

The Acts of the Apostles

Lesson 5: Peter's Second Message

Acts 3:12-26

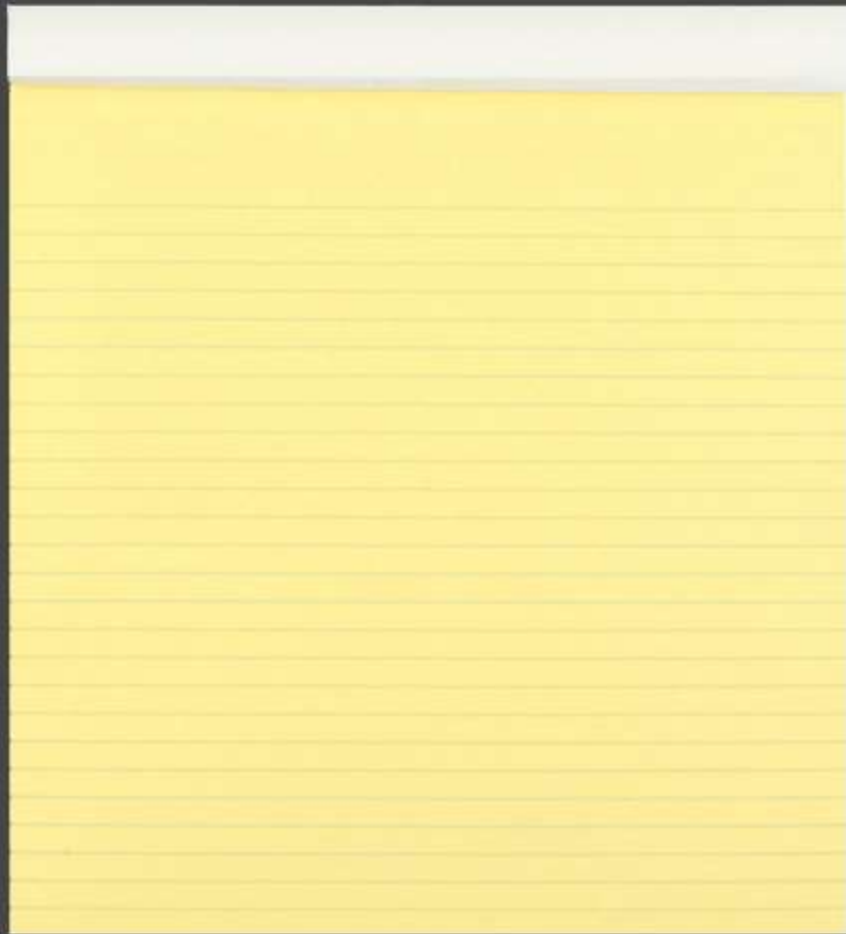
(This lesson includes an explanation of the Abrahamic Covenant)

When Peter saw the reaction of the people to the healing at the temple gate, he began his second recorded sermon:



Acts 3:12

And when Peter saw *it*,
he answered unto the people,
Ye men of Israel,
why marvel ye at this?
or why look ye so earnestly on us,
as though by our own power or
holiness we had made this man to
walk?



Acts 3:12

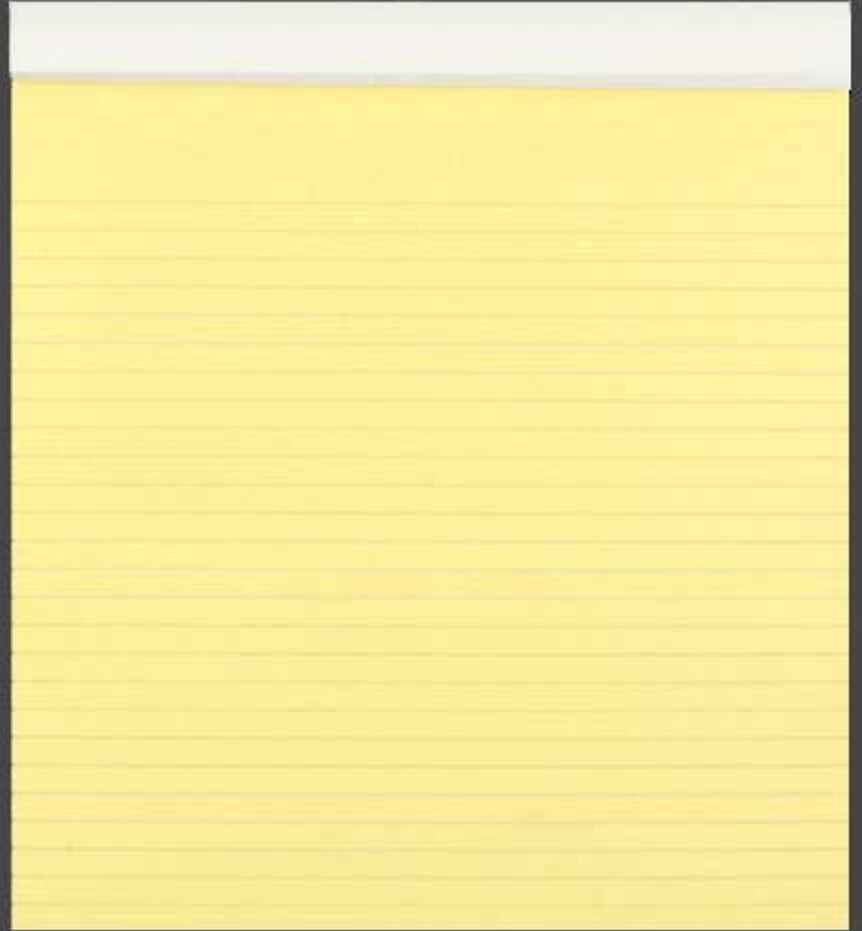
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Christianity is not about the *Christian's*
power or holiness. It is about the
power and holiness of *Christ*.

Acts 3:13-15

- ¹³ The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go.
- ¹⁴ But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;
- ¹⁵ And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.



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For the second time, Peter charged the Jews with having a part in the death of Christ.

Acts 3:13-15

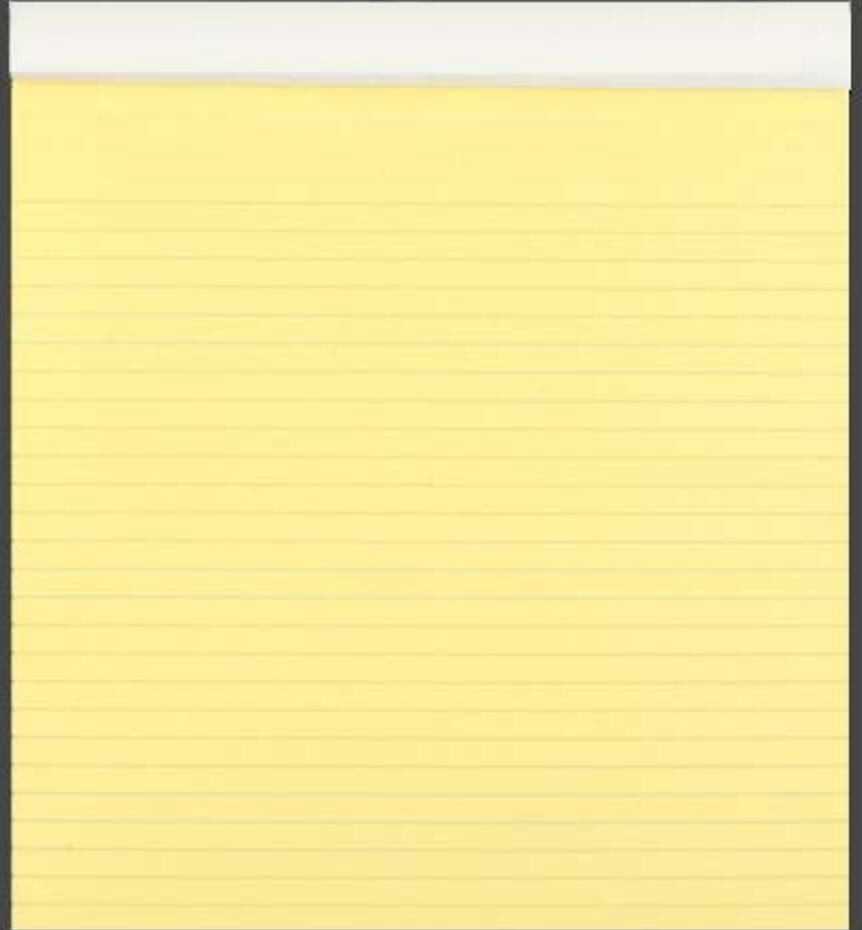
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His declaration of “the God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob” repeats throughout this message.

Acts 3:16

And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.



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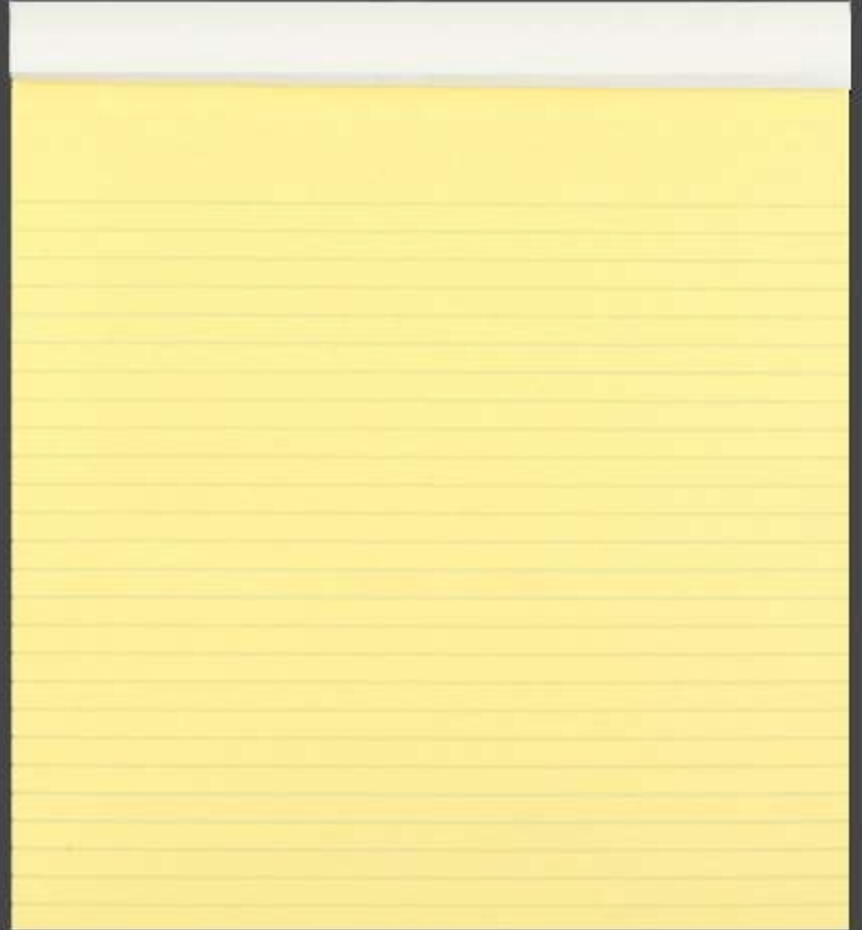


This was not the first healing done by Peter and John. But this was the first healing done in the name of the risen savior!

Acts 3:17-18

¹⁷ And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as *did* also your rulers.

¹⁸ But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.



Acts 3:17-18

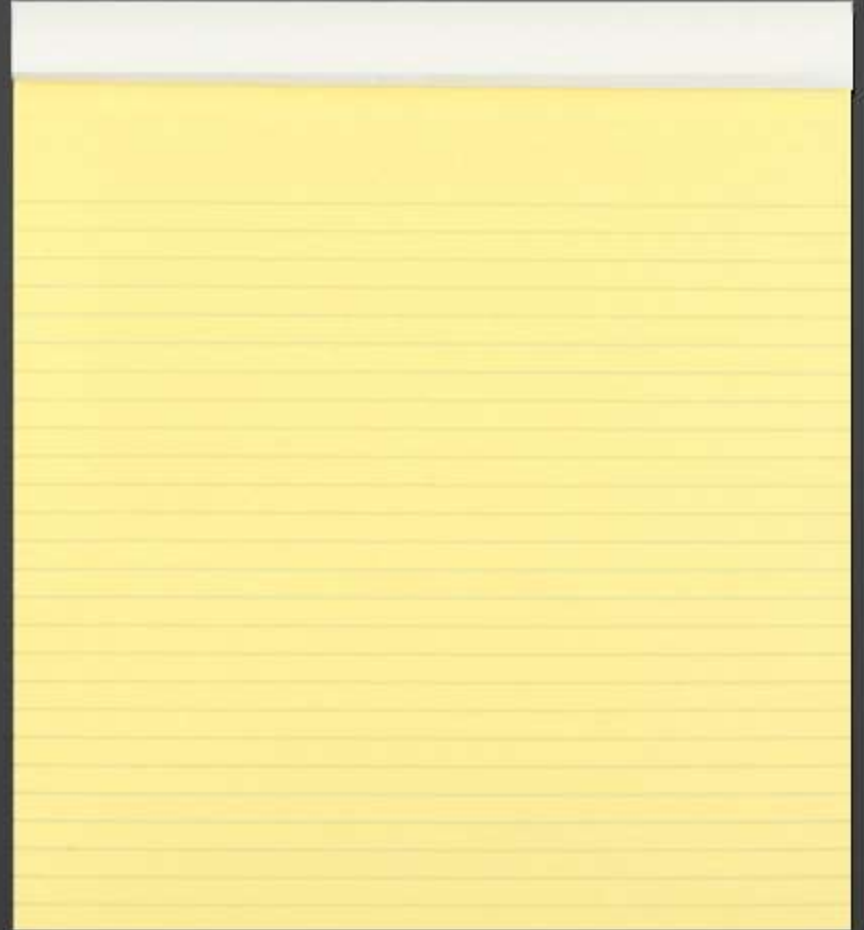
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- ¹⁸ But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.



Peter must have learned of Christ's prayer on the cross: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Lk. 23:34).

Acts 3:19-21

- ¹⁹ Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
- ²⁰ And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:
- ²¹ Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.



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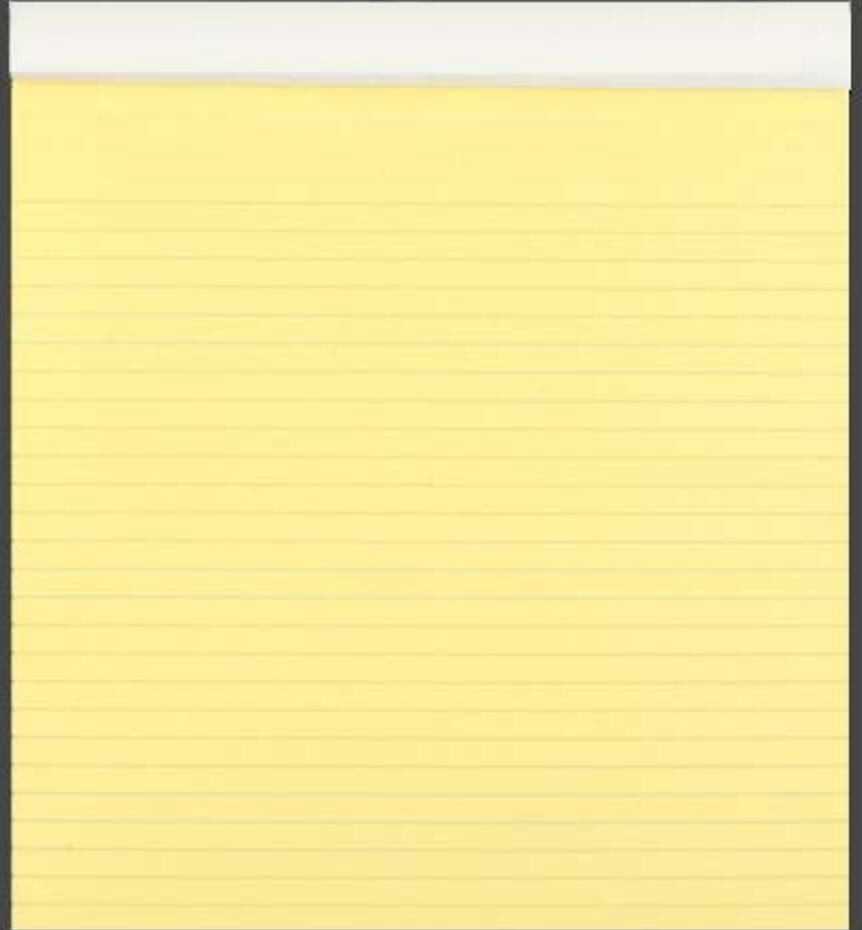
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To preach forgiveness without repentance gives permission to sin.

To preach repentance without forgiveness leads to legalism.

Acts 3:22-23

- ²² For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.
- ²³ And it shall come to pass, *that* every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.



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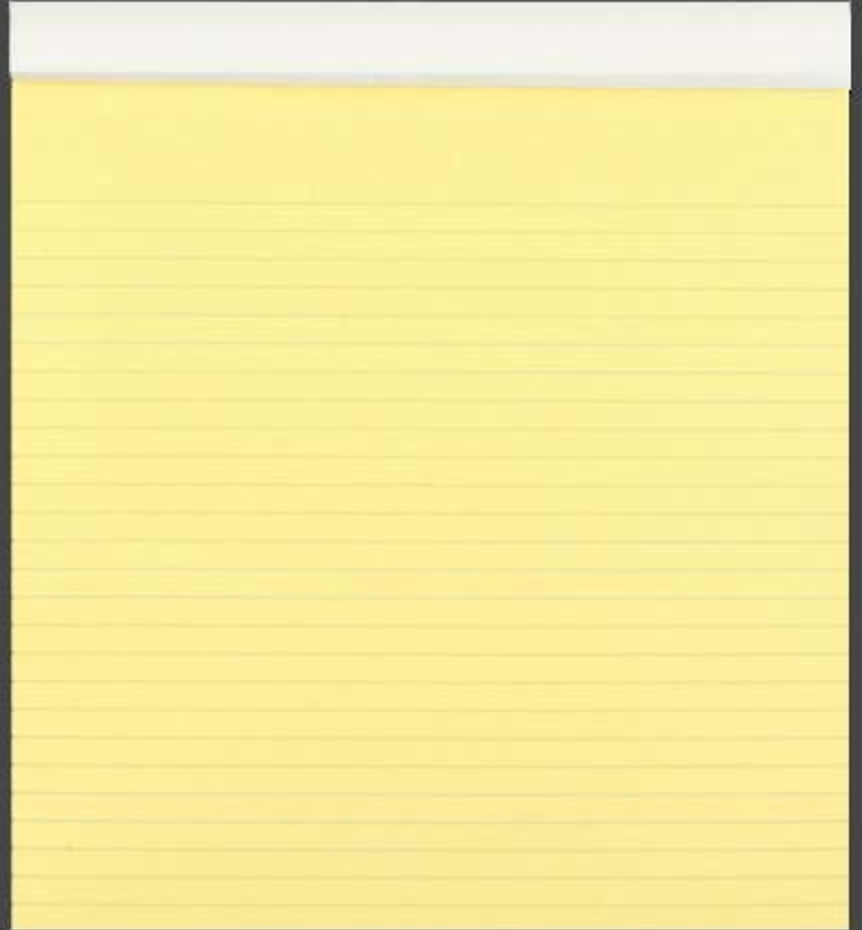


This is quoted from Deuteronomy 18:18-20

- ¹⁸ I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.
- ¹⁹ And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require *it* of him.

Acts 3:24-25

- ²⁴ Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.
- ²⁵ Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.



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And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.



This is quoted from Genesis 12:3

And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

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Peter called the Jews “the children of the prophets and of the covenant.”

Acts 3:24-25

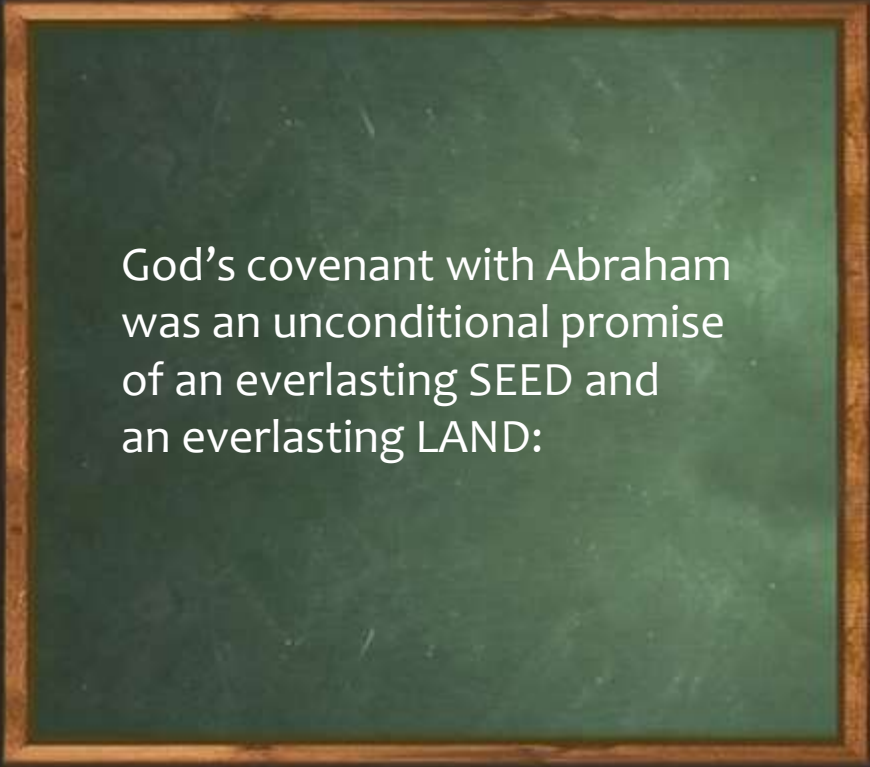
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God's covenant with the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is the foundation of his relationship with believers everywhere:

God's covenant with Abraham was an unconditional promise of an everlasting SEED and an everlasting LAND:






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Genesis 17:7-8

- 7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.
- 8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.

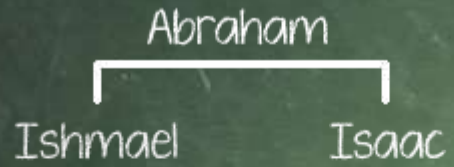


Abraham

Abraham had two sons:



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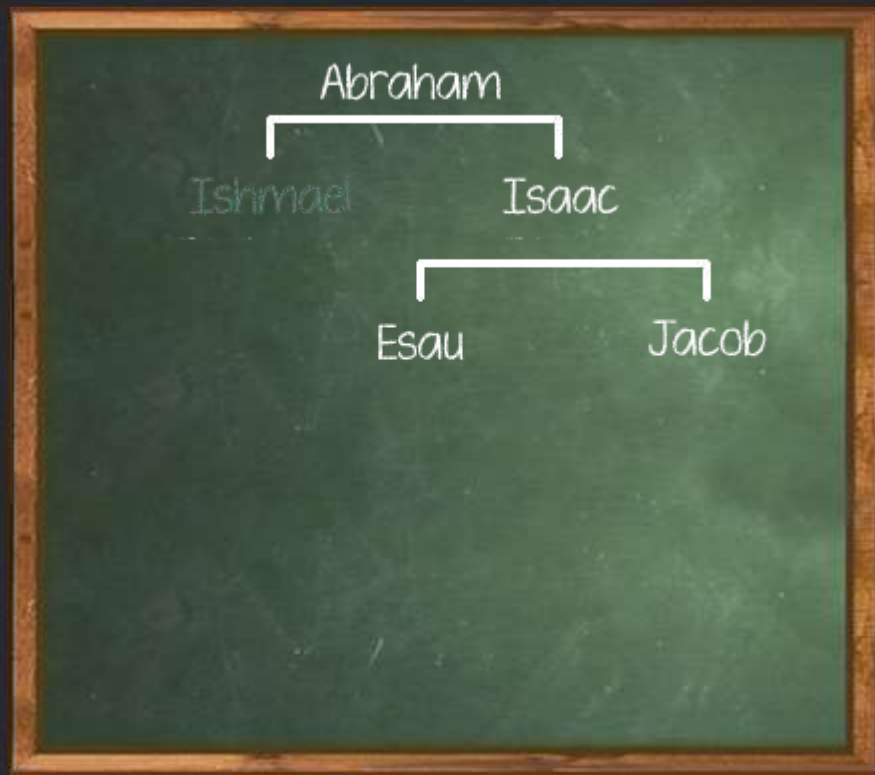
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Genesis 17:19

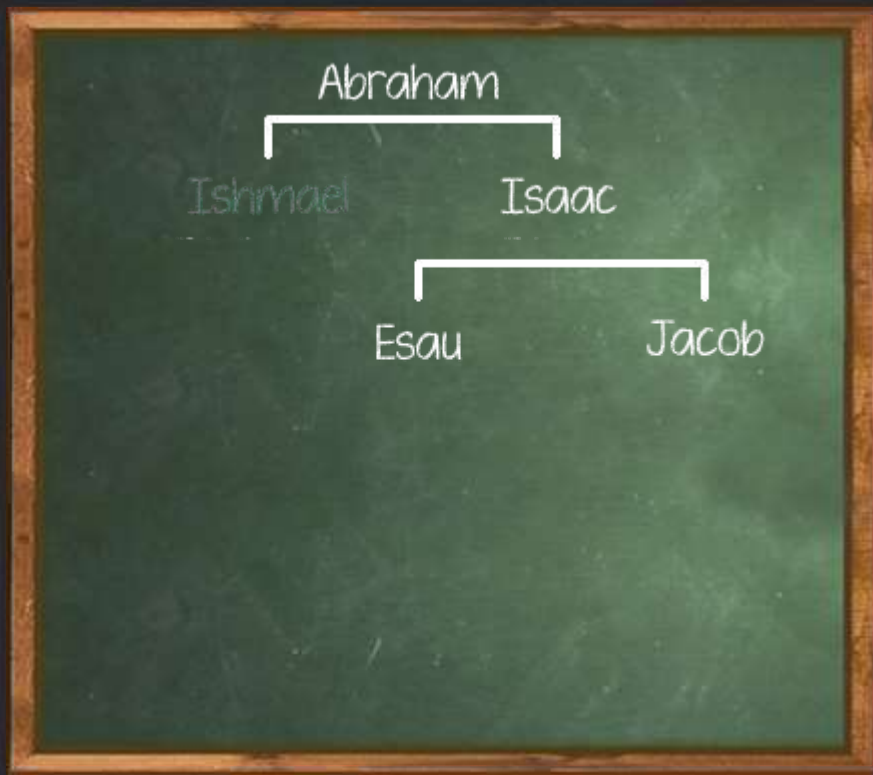
And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed;
and thou shalt call his name Isaac:
and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant,
and with his seed after him.



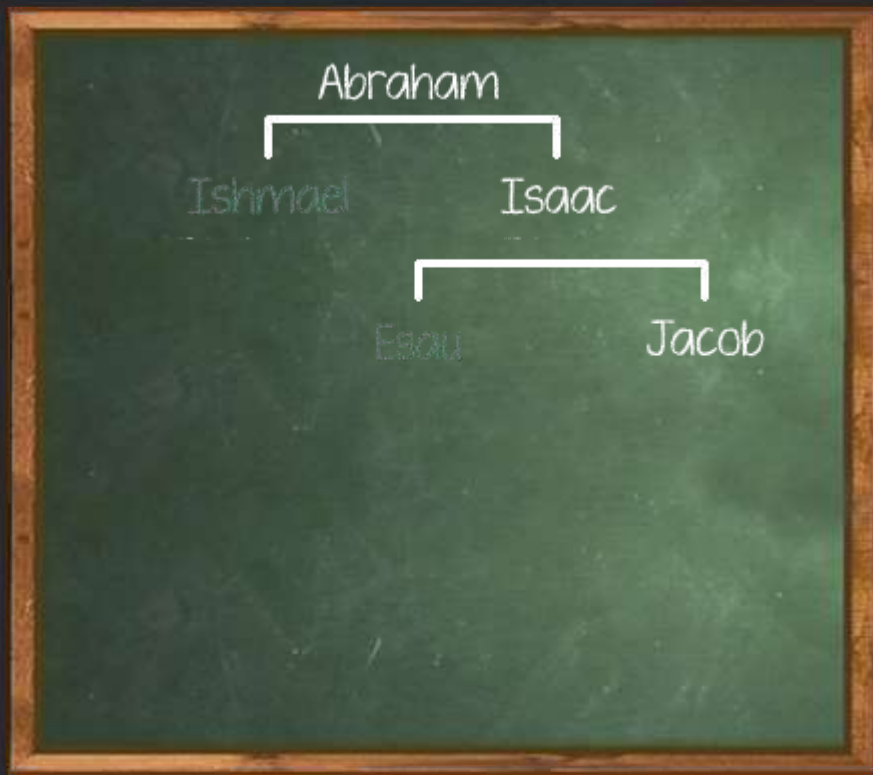
Isaac also had two sons:



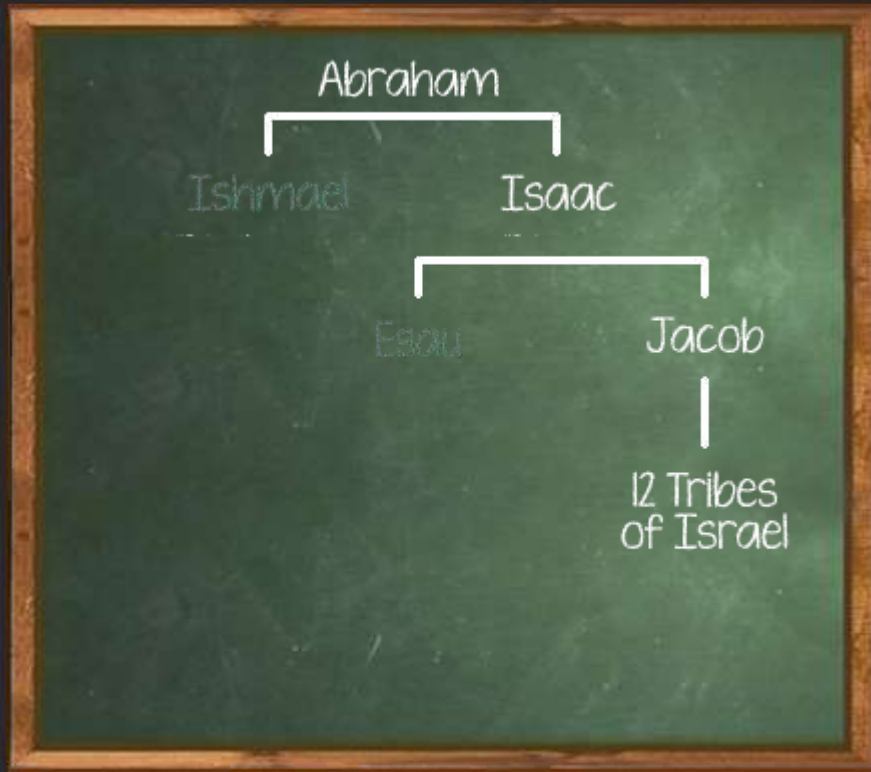
Isaac also had two sons:



Isaac also had two sons:
But the Covenant included only Jacob.



Isaac also had two sons:
But the Covenant included only Jacob.
God changed Jacob's name to Israel,
and made him the patriarch of the
twelve tribes.



Genesis 35:9-12

- ⁹ And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him.
- ¹⁰ And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel.
- ¹¹ And God said unto him, I *am* God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;
- ¹² And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land.



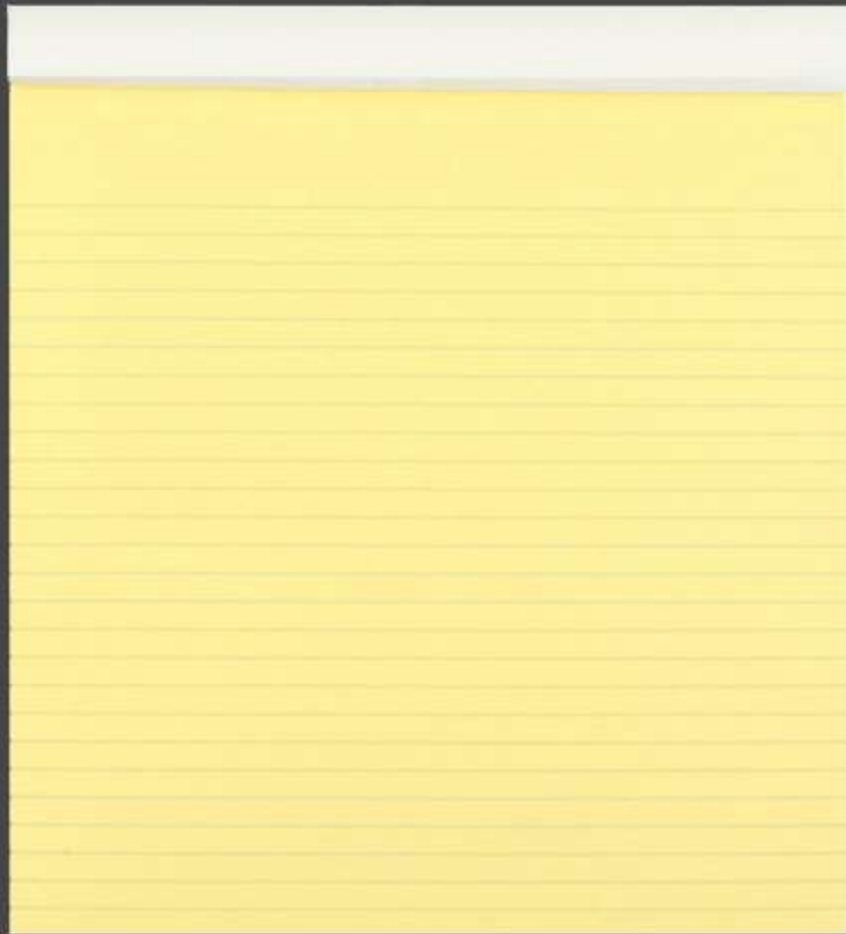
The covenants God had made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob defined the Jews as a people, and established their relationship with God.

And it was to the Jews first that God sent his Son.

Acts 3:26

Unto you first God,

having raised up his Son Jesus,
sent him to bless you,
in turning away every one of you
from his iniquities.



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The Gospel of God always was, and
always will be “to the Jew first.”

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Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of
Christ: for it is the power of God unto
salvation to every one that believeth;
to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

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In the opening years of the Church Age, the message of salvation was sounded out in Jerusalem and all Judaea to the people of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

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But it was sent first to the Jews.

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This is the end of Chapter Three

UP NEXT:

The witness in Jerusalem continues,
and the persecution begins.

Questions to test your understanding of this lesson:

1. In Acts 3:13, what name does Peter call God?
2. In Acts 3:17, what does Peter say caused the Jews to reject Jesus?
3. In Acts 3:19, what are the two parts of Peter's call to salvation?
4. What two verses in Acts 3 come from Deuteronomy 18?
5. What verse in Acts 3 comes from Genesis 12?
6. In Acts 3:25, what are TWO things the Jews are children of?
7. According to Genesis 17:7-8, what were the two everlasting things God promised to Abraham?
8. Abraham had two sons. Which one was included in the covenant?
9. Isaac had two sons. Which one was included in the covenant?
10. According to Acts 3:26, where did God first send his Son?

Each question is worth 10 points. Do NOT share your answers with other students.



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