

The Covenants of Scripture: The Abrahamic Covenant



Scripture

- **Mark 7:1-8**

The Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered around Him when they had come from Jerusalem, and had seen that some of His disciples were eating their bread with impure hands, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, thus observing the traditions of the elders;

...and when they come from the market place, they do not eat unless they cleanse themselves; and there are many other things which they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.)

The Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?” And He said to them, “Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me.’” ‘But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.’ Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men.”

Other Scriptures

- Galatians 3:14,16
- Genesis 15:6, 10-17
- James 2:17-18
- Numbers 11:16
- Exodus 20:8-11
- Genesis 22:16, 18

Main Points

- Primary Covenants in Scripture
 - Abrahamic Covenant
 - Mosaic Covenant
 - New Covenant
- Abrahamic Covenant
 - Made with Abraham through relationship with God.
 - Abraham’s Covenant was based entirely on faith.
 - Abraham’s faith translated into action.
 - Belief translates into action.
- The Torah (in Hebrew) or the Pentateuch (in Greek) is the first five books of the Bible.
- Oral Law-Laws that were given to Moses and were passed down orally.

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- Abraham entered into a covenant relationship with God before there was a written or oral law.
- The oral law is believed to help understand the written law better.
- The oral law is referred to in the New Testament as the “tradition of the elders.”
- Righteousness comes through faith.
- Basis of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - 1. Faith
 - 2. Promise from God
 - 3. Unconditional
- God has made a Covenant of love with you.

Discussion Questions

1. Real Biblical faith is demonstrated through action. What are some areas in which you believe God and what are some actions that result?

2. Is it difficult for you to keep your works from faith from becoming a works-based acceptance from Abba? This has been a challenge for believers from the beginning. Your relationship with God is a result of faith in Christ, and works are the fruit of that relationship, done from obedience through relationship. Take some time to thank God right now for the freedom that comes in knowing this truth.

3. What does Abraham’s faith covenant with God apart from the law teach us today?