

## Abraham's Land Promise

(continued)

The third promise was the land of Canaan itself. God told Abraham, "Unto thy seed will I give this land" (Gen. 12:7). In Genesis 13:12 we find Abraham was dwelling in that land. God commanded Abraham to "Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: for all the land which thou seest to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever" (Gen. 13:14,15).

God made good on this promise when Joshua led the Israelites into the land of Canaan. "And the Lord gave unto Israel all the land which he swore to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it and dwelt therein. There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass" (Josh. 21:43,45). Retention of the land was conditional. Israel had a choice between being blessed or cursed by God. If they would "harken diligently" unto the Lord, they would dwell in the land and be blessed (Deut. 28:1-14). However, if they turned aside from the law of God, they would be cursed and driven out of the land (Deut. 28:15-68). Joshua promised them, "When ye have transgressed the covenant of the Lord then shall the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he has given unto you" (Josh. 23:16). These people later rejected the Lord were sent into Babylonian captivity. God kept His word, even though they didn't keep theirs.

David Padfield

### No Rules

Have you seen the ads that stress, "No Rules?" I think one ad is for beans and the other is for a steak house. There may be others that I have not seen yet. But think about it just a minute. What kind of world would we have if there were no rules to live by? Think of the resulting chaos. Dear ones we have just about reached that point in our world. Many have come to believe that the rules that govern others simply do not apply to them. You see them in traffic, and in stores. They are rude and hateful.

God's word speaks of those who have become "a law unto themselves." With such people others do not matter. Even to the point of taking another's life. Or forsaking the vows they make in marriage. They are more important than others for they make their own laws.

One day the great Law Giver will return and all will be judged by His Law (Rev. 20:21). In a world where men make their own rules what would your life be to those kinds of people? It produces men without conscience, for they are the only law to which they answer.

Floyd C. Johnson

Huntington Park church of Christ  
Shreveport, LA

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

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**September 11, 2016**



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."*

**Sunday Worship:**

**9:30 am Bible Study**

**10:20 am Worship**

**12:30 pm Afternoon**

**Wednesday Night**

**7:pm**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

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Premillennialism is a doctrine taught by many religious groups in our day. This theory teaches Jesus will return to this earth and set up a literal, earthly kingdom for a 1,000 years. Proponents claim that prior to His return there will be a period of tribulation for seven years (some say three and a half years). Then, according to their speculations, the Lord will reign in Jerusalem (like David and Solomon) and the Jews will receive the land God promised to Abraham in Genesis 12:7. In 1970 Hal Lindsey wrote a best selling book, The Late Great Planet Earth. He said, "For God unconditionally promised Abraham's descendants a literal world-wide kingdom over which they would rule through their Messiah who would reign upon King David's throne. The Jews who believe in the Messiah will also possess the land which is bordered on the east by the Euphrates River, and on the west by the Nile." Many of Lindsey's other predictions have already failed. He claimed the Soviet Union was going to invade Israel and start World War III. Well, the Soviet Union is now out of business, but Hal Lindsey is still out on the lecture circuit. If Lindsey had any integrity, he would issue an apology for his book and offer a refund to all who purchased it. Lindsey's book, along with many others, denies God has ever made good on His promises to Abraham. Let us to examine the promises and see if He has kept His word.

When God called Abraham to leave the Ur of the Chaldees, He said, "Get out of your country, from your kindred and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. 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" (Gen. 12:1-3). Notice the three promises: Abraham would be the father of a great nation (Gen. 12:2; 22:17). This promise was fulfilled in Exodus 1:7-15. A new king ascended to the throne in Egypt and saw the descendants of Abraham outnumbered the Egyptians. In Deut. 1:10, prior to the Israelites entering the promised land, Moses said, "The Lord your God has multiplied you, and here you are today, as the stars of the heaven in multitude." Through Abraham's seed, all nations of the earth would be blessed (Gen. 12:3; 22:18). This promise was fulfilled by the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross. In Peter's sermon on Solomon's porch, he said, "You are the sons of the prophets, and of the Covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed.' To you first God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities" (Acts 3:25,26). The apostle Paul taught the same thing in Galatians 3:9 when he said, "those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham."

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## Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks (FV) Keith Stifflemire

(O) Doug Pruet (A) Kyle Stifflemire

1st prayer Veron Houts 2nd prayer Jeffrey Burks

Announcements: Judd Wall Singing: Mike Mallett

**Prayer List:** Naomi Wall , Mildred Lovell , Lloyd Crownover, Ruby Jones, Pray for our nation, our Troops and Law Enforcement

## You should know that by baptism--

- you sins are washed away (Acts 22:16)
- you are saved from sins (1 Peter 3:20-21)
- you have remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- you get into Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:27)
- you get into the church (Acts 2:37-47)
- you put on Christ (Galatians 3:27)
- you walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 3:1)
- you obey Christ (John 14:15; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 10:48; Hebrews 5:8-9)

## Dates to Remember

**September 11th**

Grandparent Day

**September 25th**

Noon Fellowship

**Happy Birthday**

To

**Kathy Stifflemire Sept.24th**

**Vernon Houts Sept. 24th**

**Autumn Vann Sept.29th**

We have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand, which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN**