



# SEED."

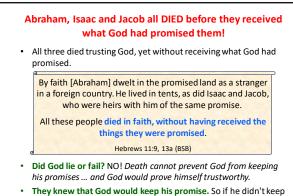
 This word is used as <u>both</u> singular and plural. Context is needed, in order to determine which is meant (or if *both* are included). It can also be translated as "offspring" (singular or plural) or "descendant(s)."

# How long is "forever"?

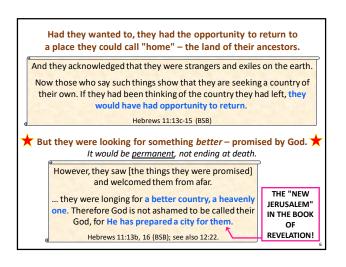
 The Hebrew word translated as "forever" – עולם ('ô·lām) – can refer to either the indefinite past or the indefinite future. Unless context indicates differently, it does not imply an endpoint at some future time.

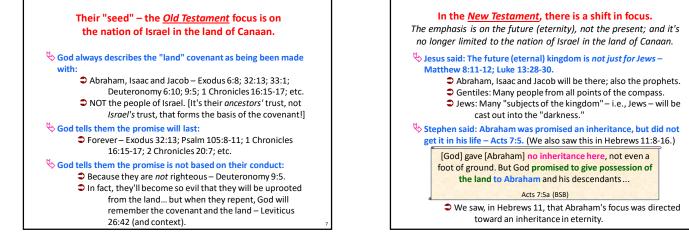
## Did God break his promise?

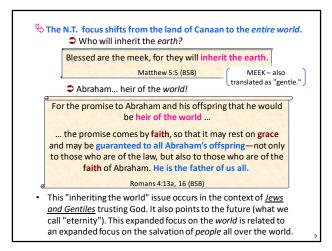
 God promised to give the land to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob... not just to their seed. Yet they didn't get the land before they died! What is the significance of this?

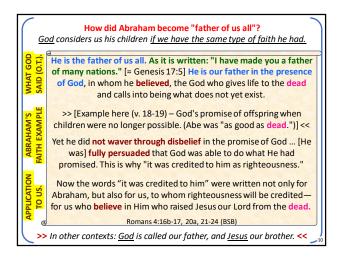


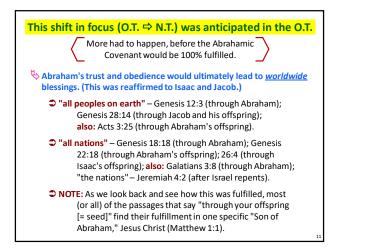
his promises ... and God would prove himself trustworthy. **They knew that God would keep his promise.** So if he didn't keep it *before* they died, there was only one conclusion to reach: They would receive it *after* they died. This is exactly what Scripture says!

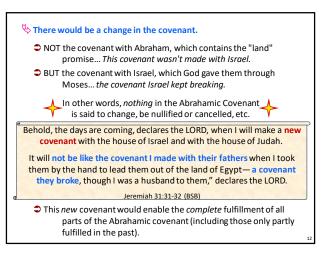


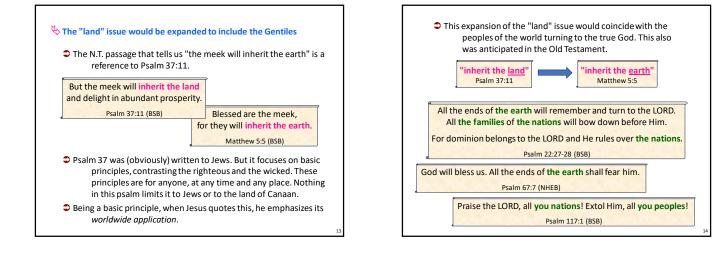


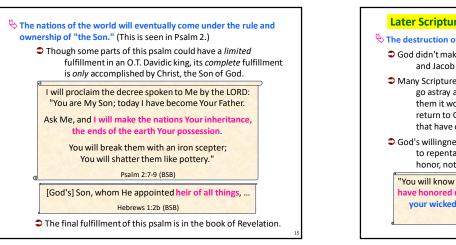


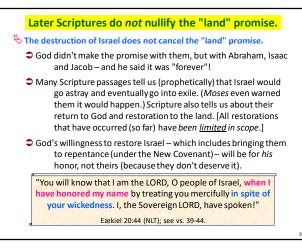




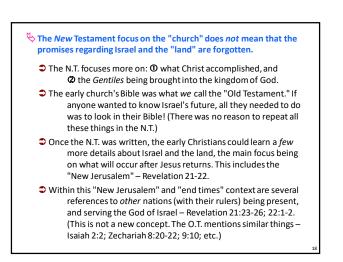












20

It's not a matter of Christians "replacing" Israel. Rather, saved	
Gentiles are brought together with saved Israel.	

Gentiles were once excluded from citizenship in Israel... but in Christ, we have become fellow-citizens – Ephesians 2:11+.

- In Romans 11, we read that unsaved Jews are no longer considered to be part of Israel, and saved Gentiles are "grafted" into Israel – the "tree" who's "roots" are the patriarchs. (This is related to the New Covenant.)
- We read that the covenants belong to Israel (Romans 9:4), and we Gentiles were foreigners to them (Ephesians 2:12). But through Christ, that has changed. Under the New Covenant, Gentiles are able to enjoy the Jew's spiritual blessings – Romans 15:27!
- In Jeremiah, we read about people who claimed that Israel was no longer a nation... but God says they will once again be a people with a Davidic ruler over them – Jeremiah 33:23-26. (This hasn't happened yet.)

SUMMARIZING THINGS There are differences between the O.T. and N.T. (as well as similarities). These differences involve contrasts, but not contradictions.			
Old Testament	New Testament		
Tells us that the Abrahamic Covenant – including the "land" issue – is "forever."	Focuses mostly on other issues; does not deny the O.T. focus.		
Tells us that Israel will be destroyed and later will be completely restored. (This has not yet happened.)	Points to the destruction and restoration of Israel and it results in blessings for the Gentiles.		
Tells us that Gentiles will be included in the blessings of Abraham.	Shows us <i>how</i> that has occurred (at present) and will occur (in the future).		
	Both Testaments contain unfulfilled prophecies; mention Israel and other nations in end-time prophecies.		

### Observations about the "land" prophecies...

- ➡ When the focus is <u>on the nation Israel</u>: Passages often include the phrase "Abraham, Isaac and Jacob."
- ⇒ When the focus is <u>on all nations</u>: Passages sometimes mention Abraham, but *not* Isaac and Jacob.

### What can we expect?

### ⇒ We are told many things in both O.T. and N.T.

• There is hope. In Christ, there is a future – for both the nation of Israel, as well as for the Gentiles.

### ⇒ We are *not* told everything about the future.

- We are reminded of this fact with a specific example, in Revelation 10:4.
- If Jesus' first coming gives us any indication, we can expect that certain things will occur in ways we don't expect; and Scripture passages that might seem to contradict will come together in perfect harmony.

# First of all, we shouldn't be so arrogant as to think we understand everything there is to know about the future. The purpose of prophecy is: (first priority) to glorify God and display his power, and (second priority) to give us hope for the future. It's not to prove our intellectual superiority! Finally, whether we are Jews or Gentiles, we can rejoice in God, who has promised, in the Abrahamic Covenant, to bring all things to a glorious conclusion!

But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness. 2 Peter 3:13 (NLT)

# Credits

### SCRIPTURE

- Scriptures marked "NLT" Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers. Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.
- Scriptures marked "NHEB" Scripture quoted from New Heart English Bible, Public Domain. https://nheb.net/
- Scriptures marked "BSB" Taken from The Holy Bible, Berean Standard Bible, BSB; Public Domain (CC BY NC ND)

### PICTURES (original sources; modifications may have been made)

- Brick wall GDJ / CC0; via openclipart.org; https://openclipart.org/detail/227630/brick-texture
- Globe with lit fuse GDJ / CC0; via openclipart.org; https://openclipart.org/detail/219655/political-map-earth-globe-bomb

Presentation - Dennis Hinks © 2024.