the left, then I will go to the right; or, if *you go* to the right, then I will go to the left.” **10** And Lot lifted his eyes and saw all the plain of Jordan, that it *was* well watered everywhere (before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt as you go toward Zoar. **11** Then Lot chose for himself all the plain of Jordan, and Lot journeyed east. And they separated from each other.

4. Genesis 13:14-17 And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: “Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; **15** for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever. **16** And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of



the earth, *then* your descendants also could be numbered. 17 Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you.”

5. ABRAHAM TITHED TO MELCHIZEDEK

6. Hebrews 7:1-3 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,” 3 without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.

7. ABRAHAM GAVE HIS OWN SON ISAAC BACK TO GOD

8. Genesis 22:1-5 Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” 2 Then He said, “Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. 4 Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. 5 And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.”

9. This is a prophetic picture of how much God the Father loves the world that He would give His only begotten Son so that everyone who believes would become part of His family.

CONCLUSION: I am asking you to make two commitments today: First, that you, too, would walk in faith and obedience to God, and second, that you would live a life of generosity. God's promise is that you and your family will be blessed to be a blessing to all the families of the world.

