

## The Blood Covenant

**Overview:** The Bible is a book of covenants. Some are made between God and man, while others were made between one man and another. Ultimately God’s Word is His covenant with us, His children, signed first in the blood of animals, then in the blood of His Son. God moves in our lives based on His covenant with us and He does nothing outside of that covenant. It is up to us to grasp the fullness of His covenant with us.

### A. Origin of the Blood Covenant

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| 1. Strangers from the covenants of promise.  | Eph 2:10-19 |
| a. Without Jesus in our life, we have no hope and are without God.                     | Eph 2:12    |
| b. In Jesus we are brought near by his blood sacrifice.                                | Eph 2:13    |
| 2. Abraham’s Resume  | Rom 4:17-22 |
| a. Abraham was a man of great faith.   | Rom 4:19-21 |
| b. He wasn’t always this way, something happened to get him to this place in his life. |             |
| 3. Abram asks, “how will I know……?”  | Gen 15:1-18 |
| a. God promises Abram an inheritance.  | Gen 15:7    |
| b. Abram asks God how he would know he would receive the inheritance.                  | Gen 15:8    |

### B. Historical Background of the Blood Covenant

1. World history viewpoint.
  - a. Stanley and Livingstone.
  - b. Vines Definition: to cut, to cut flesh.
  - c. Characteristics of a Blood Covenant.
    - 1) Parties involved have a discussion to determine the terms of the covenant, then announce it.
    - 2) Gather together the best representatives from each party.
    - 3) Preparation of the covenant articles.
      - 1) Get the covenant animals and cut them in half (Abraham’s days).
      - 2) Prepare the wine and other elements (days of Jesus to the present day).
    - 4) The Blood.
      - 1) Walk in the blood thru the middle of the (2) halves quoting the promises of the covenant, aka: The Blood Walk (Abraham’s days).
      - 2) Quote the covenant promises and drink the wine, sometimes mixed with blood (days of Jesus to present).
    - 5) An exchange of coats, tools, weapons or other prized possessions signifying an exchange of strengths for weaknesses.
    - 6) An exchange of names.

### C. Tying It All Together

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| 1. God’s covenant with Abram. | Gen 15:1-18  |
| a. The sacrificial animals.   | Gen 15:9     |
| b. The terms of the covenant. | Gen 15:13-16 |
| c. Passing thru the blood.    | Gen 15:17    |
| d. Covenant partners.         | Gen 15:18    |

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| 2. Abram and Sarai try to help God.                                  | Gen 16:1-16  |
| a. Sarai takes matters into her own hands.                           | Gen 16:2-3   |
| b. Sarai's regret.   | Gen 16:4-5   |
| c. Abram and Sarai are without God's presence for 13 years.          |              |
| 3. The everlasting covenant.   | Gen 17:1-23  |
| a. God's promise of multiplication.                                  | Gen 17:2     |
| b. A new name, the father of many nations.                           | Gen 17:5     |
| c. The mark of the covenant, cutting for generations to come.        | Gen 17:10-14 |
| d. Sarai receives her covenant name, with promises from God.         | Gen 17:15-16 |
| e. Abraham responds to the request of his covenant partner THAT DAY! | Gen 17:23    |
| 4. Testing of the partnership.                                       | Gen 22:1-18  |
| a. God asks a big thing of his covenant partner.                     | Gen 22:1-2   |
| b. Again, Abraham responds without question or hesitation.           | Gen 22:3-4   |
| c. Abraham's covenant language.                                      | Gen 22:5     |
| d. Abraham withholds nothing from his covenant partner.              | Gen 22:10-12 |
| e. More covenant promises.   | Gen 22:16-18 |

#### **D. The Power of Covenant Partnership with God on Display**

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| 1. Moses is speaking to God, not in his own strength, but in the strength of God's covenant with his people. | Ex. 32:9-14          |
| 2. Jehoshaphat prays in a time of trouble, speaking covenant words.  | 2 Chron 20:1-9       |
| 3. David spoke covenant words going to face the enemy Goliath.   | 1 Sam 17:32-37,45-48 |
| 4. Here we see a cup, blood and a sacrifice.   | Luke 22:42-44        |

**Recommendation:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter of Galatians says you are Abraham's son or daughter and an heir of his according to the promise. Meditate on your covenant relationship with your Abba Father and begin to see yourself as a Covenant Partner with God. Affirm your covenant relationship with Him out loud and realize that the only way God could break His end of the covenant is through His death, which won't happen and is why God is a covenant keeping God.