

## Questions / Answers

1. What was the punishment on Adam and Eve because they sinned?  
*They would die.*
2. Who was the seed of the woman (Eve) who would destroy the power of sin and death?  
*Jesus Christ*
3. What does the name 'Abraham' mean  
*Father of all the faithful.*
4. Who is the special offspring promised to Abraham?  
*Jesus Christ.*
5. How can we have a part in God's promises to Abraham?  
*By being baptised and having faith in God.*
6. Who is the special son that God promised to David?  
Jesus Christ.
7. Where is the throne of David from which Jesus will reign for ever?  
*Jerusalem.*
8. What did the angel tell Mary that fulfilled God's promises to David?  
*Jesus would be the Son of God. He will rule for ever from David's throne in Jerusalem.*
9. What will happen to David when Jesus comes back?  
*He will be raised from the dead and share the joys of the Kingdom.*
10. What does God promise us if we are faithful?  
*God will take away all the problems of sin and we will live for ever in God's Kingdom.*

## Memory verses

Genesis 3:15   Romans 6:23   Galatians 3:26—29   Luke 1:32—33

## Discussion

Talk about the promises that God made to Abraham and David. How are they fulfilled? What must we do to be part of these promises?

## Writing

Write out the promise that God made to Adam and Eve through the serpent. Explain how each sentence is fulfilled.

# CBM Senior Lessons



## Lesson 23 Promises of God

**READING** Genesis 3:15; Romans 6:23; Genesis 12:1—3; 13:15—16; 22:17 18; Galatians 3:16 & 26—29; 2 Samuel 7:13—14; Luke 1:32—35

### LESSON

God is loving and forgiving. As soon as Adam and Eve sinned, God punished them. But He gave them a promise of hope for the future. This was the first of many promises God made to those who believe in Him. God promised that He would provide a way to overcome sin and death.

God made a promise to Adam and Eve when He spoke to the serpent, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." Genesis 3:15.

The words are difficult to understand, so we need to think about them carefully. We will look at them a sentence at a time.

*I (God) will put enmity between you (serpent) and the woman (Eve).*

The serpent was an enemy to Eve because it lied to her and she sinned and was condemned to death. The serpent represents sin and wicked people.

*I will put enmity between your (the serpent's) offspring and hers (Eve's)*

The offspring of the serpent are people who act like the serpent did. They oppose the laws of God. The offspring of the woman is Jesus. He had a human mother, but not a human father. His Father is God. Men hated Jesus and refused to accept his teaching.

*He (Jesus) will crush your (serpent's) head, and you (serpent) will strike his (Jesus') heel.*

Wicked men killed Jesus. But God raised him from the dead because he was sinless. Jesus' death was only temporary like a blow on the heel, which is painful but is only temporary.

By his death, Jesus destroyed the power of sin for ever in the lives of all who believe in him. This is what is meant by crushing the head. This is a fatal and permanent blow.

Everyone sins and therefore has to die. This promise of God gives hope that one day sin and death will be destroyed. This is the hope of eternal life.

Many years later, God spoke to a man called Abram. He told Abram to leave his home in Ur and travel to another country which God would show him. God made several promises to Abram because Abram obeyed Him. Genesis 12:1—3. God promised that Abram's descendants would become a great nation. God chose Abram to be the father of the Jewish people. God also promised that, not only the Jews, but people of all nations would share in the blessings. God changed Abram's name to Abraham which means 'Father of many people'. Abraham was the father of all those who are faithful.

Later, when Abraham was living in the land of Israel, he was generous and let his nephew Lot choose to live in the best part of the land. God promised that He would give all the land to Abraham and his descendants for ever. Genesis 13:15—16. To live in the land for ever Abraham would have to live for ever, so God was promising him everlasting life.

God promised that Abraham's descendants would be a great nation. He said that Abraham's descendants would be like the stars—so many that you cannot count them. But Abraham had no children at that time. Abraham had to wait over twenty years for his son, Isaac, to be born. But Abraham believed God's promises. God was pleased that Abraham had faith in His promises. Genesis 15:5—6.

Abraham finally had a son called Isaac. When Isaac grew up God tested Abraham to see if he loved God with all his heart. God told Abraham to sacrifice his son. Abraham loved God so much that he was willing to do this. God stopped him from killing Isaac. But God was very pleased that Abraham loved Him so much. He promised Abraham, "I will bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore ... and through your offspring all nations of the earth will be blessed." Genesis 22:17—18.

Many centuries after Abraham, the most important descendant of Abraham was born. This was Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:16 tells us, "Now the promises were made to Abraham and his offspring. It does not say, 'And to offsprings', referring to many, but referring to one. 'And to your offspring', who is Christ." Jesus fulfilled God's promises and will bring blessings to all peoples.

Galatians goes on to say that if we have faith and are baptised into Jesus we will also become offspring of Abraham and have a part in God's promise of eternal life in His Kingdom on earth. Galatians 3:26—29.

The last lesson was about the promises that God made to David. David wanted to build a Temple for God in Jerusalem. But God said that David's son would build the Temple. God was pleased with David and made great promises to him. These promises were partly fulfilled by David's son, Solomon, but the complete fulfillment had to wait until the coming of the Lord Jesus.

God promised a very special son to David. He said, "I will be his father, and he shall be my son." 2 Samuel 7:14. The New Testament tells us how this promise was fulfilled. An angel came to one of King David's descendants, Mary, and told her that she would have a very special son, who would be the Son of God. The angel said, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God." Luke 1:35.

God also promised David, "He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever." 2 Samuel 7:13. The angel also told Mary how her baby would fulfill this promise God made to David. The angel said, "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Luke 1:32—33.

David knew that when at last his great Son (Jesus Christ) reigns in Jerusalem, he will be raised from the dead and will share the joys of the kingdom.

The promises made by God in the Old Testament are fulfilled through Jesus Christ. The first verse of the New Testament says, "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham." Matthew 1:1. The Gospel (Good News) tells us how Jesus came to fulfill all God's promises. Jesus is the only man who has ever lived who never sinned. When Jesus died on the cross he conquered sin and took away the result of sin.

If we have faith in God like Abraham and David we can share in God's promises. We can have a place in God's Kingdom when Jesus comes back to the earth. In the kingdom we will live for ever. God will take away all the problems of sin in our lives. This is what God promises us if we believe in Him and love and obey Him.