

Review of Last Week’s Reading:

Genesis 17:18

Abraham and the Covenant of Circumcision

¹ When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; **walk before me, and be blameless.** ² *that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.*” ³ Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴ “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵ *No longer shall your name be* (your destiny and purpose, with God, has changed from self-promotion to God’s Kingdom restoration and expansion) to called Abram (father), but your name shall be Abraham (the change of name emphasizes the new mission of Abraham, which is “To Bring all the peoples under the wings of the presence of God in the world” – father of many/nations), for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷ And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ⁸ And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.”

⁹ And God said to Abraham, “As for you, **you shall keep MY COVENANT, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.** ¹⁰ **This is MY COVENANT, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be CIRCUMCISED.** ¹¹ **You shall be CIRCUMCISED in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a SIGN of the covenant between me and you.** ¹² He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, ¹³ both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be **CIRCUMCISED.** **So shall MY COVENANT be in your flesh an everlasting covenant.** ¹⁴ Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised **in the flesh** of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; **he has BROKEN my covenant.**”

The Talmud (Jewish Oral Law) considers circumcision to be equal to all the other 612 commands.

Covenant has a numerical value of 612 (bet = 2; reish = 200; yud = 10; tav = 400).

So when **covenant** is combined with the singular commandment it equals 613 — in other words, the full number of the commandments in the Torah.

While anyone can be circumcised simply for health reasons, when a God-Fearing individual fulfills this commandment in order to be in covenant with God, it elevates the circumcision as an act of holiness, representing **our bond with Adonai.**

Circumcision is the sign of the covenant between God and Abraham and His descendants forever.

For instance, when David referred to the giant Goliath, he called him an “uncircumcised Philistine.”

“For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” 1 Samuel 17:26

David was not announcing the state of Goliath’s physical condition; rather, he was emphasizing the fact that this giant was not in holy covenant with the God of Israel.

In other words, David was proclaiming a message of faith **that God would uphold the covenant and protect Israel.** It might have been challenging not to look on the strength and prowess of his enemy, but David overcame and, instead, looked to the strength and faithfulness of the God of Israel.

Although the commandment to the Jewish People to circumcise their sons on the 8th day still holds true, the Torah tells us that God will circumcise our hearts and those of our descendants — to love and obey Him when we come back into the Land:

“The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love Him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.” Deuteronomy 30:6

The ancient Hebrew prophet, Jeremiah, also called the Jewish People to circumcise their hearts:

“Circumcise yourselves to the LORD; remove the foreskin of your hearts, O men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem; lest My wrath go forth like fire, and burn with none to quench it, because of the evil of your deeds.” Jeremiah 4:4

The issue of circumcision extends far beyond the physical and becomes a crucial matter of the heart.

The circumcision of the heart is not done with human hands (God’s Covenant with Abraham was God’s alone with no Assistance of Man, as Abraham Slept) but is only accomplished by the faithful working of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those who follow Jesus.

“In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Messiah.” Colossians 2:11

Deuteronomy 10:12-22

Fear the LORD/ Circumcise Your Heart

¹² And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD’s commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

¹⁴ To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. ¹⁶ **Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer.** ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. . . . ²⁰ Fear the LORD your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. ²¹ He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. ²² Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

CIRCUMCISION: a spiritual interpretation was imposed upon the procedure when the Israelites were instructed to circumcise their hearts (^{Deut 10:16} Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn.). This demand required them to recognize that, in addition to bearing the physical mark of covenant membership, they were also under obligation to manifest specific spiritual qualities of commitment and obedience to the Lord's will. Jeremiah (^{Jerem 4:4} Circumcise yourselves to the Lord . . . because of the evil of your deeds.) made precisely the same demands upon his contemporaries because of their evil deeds, which were the very opposite of what God required. For him, circumcision entailed consecration to the Lord and to the high moral ideals of the covenant, of which holiness was representative (^{Lev 11:44} For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.). A true covenant member would be motivated by love of God (Deut 6:5) and one's neighbor (Lev 19:18). **A simple definition of the meaning of Circumcision is the emotional, physical, and spiritual separation of this world to God's ways, emotional, physical, and spiritually, or in thought, action, and word:**

Romans 12:1-2

A Living Sacrifice

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a **living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² **Do not be conformed to this world**, but **be transformed by the renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Example: This covenant, of circumcision, had not been exercised during the desert wanderings.

“Then Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that **they stayed in their places in the camp till they were healed**. Then the LORD said to Joshua, **“This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.”** (*Joshua 5:7–9*)

Ecclesiastes 12:13

¹³ The end of the matter; all has been heard. **Fear God** (follow Him) and **keep his commandments** (obey Him), for this is the whole duty of man.

Deuteronomy 30:1-20

Repentance and Forgiveness

¹ And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the Lord your God has driven you, ² and return to the Lord your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, ³ then the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you. ⁴ If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there the Lord your God will gather you, and from there he will take you. ⁵ And the Lord your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed, that you may possess it. And he will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers. ⁶ **And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.** ⁷ And the Lord your God will put all these curses on your foes and enemies who persecuted you. ⁸ **And you shall again obey the voice of the Lord and keep all his commandments that I command you today.** ⁹ The Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your cattle and in the fruit of your ground. **For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, as he took delight in your fathers,** ¹⁰ **when you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, when you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.**

The Choice of Life and Death

¹¹ **“For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you**, neither is it far off. ¹² It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ ¹³ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ ¹⁴ But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶ **If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.** ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. **Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live,** ²⁰ **loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days**, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

Ezekiel 36:26-27

I Will Put My Spirit Within You

²⁶ **And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.** ²⁷ **And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

Mark 16:16

¹⁶ Whoever believes and is **baptized will be saved**, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

1 Peter 3:21

²¹ **Baptism**, which corresponds to this, **now saves you**, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

This Week:

“Is anything too hard for the Lord?” Genesis 18:14

VAYERA (And He Appeared) Genesis 18:1–22:24; 2 Kings 4:1–37; Luke 1:26–38, 24:36–53

“The Lord APPEARED to Abraham near the great trees of **Mamre** while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day.” Genesis 18:1

Mamre: means myrrh, a bitter and fragrant spice that was originally used to mark the tabernacle, but which came to be used to proclaim, *the sense of smell*, **THE CONSUMMATION OF MARRIAGE**. Hence, despite its links to words that mostly describe hardship, Myrrh oil was known as the “oil of joy”. The *famous* “oaks of Mamre” obviously don’t denote a breezy stand of fine timber but a wisdom school.

The Sense of Smell:

2 Corinthians 2:14-20

¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵ For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing, ¹⁶ to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things? ¹⁷ For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God’s word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

Mark 9:49

⁴⁹ For everyone will be salted with fire.

Myrrh: is a sap-like substance that comes from trees. It is often used as a fragrance, to flavor food products, and for its potential health benefits:

1. Kills Harmful Bacteria (in Biblical times, myrrh incense — often in combination with frankincense — was burned in places of worship to help purify the air and prevent the spread of contagious diseases, including those caused by bacteria)
2. May Support Oral Health
3. Supports Skin Health and May Help Heal Sores
4. Combats Pain and Swelling
5. May Be a Powerful Antioxidant (defends your cells from damage, aging, diseases)
6. Kills Some Parasites (including pets, sexual activity, contaminated food or water)
7. Sunscreen
8. Cancer (help kill or slow the growth of cancer cells)
9. Gut health
10. Mold (help kill mold)

Deuteronomy 27:26 – 28:67

²⁶ “‘Cursed be anyone who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them.’ And all the people shall say, ‘Amen.’”

Blessings for Obedience

²⁸ “And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. ² And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the Lord your God . . . ⁷ “The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways . . . ⁹ The Lord will establish you as a people holy to himself, as he has sworn to you, if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in his ways . . . ¹³ . . . if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them, ¹⁴ and if you do not turn aside from any of the words that I command you today, to the right hand or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

Curses for Disobedience

¹⁵ “But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you . . . ²⁰ “The Lord will send on you curses, confusion, and frustration in all that you undertake to do, until you are destroyed and perish quickly on account of the evil of your deeds, because you have forsaken me . . . ²² The Lord will strike you with wasting disease and with fever . . . ²⁵ “The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. **You shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them . . .** ²⁷ The Lord will strike you with the boils of Egypt, and with tumors and scabs and itch, of which you cannot be healed. ²⁸ The Lord will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of mind, ²⁹ and . . . you shall not prosper in your ways. ³⁴ And you shall be only oppressed and robbed continually, and there shall be no one to help you . . . ³³ . . . you shall be only oppressed and crushed continually, ³⁴ so that you are driven mad by the sights that your eyes see . . . ³⁷ And you shall become a horror, a proverb, and a byword among all the peoples where the Lord will lead you away . . . ⁴³ The sojourner who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower . . . ⁴⁵ “All these curses shall come upon you and pursue you and overtake you till you are destroyed, because you did not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that he commanded you. ⁴⁶ They shall be a sign and a wonder against you and your offspring forever. ⁴⁷ **Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart, because of the abundance of all things . . .** ⁵⁸ “If you are not careful to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, the Lord your God, ⁵⁹ then the Lord will bring on you and your offspring extraordinary afflictions, afflictions severe and lasting, and sicknesses grievous and lasting . . . ⁶² Whereas you were as numerous as the

stars of heaven, you shall be left few in number, because you did not obey the voice of the Lord your God. ⁶³And as the Lord took delight in doing you good and multiplying you, so the Lord will take delight in bringing ruin upon you and destroying you . . . ⁶⁶**Your life shall hang in doubt before you. Night and day you shall be in dread and have no assurance of your life.** ⁶⁷In the morning you shall say, ‘If only it were evening!’ and at evening you shall say, ‘If only it were morning!’ because of the dread that your heart shall feel, and the sights that your eyes shall see.

Last week, in Parasha Lech Lecha (Go Forth!), God commanded Abraham to leave his native land and go to the Land He promised.

Genesis 12:1-4

The Call of Abram

¹Now the Lord said^[a] to Abram, “Go from your country^[b] and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”^[a]

⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Genesis 13:14-18

Abram and Lot Separate

¹⁴The Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, ¹⁵for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. ¹⁶I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. ¹⁷Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you.” ¹⁸So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks^[b] of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the Lord.

Genesis 15:6

⁶And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

The covenant was made by God unconditional, with only our willingness and Faith (“faith without works is dead,” James 2:26) in God's Word, His Way. Gen. 15:12,17

Genesis 15:6-18

⁶Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

⁷He also said to him, “I am the LORD, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take possession of it.”

⁸But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, how can I know that I will gain possession of it?”

⁹So the LORD said to him, “Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon.”

¹⁰Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. ¹¹Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. ¹³Then the LORD said to him, “**Know for certain** that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there. ¹⁴But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ¹⁵You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

¹⁷When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, “To your descendants I give this land,

Genesis 17:1-2

Abraham and the Covenant of Circumcision

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty;^[a] walk before me, and be blameless, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.”

Genesis 26:4-5

⁴I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed,⁵ because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.”

Parasha Vayera opens with the Lord appearing to Abraham as he sat in his tent door in the heat of the day.

Genesis 18:1

¹And the **Lord appeared to him** by the oaks^[a] of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day.

The Lord Wants to Bring to You What He has Promised . . . Gen. 18:1 (Gen. 17:1-2)

Genesis 17:1-2

“I am God Almighty; **walk before me, and be blameless,** ²*that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.*”

Genesis 18:2-5

² He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth ³ and said, “O Lord,^[b] if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, ⁵ while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.”

Jewish sages believe that this visit from the Lord occurred while Abraham convalesced after his circumcision at 99 years old.

Abraham delighted in offering hospitality to these strangers. Even though he didn't know who they were, he gave them his best!

The Word of God promises that as we give, so shall it be given unto us in good measure.

When we bless others, we plant seeds of blessing that will return into our own lives.

“A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” **Proverbs 11:25**

Even the New Testament encourages us to show hospitality to strangers: “Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.” **1 Peter 4:9**

We might even entertain angels unawares!

The Book of Hebrews exhorts us to “let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. **Hebrews 13:1–2**

And, in fact, the three men that Abraham entertained were angels.

Although the word used in Hebrew is **anashim** (men), it is clear from the context that two are angels and one is the Lord.

Genesis 18:6-8

⁶ And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs (²¹ quarts) of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

Rabbinic Dietary Laws

“He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.” **Genesis 18:8**

The food that Abraham and Sarah prepared — bread, curd, milk, and a calf — seemed to be eaten together at the same meal (Genesis 18:8).

However, in today's Orthodox traditions, dairy and meat products must be separated. This developed from the command in Deuteronomy 14:21: “Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk.”

This separation is an extra-Biblical tradition that observant Jews follow as a way of preventing the actual commandment in Deuteronomy from being broken.

For that reason, at kosher restaurants in Israel and around the world, meat and milk products are strictly separated, to the point where some Jewish restaurants do not serve any dairy products whatsoever, and some do not serve meat.

But here we read that even Abraham and the Lord Himself, as well as angels ate milk and meat together!

The separation of milk and meat is only one of hundreds of extra-Biblical traditions or man-made rules (called Halakhah) that many Jews believe they must obey.

Jesus taught against following traditions that contradict the Word of God or would cause us to disobey it.

Mark 7:8-9

⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!

Matthew 15:6

⁶ So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God.

Nevertheless, Jesus may have kept this tradition, since it does not contradict the Word of God, and failure to follow this expectation would have set Him apart in an entirely unfavorable way, making it difficult for people to receive Him.

Genesis 18:9-14

⁹ They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.”¹⁰ The Lord said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. ¹² So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?” ¹³ The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’” ¹⁴ **Is anything too hard^l for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you**, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.”

What God has Promised is not too hard for Him, and will come to you at His Appointed Time. Birthed as He Promised and not as we have understood. Gen. 18:13-14

Isa. 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord."

2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness, instead is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to Repentance (stop doing it your way and start doing it God's way)."

Genesis 18:15

¹⁵ But Sarah denied it,^[e] saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “No, but you did laugh.”

Mo’adim – God’s Appointed Times and Promises Fulfilled

“Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return to you at the **appointed time** (mo’ed) next year and Sarah shall have a son.” (Genesis 18:14)

After sharing a meal together with Abraham, the angel made an outrageous promise to both him and Sarah: next year, at the **appointed time** (mo’ed), they would have a son.

The word **mo’ed** (or mo’adim in the plural form) is used to describe the appointed festival and remembrance times in Leviticus 23. In English, these times are loosely translated as **feasts of the Lord**, but this is a poor translation, since one is actually a fast.

The mo’adim are **special times** that God has chosen or appointed **for a specific purpose (a set Divine Appointment when God will Reveal His Redemptive Purposes/Himself to His People – origin: Genesis 1:14-19)**. In this case, **that purpose is the fulfillment of God’s promise to give Abraham and Sarah a son.**

Genesis 1:14-19: ¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for **seasons** (mo’ed – appointed times – God set Appointed Times for the Redemption of Mankind, before Man was even created, and even before Man had even fallen, in the DNA of His Creation, before the Foundations of the World, that He would Reveal Himself at Set Times in History to Redeem His People for Salvation, that None Should Perish), and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Sarah's initial reaction to this promise was to laugh to herself because she was well beyond childbearing age.

To this God responded, “Is anything too hard for the Lord?” Genesis 18:14

There may be promises that we have received from the Lord that perhaps seem impossible; however, we should **be encouraged by the words of Jesus who reminded us, “Everything is possible for him who believes.”** Mark 9:23

In the New Testament, we see another important mo’ed or set time:

An angel came to a young, Jewish woman named Mary to tell her that she would conceive without having known a man intimately, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Furthermore, her son would be called Yeshua (**Salvation**), and He would reign eternally over the house of Jacob/Israel from the throne of His father David.

While this may seem outside the realm of possibility, the angel told Mary that “**nothing will be impossible with God.**” Luke 1:37

The same God who parted the Red Sea can truly make a way where there is no way, **if we will only believe.** But it must happen in **His way and His time**, not our way on our schedule. **Our job is to wait in hope, faith, and expectation until the set time (mo’ed) arrives.**

Obeying the Commands of God will Defy the Laws of Nature.

Genesis 18:16-18

¹⁶ Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. ¹⁷ The Lord said, “**Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,** ¹⁸ seeing that **Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?**”

God does not want to hide from you what He wants to do. Gen. 18:17

What has God Promised You . . . Gen. 18:18

Exodus 19:5-6

⁵ Now therefore, **if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession** among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶ and **you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.** These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

1 Peter 2:9-10

⁹ But you are **a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.** ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Matthew 5:14-16

¹⁴ “**You are the light of the world.** A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that^[a] they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Isa. 55:11, "My word . . . will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

Genesis 18:19

¹⁹ For **I have chosen him,** that he may command his children and his household after him **to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice,** so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.”

He Chose You. Gen. 18:19

To Keep the Way of the Lord. Gen. 18:19

To Do the Way of the Lord. Gen. 18:19

That God may bring about what He has Promised You. Gen. 18:19

Genesis 18:20-21

²⁰ Then the Lord said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹ I will go down to see whether they have done altogether^[a] according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

Genesis 18:22 – 19:38

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. ²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” ²⁶ And the Lord said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

²⁷ Abraham answered and said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” ²⁹ Again he spoke to him and said, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” ³⁰ Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” ³¹ He said, “Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” ³² Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” ³³ And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

God Rescues Lot

¹⁹ The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed himself with his face to the earth ² and said, “My lords, please turn aside to your servant's house and spend the night and wash your feet. Then you may rise up early and go on your way.” They said, “No; we will spend the night in the town square.” ³ But he pressed them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house. And he made them a feast and baked unleavened bread, and they ate.

⁴ But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house. ⁵ And they called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them.” ⁶ Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, ⁷ and said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. ⁸ Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.” ⁹ But they said, “Stand back!” And they said, “This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them.” Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. ¹⁰ But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. ¹¹ And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door.

¹² Then the men said to Lot, “Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city, bring them out of the place. ¹³ For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it.” ¹⁴ So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, “Up! Get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city.” But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

¹⁵ As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city.” ¹⁶ But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. ¹⁷ And as they brought them out, one said, “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.” ¹⁸ And Lot said to them, “Oh, no, my lords. ¹⁹ Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. ²⁰ Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!” ²¹ He said to him, “Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. ²² Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there.” Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.^[b]

God Destroys Sodom

²³ The sun had risen on the earth when Lot came to Zoar. ²⁴ Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven. ²⁵ And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. ²⁶ But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

²⁷ And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. ²⁸ And he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the valley, and he looked and, behold, the smoke of the land went up like the smoke of a furnace.

²⁹ So it was that, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, God remembered Abraham and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow when he overthrew the cities in which Lot had lived.

Lot and His Daughters

³⁰ Now Lot went up out of Zoar and lived in the hills with his two daughters, for he was afraid to live in Zoar. So he lived in a cave with his two daughters. ³¹ And the firstborn said to the younger, “**Our father is old, and there is not a man on earth to come in to us after the manner of all the earth. ³² Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.**” ³³ So they made their father drink wine that night. And the firstborn went in and lay with her father. He did not know when she lay down or when she arose.

³⁴ **The next day, the firstborn said to the younger, “Behold, I lay last night with my father. Let us make him drink wine tonight also. Then you go in and lie with him, that we may preserve offspring from our father.”** ³⁵ So they made their father drink wine that night also. And the younger arose and lay with him, and he did not know when she lay down or when she arose. ³⁶ Thus both the daughters of Lot became pregnant by their father. ³⁷ The firstborn bore a son and called his name Moab.^[c] He is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸ The younger also bore a son and called his name Ben-ammi.^[d] He is the father of the Ammonites to this day.

Even here, God sets an Appointed Time in History where he will Redeem His People through this Unholy Act by Lot's Daughters, where the children born from this Unholy act become the very Enemies of God's People, God does Birth, through a recognized Gentile (not one who is identified as a member of the family of God), but by the Faith of Ruth (God's Appointed Redeemer and Agent of Reconciliation) comes the Great Grandson, David, the line of the Messiah.

2 Corinthians 5:11-21 The Ministry of Reconciliation

¹¹ Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. ¹² We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. ¹³ If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if

we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

¹⁶So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:^[a] The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹God made him who had no sin to be sin^[b] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Genesis 20:1 – 21:7

Abraham and Abimelech

20 From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. ²And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.” And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. ³But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, “Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man’s wife.” ⁴Now Abimelech had not approached her. So he said, “Lord, will you kill an innocent people? ⁵Did he not himself say to me, ‘She is my sister’? And she herself said, ‘He is my brother.’ In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this.” ⁶Then God said to him in the dream, “Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her. ⁷Now then, return the man’s wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.”

⁸So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid. ⁹Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, “What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done.” ¹⁰And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What did you see, that you did this thing?” ¹¹Abraham said, “I did it because I thought, ‘There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.’ ¹²Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. ¹³And when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, I said to her, ‘This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, ‘He is my brother.’”

¹⁴Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him. ¹⁵And Abimelech said, “Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you.” ¹⁶To Sarah he said, “Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all^[k] who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated.” ¹⁷Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. ¹⁸For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.

The Birth of Isaac

21 The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did to Sarah as he had promised. ²And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac.^[l] ⁴And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. ⁵Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶And Sarah said, “God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me.” ⁷And she said, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

Here we read that Sarah does give birth to a son with Abraham as the father (who is now 100 years old) at the set time (**mo’ed**) of which God had spoken *Genesis 21:1-3*.

Abraham named him **Isaac**, which means laughter, for Sarah said, “**God has brought me laughter**, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me. ... Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.” *Genesis 21:6-7*

Let us not nullify the promises of God in our own lives through unbelief but be fully convinced that God will bring forth His promises, even those that seem not only unlikely but absurd, in His appointed time.

“He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.” *Romans 4:20-21*

Genesis 21:8 – 22:24

God Protects Hagar and Ishmael

⁸And the child grew and was weaned. And Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. ⁹But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, laughing.^[m] ¹⁰So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son, for the son of this slave woman shall not be heir with my son Isaac.” ¹¹And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son. ¹²But God said to Abraham, “Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman. Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for through Isaac shall your offspring be named. ¹³And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring.” ¹⁴So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

¹⁵ When the water in the skin was gone, she put the child under one of the bushes.¹⁶ Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot, for she said, “Let me not look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷ And God heard the voice of the boy, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is.”¹⁸ Up! Lift up the boy, and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make him into a great nation.” ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. ²⁰ And God was with the boy, and he grew up. He lived in the wilderness and became an expert with the bow. ²¹ He lived in the wilderness of Paran, and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Today God is Changing your Name/Destiny as God has Promised - the Breath of God "Ha".

Things birthed of the flesh most often bring strife and frustration, but when the Spirit of God gives birth to something in our lives, it brings joy and laughter, not only to us but to others as well.

God clearly tells Abraham and Sarah that although he will bless Ishmael and make him into a great nation, the covenant will pass through the lineage of Isaac. Isaac will inherit the Promised Land.

To protect Isaac and the covenant, Ishmael, son of the bondwoman, Hagar, is sent away with his mother into the wilderness where he will learn to foster a relationship with God by calling out to Him on his own.

"God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, 'What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; **God has heard the boy crying** as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.'" **Genesis 21:17–18**

Still, Abraham's faith is tested in a much deeper way. In Chapter 22, of this Reading, God calls him to offer Isaac as a sacrifice.

"Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, even Isaac, and go into the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell you of." **Genesis 22:3**

That trust is evident when Isaac asked, "Where is the lamb (seh)?" Abraham told him that God will provide the Lamb. Yet, for the sake of Isaac, God provided not a lamb, but a ram (ayil). **Genesis 22:13**

Because of Abraham's faith and trust in God, He provided a substitute sacrifice for Isaac.

A Treaty with Abimelech

²² At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army said to Abraham, “God is with you in all that you do.” ²³ Now therefore swear to me here by God that you will not deal falsely with me or with my descendants or with my posterity, but as I have dealt kindly with you, so you will deal with me and with the land where you have sojourned.” ²⁴ And Abraham said, “I will swear.”

²⁵ When Abraham reproved Abimelech about a well of water that Abimelech's servants had seized, ²⁶ Abimelech said, “I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, and I have not heard of it until today.” ²⁷ So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant.²⁸ Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart. ²⁹ And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs that you have set apart?” ³⁰ He said, “These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this^[a] may be a witness for me that I dug this well.” ³¹ Therefore that place was called Beersheba,^[a] because there both of them swore an oath. ³² So they made a covenant at Beersheba. Then Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his army rose up and returned to the land of the Philistines. ³³ Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba and called there on the name of the Lord, the Everlasting God.³⁴ And Abraham sojourned many days in the land of the Philistines.

The Sacrifice of Isaac

God's Covenant is the Same Yesterday, Today, and Forever Hebrews 3:18 (Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1-21), Abraham (Genesis 17:5), The Faith of Abraham Extended to You and I (Matthew 5:20))

²² After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ² He said, “Take 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, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy^[b] will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸ Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took

the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”;^[a] as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”^[d]

¹⁵ And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his^[s] enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

²⁰ Now after these things it was told to Abraham, “Behold, Milcah also has borne children to your brother Nahor: ²¹ Uz his firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel the father of Aram, ²² Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel.” ²³ (Bethuel fathered Rebekah.) These eight Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother. ²⁴ Moreover, his concubine, whose name was Reumah, bore Tebah, Gaham, Tahash, and Maacah.

Meaning of Jew:

Anyone who rejects idolatry is called a *Jew (Yehudi)*.

One who acknowledges G-d's existence and submits to His authority--to the extent that he is willing to sacrifice his life for the sanctification of His name--he is called a *Jew*.

Hence Abraham is commonly referred to as "The First Jew." As the first person to use his own cognitive abilities to discover and recognize the one G-d, reject the idolatrous ways of his ancestors and contemporaries, actively publicized the truth of G-d and was prepared to give his very life for these goals--Abraham epitomized "Jewishness" many centuries before the term came into common use.

The first individual to be called a Jew in the Scriptures was Mordecai, of Purim fame.

The term "Jew" is derived from the name of Jacob's fourth son, Judah--*Yehudah*, in the Hebrew--and may have originally applied only to Judah's descendents, who comprised one of the twelve tribes of Israel. On his deathbed, Jacob assigned Judah the role of leader and king--a prophesy that was fulfilled in 869 BCE when all twelve tribes submitted to the reign of King David of the tribe of Judah.

Romans 2:28-29

²⁸ For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. ²⁹ But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Next Week's Reading & Location:

Week 5 – CHAYEI SARAH (Life of Sarah)
Genesis 23:1–25:18; 1 Kings 1:1–31; Matthew 2:1–23

Upcoming Event:

Hanukkah (Jesus' Conception) 2019
Sunday, December 22nd to Monday, December 30th