

## II. CHRIST, THE NATION BLESSER: Genesis 22:15-18

**INTRODUCTION.** As soon as Adam and Eve fell into sin, the LORD promised that He would send a Savior, even Jesus Christ, to crush the head of the Serpent. This is the *Protoeuangelion*—the first gospel proclamation. Then as history progresses, which is detailed in the book of Genesis, the Lord reveals more and more about the Savior of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ!

In **Genesis 22**, the Lord God reveals that Jesus is not only the Serpent Crusher, but also the Nation Blessor.

***Christ is not merely the crusher of serpents;  
He is the blessing of nations!***

### **CONTEXT. Genesis 22:15-18**

"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 [*note, everything the Lord promises here He is swearing by His own name and character*], 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 enemies, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed . . . 18b because you have obeyed my voice."

Because of Abraham's faith which was demonstrated by His obedience to the Lord's command to offer up Isaac, the Lord swore to bless the world through his offspring.

### **QUESTION. Who is the offspring of Abraham?**

**ANSWER 1.** Christ is the offspring of Abraham (Gal. 3:16).

- **Galatians 3:16** "Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, 'And to offsprings,' referring to many, but referring to one, 'And to your offspring,' who is Christ."

**ANSWER 2.** All who believe on Christ for salvation are the offspring of Abraham, only by virtue of being united to Christ, the true offspring (Gal. 3:29).

- **Galatians 3:29** "If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."

**DOCTRINE.** The Lord God has sworn that Christ will *bless* all the nations by *possessing* the gates of His enemies and *filling* the earth with those who bear

His image.

**OUTLINE.** Three main points from our text, and then I want to ask a question to help us make more sense of the third point.

## **I. CHRIST WILL FILL THE EARTH WITH THOSE WHO BEAR HIS IMAGE (Gen. 22:17b).**

### **Genesis 22:17b**

". . . and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. . ."

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**BOYS AND GIRLS, \*stars and sand metaphor.**

**TRANSITION.** *"By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD,"*

Christ will fill the earth with those who bear His image (Gen. 22:16, 17).

## **II. CHRIST WILL POSSESS THE GATE OF HIS ENEMIES (Gen. 22:17c).**

### **Genesis 22:17c**

"And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies,"

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#### – **Psalm 132:18**

"His enemies I will clothe with shame,  
but on him his crown will shine."

**BOYS AND GIRLS, (ps. 132:18).**

**TRANSITION.** *"By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD,"*

Christ will possess the gate of His enemies (Gen. 22:16, 17).

## **III. CHRIST WILL BLESS ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH (Gen. 22:18a).**

### **Genesis 22:18a**

". . .and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. . ."

- **Jeremiah 4:2** "If you swear, 'As the Lord lives,' in truth, in justice, and in righteousness, then nations shall bless themselves in him, and in him shall they glory."

- **Psalm 72:17** "May his name endure forever,  
his fame continue as long as the sun!  
May people be blessed in him,  
all nations call him blessed!"

***When Christ crushed the head of that great Dragon by His death and resurrection, His blessings began to flow far as the curse is found (Joy to the World)!***

Though a stream of water had trickled to the Jews in the Old Covenant, now, in Christ crucified and risen, a fountain has been opened that has been gushing forth for nearly two thousand years, and has washed millions millions and millions clean from their curse of sin (Zechariah 13:1).

**BOYS AND GIRLS, [repeat metaphor].**

**TRANSITION.** "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD,"  
Christ will bless all the nations of the earth (Gen. 22:16, 18).

**QUESTION.** What are the blessings that Christ comes to make flow far as the curse is found?

Let me give you 11 answers.

**I) Christ came to make the blessing of *Repentance* flow far as the curse is found (Acts 3:26).**

**Acts 3:26** "God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness."

**II) Christ came to make the blessing of *Forgiveness and Imputed Righteousness* flow far as the curse is found (Romans 4:6-7, Revelation 22:14).**

**Romans 4:6-7** "6 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;"

- **Revelation 22:14** "Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates."

**III) Christ came to make the blessing of *the Holy Spirit* flow far as**

**the curse is found** (Galatians 3:14).

**Galatians 3:14** "In Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith."

- **1 Peter 4:14** "you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you."

**IV) Christ came to make the blessing of *the face of the LORD* flow far as the curse** (Ps. 67:1).

**Psalms 67:1** "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*" *Rev. Says, they shall see his face.*

- **EZEKIEL HOPKINS:** "Heaven is where the unveiled glories of the Deity shall beat full upon us, and we forever sun ourselves in the smiles of God." — **Ezekiel Hopkins, A Puritan Golden Treasury**  
***But that sunning ourselves begins now by faith in His promises and meditation on His Word!***

**V) Christ came to make the blessing of *belonging to His visible kingdom* flow far as the curse is found** (Ps. 128:5).

**Psalms 128:5** "The Lord bless you from Zion!

May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem  
all the days of your life!"

- **Matthew 16:18** "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
  - **Hebrews 12:28-29** "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire."

**VI) Christ came to make *every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places* flow far as the curse is found** (Eph. 1:3-14).

**Ephesians 1:3-14** [every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places].

- (i) Election
- (ii) Holiness and Blamelessness
- (iii) Predestination
- (iv) Adoption
- (v) God's Kindness
- (vi) Redemption from sin
- (vii) Forgiveness of sin
- (viii) Richly Lavished Grace
- (ix) The Revelation of the Mystery of God's Will
- (x) A Heavenly Inheritance

- (xi) The Holy Spirit
- (xii) Security and Assurance

**VII) Christ came to make the blessing of *providential provision* flow far as the curse is found** (Ps. 107:38; Ps. 132:15).

**Psalm 107:38** "By his blessing [the redeemed] multiply greatly, and he does not let their livestock diminish."

- **Psalm 132:15** "I will abundantly bless [Zion's] provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread."

**VIII) Christ came to make the blessing of *happiness which comes from obedience to God's Law* flow far as the curse is found** (James 1:25).

**James 1:25** "But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing."

**IX) Christ came to make the blessing of *the Marriage Supper of the Lamb* flow far as the curse is found** (Revelation 19:9).

**Revelation 19:9** "And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are the true words of God.'"

**X) Christ came to make the blessing of *eternal rest from toilsome labors* flow far as the curse is found** (Revelation 14:13).

**Revelation 14:13** "And I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' 'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!'"

**XI) Christ came to make the blessing of *the New Heavens and the New Earth* flow far as the curse is found** (Matt. 25:34; Ps. 37:22).

**Matthew 25:34** "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'"

- **Psalm 37:22** "Those blessed by the Lord shall inherit the land, but those cursed by him shall be cut off."

**RQ. Do you want your household to be blessed by God?**

*Get Christ's imputed righteousness by faith in Him, and labor to live righteously for God's glory by the strength He supplies.*

**Proverbs 3:33** "The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked,  
but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous."

**TRANSITION.** *"By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD,"*  
Christ will bless all the nations of the earth (Gen. 22:16, 18).

## **CONCLUSION.**

### ***USE FOR WARNING AND AWAKENING.***

– **Jeremiah 17:5-6**

5 Thus says the Lord:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man  
and makes flesh his strength,  
whose heart turns away from the Lord.

6 He is like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land."

### ***USE FOR CONSOLATION AND COMFORT.***

– **Jeremiah 17:7-8**

"7 Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.

8 He is like a tree planted by water,  
that sends out its roots by the stream,  
and does not fear when heat comes,  
for its leaves remain green,

and is not anxious in the year of drought,  
for it does not cease to bear fruit."