How the Gospel Makes Us Care About Future Generations

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Promised Good News

<u>Genesis 1:27-28</u>; <u>3:14-15</u> God's original commission for humanity to represent Him as they fill and rule the earth was attacked by the <u>serpent</u> but will ultimately be accomplished by the <u>Son</u>.

<u>Genesis 9:1-17</u> God blesses Noah and his sons, and He makes a covenant to extend mercy and grace <u>to all on the earth</u>, promising to never flood the earth like that again. God restates the original commission to humanity, but His blessing and covenant are not conditioned upon their obedience.

<u>Genesis 22:15-18</u> God confirms His covenant with Abraham to surely bless him and all the nations of the earth <u>through his Seed</u>.

<u>Genesis 49:8-10</u> Jacob blesses Judah with a promise that a <u>future King</u> will come from his seed to whom Abraham's offspring and the peoples of the earth will <u>give praise</u>, <u>bow</u>, and <u>obey</u>.

<u>Deuteronomy 5:30-6:7</u> The LORD commands the people of Israel to <u>walk in His ways</u> and <u>teach their children</u> to do the same "so that" they can live in the land and blessing God has for them.

2 Samuel 7:12-16 The LORD covenants with David to establish the throne and kingdom of his seed for ever.

<u>Psalm 45:16-17</u> The psalmist declares his trust that the line and throne of David will continue for <u>ever and ever</u> and that peoples of the earth will praise <u>the Divine King</u>.

<u>Isaiah 52:13-15</u>; <u>53:10-54:3</u> The LORD foretells of the coming Servant and "arm of the LORD" Who will die as a substitute but then be exalted to see and lead the <u>numerous offspring of the promise</u> into His own inheritance.

<u>Proverbs 22:6</u> Commands parents, mentors, and teachers to <u>train</u> children early in the way of wisdom with the <u>hope*</u> that they never depart from it.

<u>Malachi 4:5-6</u> The Mosaic Covenant proved <u>to be awaiting</u> a better covenant that the LORD will establish to form a faithful people and multiply His promised offspring in all the earth. They keep departing.

That brings us to the better, New Covenant that is inaugurated and fulfilled in Jesus.

<u>Luke 1:16-17; Mark 1:14-17; Luke 3:8</u> God is both <u>able</u> and <u>willing</u> to raise up the promised <u>offspring</u> from all peoples, and He is accomplishing this through Jesus and those who trust in Him.

<u>Revelation 12:17</u> But there remains <u>an enemy</u>. The ancient serpent who failed at devouring the promised Seed sets his eyes on the offspring instead, yet God is faithful to make them overcomers by faith in Christ.

<u>Revelation 21:7-8</u>; <u>22:16-17</u> Jesus as the promised offspring and risen King invites whosoever to come, follow Him, <u>overcome the serpent</u>, and receive His inheritance as <u>adopted sons</u> of God.

Implications

- 1. God completes what He <u>purposes</u> and <u>promises</u>.
- 2. God promises to <u>inherit innumerable offspring</u> in Christ.
- 3. God purposes to extend mercy through many generations.
- 4. As followers of Christ, we must purpose and persevere in the Gospel with many future generations in mind.