

## **El Shaddai and Christ Crucified 04, The Eternal Blessing**

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### ***Oh, that Ishmael... Temporal Blessing Versus Eternal Blessing***

Genesis 17:18-22 (NKJV) 18 And Abraham said to God, “Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!” 19 Then God said: “No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac<H3327>; I will establish{׳יְהַבְרָתָ} <H6965>/LXX{στίσω}<G2476> My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants<H2233> after him. 20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation. 21 But My covenant I will establish{׳יְהַבְרָתָ} <H6965>/LXX{στίσω}<G2476> with Isaac<H3327>, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year.” 22 Then He finished talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

(JSB) Jewish Study Bible: Gen 17:19-21

Gen 17:15–22: Unlike its parallel in ch 15 (J), the P account of the Abrahamic covenant specifies Sarah as the mother of the promised son, and thus makes her indispensable to the fulfillment of the promise to her husband. The natural impossibility of her giving birth at 90 (not to mention her lifelong infertility) only highlights the supernatural character of Isaac and the nation descended from him (v. 17). Ishmael, however, is not dispossessed. Whereas only Isaac inherits the covenant (and its attendant promise of land), Ishmael inherits a large measure of the Abrahamic promise (vv. 20–21; 12:2). Like his nephew Jacob (35:22b–26), he will become the patriarch of a twelve-tribe confederation and thus the father of a great nation (v. 20; cf. 25:12–18; 12:2).

The Apologetics Study Bible (Holman Bible Publishers): Gen 17:19-21

Gen 17:18,20–21 Abraham’s prayer concerning Ishmael in v. 18 did not go unanswered. Just as there were 12 tribes of Israel, there were 12 tribes of Ishmael (v. 20; 25:16). The difference between the two was God’s sovereign choice of Isaac’s descendants as His covenant people (17:21)

(CEN-BC) CrossEyedNed’s Bible Commentary: Gen 17:19-22; Gen 35:9-13; Gen 35:22-26  
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The Testimony of Christ has to be maintained!

With Ishmael there is blessing, but it is temporal and earthly (1Cor 15:47). It is fruitfulness without knowledge of Christ Crucified. This is the extreme contrast of Abram/Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob/Israel which are testimonies of Christ. Jesus of Nazareth (the single Seed) unto Christ The glorified Risen Lord. Herein is found the Eternal blessing and fruitfulness through death and burial (Jn 12:23-25, 27-28, 32-33).

Israel (The Glorified Seed in Resurrection) is the increase of Isaac (The single Seed (Gen 22:1-19)), just as Israel (The Firstborn from among the dead i.e. from Egypt (Ex 4:22)) is the increase of Joseph (The Beloved Son (Gen 37:3; Gen 22:2)).

### ***Abram's name changed to Abraham***

Gen 17:1-8 (NKJV) 1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. 2 And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." 3 Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: 4 "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. 5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. 7 And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. 8 Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."

### ***Jacob's name changed to Israel***

Genesis 32:24-32 (NKJV) 24 Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. 25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. 26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" 27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." 28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." 31 Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip. 32 Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank, which is on the hip socket, because He touched the socket of Jacob's hip in the muscle that shrank.

Hebrews 13:8

### ***Isaac's name remains the same***

Gen 22:1-14 (NKJV) 1 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." 6 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. 7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. 9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. 10 And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." 12 And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." 13 Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided."