
The Abrahamic Covenant

7

Abraham 1:1–4; 2:1–11; Genesis 12:1–8; 17:1–9

Study Abraham 1:1–4; 2:1–11; Genesis 12:1–8; 17:1–9. In these passages Abraham seeks to be righteous and worthy of the blessings of God. God covenants with Abraham, promising that Abraham will have a numerous posterity who will receive a promised land and the blessings of the priesthood and the gospel.

All Church members are the seed of Abraham, which means we are his descendants and heirs to the blessings and responsibilities of the Abrahamic covenant. These great blessings come to us when we keep gospel covenants.

The first covenant we make is baptism. We later receive the fulness of the Abrahamic covenant in the temple.

- What blessings did the Lord promise Abraham as part of the Abrahamic covenant? (See Abraham 2:6–11; Genesis 12:1–8; 17:1–9.)
- What are our responsibilities as heirs of the Abrahamic covenant? (See Abraham 2:9, 11; Genesis 18:19.)

Additional reading: Doctrine and Covenants 132:19–24, 29–32; Genesis 15; “Abraham, Covenant of,” Bible Dictionary, page 602.

Living Righteously in a Wicked World

8

Genesis 13–14; 18–19

Study the following scriptures:

- a. Genesis 13. After living in Egypt for a time, Abraham and his family return to Canaan. Abraham settles in Hebron, and his nephew Lot settles near Sodom.
- b. Genesis 14:1–2, 8–24. Lot is taken captive and is rescued by Abraham (14:1–2, 8–16). Abraham pays tithes to Melchizedek and refuses to accept the spoils of war from the king of Sodom (14:17–24).
- c. Genesis 18:16–33; 19:1–29. The Lord says that he will destroy Sodom and Gomorrah because of the people’s wickedness (18:16–22). Abraham pleads with the Lord to spare the cities if he can find righteous people living there (18:23–33). Lot and his family are commanded to leave

Sodom (19:1–23). The Lord destroys Sodom and Gomorrah (19:24–29).

- At first Lot “lived in the cities of the plain,” outside Sodom, but he “pitched his tent toward Sodom” (Genesis 13:12). Later he lived in the city of Sodom itself (Genesis 14:12). What things might we do that are the spiritual equivalent of pitching our tents toward Sodom?
- What did Abraham ask when he learned that the Lord was going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah? (See Genesis 18:23–32.) What do we learn from the fact that the Lord would spare the cities if righteous people could be found in them?

Additional reading: Genesis 12; Joseph Smith Translation, Genesis 14:25–40; 19:9–15.