

LESSON 8

Name _____

The Covenant With Abram

Directions: Read the cited scripture passages and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

- When Abram first encounters God, the Lord made a threefold promise:
 - In Genesis 12:2 God promises Abram _____.
 - In Genesis 12:3 God promises Abram that he would be a blessing for _____.
 - In Genesis 12:7 God promises Abram _____.
- This is a turning point in the Genesis story. Since the story of the fall of man, the Genesis account was pessimistic. Now it is changing to an attitude of _____.
- In Genesis 15 God seals these promises with Abram by establishing an agreement or _____ (Gn 15:18)
- In our society today, when people wish to agree to something they draw up a _____.
- Both parties sign at the bottom to signify their agreement to the terms in the contract. We can do this today because most people can read and _____.
- In Abram's time, however, this was not the case, so people had to use elaborate rituals or gestures to ratify _____.
- In Genesis 15, God instructs Abram to obtain five things:
 - a three year old _____
 - a three year old _____
 - a three year old _____
 - a turtle dove and a _____
- What did Abram do with these animals? (Gn 15:10) _____
This signified to the ancients that they were willing to suffer the same fate if they broke the covenant.
- When it was dark, God showed that he agreed to the covenant when he passed between the split animals in the form of _____ (Gn 15:17)
- The name for such an appearance of God in visible form is theophany. Sometimes this appearance is in the form of fire, or wind, perhaps thunder, but it always signifies the presence of _____.
- List other places you know of in the Bible where the authors used this literary device to show the presence of God:

- One of the promises made to Abram was that his descendants would be as numerous as the _____.

Lesson 8 continued

13. That would prove almost impossible since at this time, Abram and his wife have no _____.
14. Nevertheless, God insists in Genesis 15:4 that Abram's heir would be his very own _____.
15. The covenant is a free gift from God. Notice that God makes all the promises. Abram cannot promise anything to equal God's gift, so he can only pledge his _____. (Gn 15:6)
16. In Abram's time, if your life took a new turn or saw a dramatic change, often your name would be changed. After his encounter with God, Abram's life will dramatically change since he will become the father of many nations, so his name is changed to _____. (Gn 17:5)
17. Abraham's wife's name will also change because she will bear a son at her advanced age. Her name will now be _____. (Gn 17:5)
18. At this time, it was not uncommon for a man to have more than one wife since the need to bear children was so great because of high infant mortality, disease, and sickness. Abraham's other wife was named _____. (Gn 16:1-2)
19. Of the two sons born to Abraham, which would be the carrier of the covenant and second patriarch? _____ (Gn 17:21)
20. This son, Isaac, gets his name from the Hebrew word meaning _____. (Gn 21:6)
21. Isaac gets his name from what incident? _____ (Gn 18:11-14)
22. Genesis 18:16-33 shows the closeness of Abraham and God's relationship at this point. Abraham negotiates with God almost as if they were _____.
23. Read Genesis 19:1-29. Abraham is concerned about these two cities because one of his relatives lives there. Who is it? _____
24. The people of Sodom have violated the strict desert code of hospitality extended to all travelers in the time of Abraham. Compare their actions to Abraham's in Genesis 18:3-8 and Lot's actions in Genesis 19:1-3. What do Abraham and Lot do that the people of Sodom do not?

25. In fact, the people of Sodom not only offer no aid or help to the travelers, but they also threatened them with bodily harm, and for these sins God _____. (Gn 19:24)
26. These stories enhance the image of Abraham. He is seen as a chosen man of God, destined to be a founding father, the first patriarch of God's people who will be part of God's plan to save the _____.