# Audio file

[04-Circumcision.mp3](https://printsmithgroup-my.sharepoint.com/personal/frank_printsmithgroup_onmicrosoft_com/Documents/Transcribed%20Files/04-Circumcision.mp3)

# Transcript

00:00:03

We're continuing our series of studies on God's way of salvation, and to neither wish to examine point by point the various steps involved in the the Israelites departure of Egypt, with the recognition that each of those steps is an object lesson of the.

00:00:20

Similar steps we have to take in the spiritual realm.

00:00:23

If we're going to obtain the limits from the bodies of sin.

00:00:30

The six steps in their order were by way of review from our last presentation #1 every male person had to be circumcised if we could take it to Passover since.

00:00:44

The second point was that the land had to be chosen on the 10th day of the first month.

00:00:50

And kept over until the.

00:00:53

14th day of the same first month.

00:00:56

The Third Point was that the land had to be killed at the going down of the sun.

00:01:03

The blood very carefully caught and the 4th point was that the blood had to be sprinkled upon the doorpost and the two side posts of the door.

00:01:14

The fifth point was that the land.

00:01:16

After having been.

00:01:17

Carefully roasted whole had to be eaten.

00:01:20

Around about the midnight hour and the 6th and final point was that the first born of Egypt had to die before they could obtain their deliverance from the land of \*\*\*\*\*\*\*.

00:01:31

We emphasise the fact that if anyone of those steps have been admitted, or if they'd gone to the first five and.

00:01:40

How to make the 6th day with the state and \*\*\*\*\*\*\* just as much as if they had done nothing at all?

00:01:47

Let's come back now to examine the first of those six steps, namely circumcision, which is an extremely important one, bearing in our mind and our team is God's way of salvation.

00:01:59

Which way of salvation, of course, today is one of many proposed ways invented by mankind to get them to heaven.

00:02:07

There are certain theology theology which teach us we can go to heaven and being righteous.

00:02:12

There are other retailers we have to work our way.

00:02:15

To heaven.

00:02:16

And so it goes on down the line.

00:02:19

Circumcision was first introduced into religious services or as a religious symbol back in the days of Abraham.

00:02:26

At least, that's the first time it's referred to in the word of God.

00:02:32

Let's turn back to Genesis, the 17th chapter.

00:02:35

Wherein we read the very interesting story of Abraham's final confrontation with the great issues of his life. When Faith reached out and finally laid hold upon the promises of God and the promised Son was born.

00:02:51

In the first verse of Genesis, Chapter 17, I read these words and when Abraham was 90 years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him I am the Almighty God walk before me and be thou perfect.

00:03:10

And I'll make my covenant between me and V, and we'll multiply the exceedingly.

00:03:18

I have the hand at this point with almost a.

00:03:19

100 years of age.

00:03:22

Quite some years before, quite a number of years before he had left his native homeland called, err, the Chaldees.

00:03:30

And you read this, of course, back in the 12th chapter in the 11th and 12th chapters of.

00:03:34

The Book of Genesis.

00:03:36

And as Paul says in he birthed Chapter 11, he went out by faith, not knowing where he was.

00:03:42

Going but simply obeying the word of God and going where God sent him.

00:03:47

So that question Abraham was a man of faith to begin with.

00:03:51

Because we have noticed a few moments that his faith.

00:03:53

Did not reach as far as it needed to to bring him real deliverance from his problem.

00:03:59

As the years went, buying Abraham and Sarah found themselves continuing as child as a childish couple.

00:04:09

They had their children, and yet the Lord God has said to them in Genesis 12 and verse two and on make of their great nation and old.

00:04:18

This day and make God name great, and there shall be a blessing and our blessing and our blessing, the blessed thee, and curse him, that curseth thee, and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

00:04:32

And so God's personal promise to Abraham was he would be the father of a great nation of people, not just a.

00:04:38

Small tribe but.

00:04:39

Of a great nation numbering 10s in.

00:04:42

Fact hundreds of thousands of people.

00:04:45

The one time God said him, the stars in the heavens and see if you can count barriers and you can count.

00:04:50

Your own offspring.

00:04:51

Because they should be. As numberless as the stars up there in heaven above, and yet in apparent defiance of this promise on God's part, the years rolled by, and not even one child appeared, let alone a nation.

00:05:06

Humble us as the stars in the heavens above.

00:05:10

May Abraham naturally caused the came very deeply concerned about this, especially in view of the fact that he understood that the promised Messiah, the savior of the world, would be born of him eventually, and therefore it was extremely important that he have a son.

00:05:29

Who have more sons?

00:05:30

When term is finally bare, the son Jesus Christ.

00:05:35

And in Genesis 15, we find Abraham expressing his concern about this sad state of affairs I promised made, but apparently no fulfillment to it.

00:05:47

Wheel note verse one down to about verse five or six.

00:05:51

After these things, the word of the Lord came into.

00:05:54

Abram, in a vision saying fear not.

00:05:56

Abram, I am thy shield and thy exceeding great reward.

00:06:03

And Adam said Lord God, what wilt thou give me saying?

00:06:06

I go childless and the steward of my house is as Delisa of Damascus.

00:06:12

And Abram said, behold, to me there has given no seed or no offspring, and lo, one born in my house is mine air. This is a very interesting approach, and Abram's part one which unfortunately is very, very common to.

00:06:32

Sin for humanity, God hath personally made a promise to Abraham.

00:06:38

And God said I will bless thee and multiply thee.

00:06:42

God said I will do it.

00:06:46

But as I said a moment ago, as the years went by, it appeared that God had forgotten his promise or or proved himself incapable of doing what he said he would do.

00:06:57

So Abraham then proposed a solution.

00:06:59

He says, Lord, he says you've given me no children, no offspring.

00:07:04

So I propose that.

00:07:05

To solve this problem, or in other words to fulfill the promise that you have given to me, I adopt my faithful servant allies of the Mascus and the human be my heir.

00:07:18

Note now the answer which God gave verse 4 on Genesis chapter 15 and behold, the word of the Lord came unto him, saying this shall not be thine heir, but here it shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine own.

00:07:38

And he brought him forth and broaden and said, look now toward heaven.

00:07:42

And tell the stars if thou be able to number them.

00:07:46

And said to him, so shall thy see thee.

00:07:49

And he believed in the Lord, and he counted it to him for righteousness.

00:07:58

God never used the promise with the very specific statement that the child would be Abraham's personal flesh and blood offspring.

00:08:06

And he would multiply 6 sitting me that he would outnumber, or at least be equal in number to the stars up ahead.

00:08:12

Which of?

00:08:12

Course cannot be counted.

00:08:14

Because there's too many for the human mind to even see.

00:08:17

We even today were the very best of telescopes.

00:08:21

Now, despite this renewed promise, time went on and still no child appeared until we come to and until we come to Genesis Chapter 16.

00:08:32

Where the word.

00:08:32

Of God says now Sarai, Abram's wife, bear him no children.

00:08:38

And she had an handmade in Egyptian whose name was Hagar.

00:08:43

And say I said to Ivan, Behold now the Lord hath restrained me from bearing my paid again.

00:08:50

Go in unto my maid, and maybe then they obtained thrown by her.

00:08:54

And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarah and Sarah, Abram's wife to Hagar, who made the Egyptian after Adam had brought 10 years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abraham.

00:09:08

To be his wife.

00:09:11

There's more importantly, do not miss the.

00:09:15

Direction that Abram and Sarah were taking at this particular point of time.

00:09:20

First of all, let's look at their characters a moment to see what fine and noble and dedicated people they really were.

00:09:29

The nobleman Sarah left the land of her the cowardice, and made a tremendous personal sacrifice.

00:09:34

Because all at that time was the most prosperous.

00:09:40

Commercial Centre in the entire world, archaeological excavations of the area demonstrated the culture and the education in that area was the leading culture of that time, and Abraham and that great and mighty city of Urban Chaldees.

00:09:59

Like in the land of Babylon.

00:10:01

We're certainly assured of a very stable and secure future so far as earthly prospects are concerned.

00:10:09

He would have become a very wealthy man, a very powerful man, but a great personal sacrifice.

00:10:15

He had braved the call of God and left all that behind to become a wandering nomad in the land.

00:10:22

He couldn't even call his own at that time, namely the land of Canaan.

00:10:28

He went to a very uncertain future from what appeared to be very certain future, and therefore Ibrahim was no obedient man.

00:10:36

He was a self sacrificing man.

00:10:38

He's a very dedicated man.

00:10:41

I have that question.

00:10:42

He was also a man of faith because the Bible says in Hebrews Chapter 11 by Faith, Abraham went out not knowing where he was going.

00:10:51

He was a man of faith that.

00:10:53

Question about that.

00:10:54

And he was a man of very, very good living standards, morally sound, honest man of integrity, a man who erected the ultra sacrifice every single day.

00:11:06

A man who is a successful missionary and winning people from from surrounding tribes to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

00:11:14

Now on top of all these things, we find that Abraham loved the cause of God and the prosperity of God's cause and the fulfillment of God's promises was the most important thing in his whole life. Experience. That is what he lived for.

00:11:33

Platform work for and so forth and it was to advance the cause of God that he and Sarah.

00:11:44

Developers plan for him to have a child by another woman, namely Sarai's handmade Hagar.

00:11:52

In short, it was an attempt to build the Kingdom of God by earnest, sincere and dedicated people, Man's wife.

00:12:02

By human plans and procedures to carry out the work of God in this world.

00:12:07

And of course it utterly and completely failed.

00:12:11

And this is where the right of circumcision comes into the picture, as we shall shortly see in Genesis chapter 17, because first of all, this matters the fact.

00:12:21

But as a result of their effort to solve God's problem and to fulfill God's promise to him, their effort to build God's Kingdom man's way to take over God's work on his behalf as a result of that, a son was in fact born, his name was.

00:12:43

And at the time he was born, as verse 16 says of Genesis, chapter 16, Abram was four score and six years old.

00:12:51

When Hagar there, Ishmael to Abram in modern terms, of course was say he was 86 years of age in for those days, which was after the flooding.

00:13:03

They was getting on because all told the thing Abraham lived at just about 120 years, so it was only about 30-4 years of life left over total 120 when his male was born.

00:13:14

Now, prior to the flood, of course, men lived to enormous ages, many of them very close to 1000 years.

00:13:22

God committed 13 years to go by without saying a single word to Ava about what he'd done.

00:13:28

Not a word just didn't go for 13 years.

00:13:32

And then in this in chapter Chapter 17, verse one, we read that when Abram was 90 years old and 9:00 or 99 years of age.

00:13:42

The Lord appeared.

00:13:43

To Abram and said to him I am the almighty God walk before me.

00:13:47

And be thou perfect.

00:13:50

What is the inference when God says be thou perfect? What's the inference? He had not been perfect. And when we consider of course, the procedure he adopted by which to fulfill God's promise to recognise his way had not in fact been perfect before God. Reformation was definitely required at this point of time.

00:14:10

But this does not mean, of course, he was in the bank.

00:14:12

And Sina, far from that.

00:14:15

May, as God spoke to Abraham about making the cover with him, and he would become a great nation.

00:14:21

Abram naturally thought that God was talking in terms of his beloved son Ishmael, because God certainly and and certainly loved this male because he was the only and very beautiful child of his old age.

00:14:34

And furthermore, he loved him because he thought he was the fulfillment of God's promise, worked out by his own works. Let's go on now to verse six and seven of Genesis chapter 17.

00:14:48

And I will make the exceeding football and I'll make nations of their in kings shall come out of thee, and I will establish my covenant between me and thee.

00:14:59

And I said, after being their generations for everlasting covenant to be God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

00:15:07

And I will give unto thee and to thy seed after thee the land where in that a stranger, or the land of Canaan, for everlasting possession, and I will be their God.

00:15:20

And the God said to ibram, that will keep my covenant therefore bound by Sid, after being their generation.

00:15:27

This is my covenant.

00:15:29

Which you shall.

00:15:30

Keep between me and you and thy seed after thee.

00:15:33

Every man child among you shall be circumcised, and you shall circumcise.

00:15:39

The flesh of.

00:15:39

Your foreskin, and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.

00:15:47

What is another word for token?

00:15:50

The answer is a sign a token or a sign.

00:15:55

Now, for instance, today we we use tokens virtually every day in the form of bank notes and coins.

00:16:00

They're tokens, aren't they?

00:16:03

And when you pay over a certain number of coins or notes, as the case may be, a combination of both, that is your token that you have committed.

00:16:13

That much value.

00:16:14

Purchase that much value in goods and of course we reckon that.

00:16:17

We we certainly give a give give over far more value than money than we do for goods we see.

00:16:23

That's the complaint today.

00:16:24

Of course, and possibly I think it's a very valid complaint, at least in some respects.

00:16:32

We will now move on before we talk further about this token on sign and of course the word sign is short for the word signature and circumcision therefore is the token, the sign, or the signature that man had to make to the covenant between him and God.

00:16:51

We'll move down that of verse 15 and we find that God makes another very specific promise to Abram and Sarah.

00:16:59

And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarah by wife, they shall not call her name Sarah, but Sarah shall her name.

00:17:09

And I will bless her and give their son also of her.

00:17:14

I will bless her and she shall be a mother of nations.

00:17:18

Kings of people.

00:17:19

Shall be of her.

00:17:21

Then Abraham fell upon his face and laughed and said in his heart shall a child be born unto him? That is 100 years.

00:17:28

Old and shall Sarah, who is 90 years old, Bear and Abram said unto God, oh, that Ishmael might live before they.

00:17:39

They went at the age of 99 years and they're well. There's 200 years of age, but this time and Sarah, 90 years of age, Abraham said.

00:17:49

It's absolutely a physical impossibility for my wife and myself to bear children at this time of life.

00:17:56

The power is gone.

00:17:57

We can't do it.

00:17:58

It's impossible.

00:18:00

And when God specifically said that Abraham himself and Sarah, his wife, had bared that child, Abraham laughed at the proposition.

00:18:08

Does this sound as if at this point Abraham believed in that promise?

00:18:13

It certainly does not.

00:18:15

He is unbelieved here is doubt.

00:18:18

Here is a very negative.

00:18:20

Response to the statement which God made at that point of time.

00:18:25

Now let's go back a moment to Abraham, Hagar and Ishmael.

00:18:31

Ishmael was the product of Abraham's attempts to carry out the work of God by his own works. He used his body to his various organs and functions to produce a child.

00:18:44

The bad child absolutely was not recognised in any sense of the word by God as being the child of promise, in no sense of the word.

00:18:54

As a reader on, we find that God stipulates the fact that with Isaac the child who would be born as the result of the application of God's power and God's ways that that child would be the one who would be a part of the covenants. Let's leave now verse 19 and God.

00:19:13

Said Sarah by wife.

00:19:15

Will be your son, indeed.

00:19:16

And they shall call his name Isaac.

00:19:19

And I will establish my coming with him for an everlasting covenant and with his seat after him.

00:19:26

And as wish my own, I have heard thee.

00:19:29

Behold I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him exceedingly.

00:19:35

Tell Princess, shall he?

00:19:36

Baguette and I will make him a great nation.

00:19:39

But even though Ishmael should receive consumable blessing, the Lord says but.

00:19:46

Don't let that blessing cloud the issue.

00:19:49

Don't to divert your mind the real facts of the case, he says.

00:19:52

But my covenant will I establish with Isaac which service you're bound to be at the set time in the next year.

00:20:03

And as it turned out, God's word was fulfilled and to a woman over 90 years of age to a father 100 years of age, the child, the promise was born in God's own way, all within the framework of law.

00:20:22

What then, is relationship between the signature or token core circumcision on the one side and the fulfillment of the promise on the other side?

00:20:33

What is the covenant made between God and man back at this point of time?

00:20:40

And we would like this covenant, of course, to the departure of Egypt, which has a very specific application and which will help us to understand this covenant better than we otherwise could.

00:20:51

A covenant, of course, is an agreement between two parties.

00:20:54

In this case Abraham and God, or in short, man and God, because Abraham was a representative man and symbolised the rest of humanity.

00:21:06

Now Covenant is an agreement in which each party says.

00:21:10

I will do so and so, and if you will do so and so.

00:21:14

So God said, alright, he said.

00:21:16

I will do certain things and for your part you must do certain things.

00:21:21

However, having Sarah.

00:21:23

Had set up a different covenant.

00:21:26

They had said to God.

00:21:27

All right, we still believe in you.

00:21:29

We are still your children.

00:21:30

We still love you and want to serve you.

00:21:32

We're going to do your work this way and that result.

00:21:35

God, of course, could not accept, and then God came to Abram and said to him now look over him.

00:21:41

The time has come when the child Isaac, is to be born.

00:21:46

I'm not denying, of course, the fact that Isaac should have been born.

00:21:49

Long before it would have been, if I had understood the principles correctly and they were involved in the birth of this mail on birth of Isaac rather.

00:21:58

But before he could be born.

00:22:01

And as a result of the manifestation of God's power.

00:22:06

Abraham had to do his part exactly as God laid it out.

00:22:16

And in order to clarify in Abraham's mind the part that he had to play, he had to do something by way of signing the covenants and the signature with circumcision.

00:22:29

Now let's go across, for instance, to the departure of Israel and Egypt.

00:22:34

They had to do certain things which God himself had specified, that they must do.

00:22:39

They have the select the land they had to kill that land.

00:22:44

They have to sprinkle their blood, they repair the carcass.

00:22:48

Was specified and I had to wait until the first born of Egypt died there before there could be any positive assurance.

00:23:01

That they would escape from the land of Egypt, that God's plan would work.

00:23:06

They had to take a stand.

00:23:09

They had to come to a certain point, and that point was to have settled in their minds that they would do what God said as God said to do it.

00:23:18

And when God said to do it.

00:23:21

Now this by a quick survey of the six steps, again without listing them of.

00:23:27

Course at this.

00:23:27

Time we'll ask ourselves the question did the Israelites clear up the word of God exactly as God gave it?

00:23:35

And the answer is yes.

00:23:37

They did choose the land on the 10th day of the first month.

00:23:41

They did give it the 14th tone.

00:23:43

They did slide on the 14th day of the 10th month, the first month, and they did taste the blood they did sprinkled upon the door post, as God said.

00:23:52

They prepared the body whole without breaking any bones, and they roast the lamb with unleavened bread.

00:23:59

And then they should make that land.

00:24:03

Good, ready to travel with their baggage in their hands and their travelling clothes on, ready to go.

00:24:10

And they waited pace until until the first born of Egypt died.

00:24:15

Now, why did they do the work exactly as God said?

00:24:19

Because it was in their mind to do it that way.

00:24:23

Of course they they were people in other desperate situation.

00:24:26

They had experienced a lifetime of bonding in the land of Egypt and they knew perfectly well they were totally helpless to save themselves from their predicament.

00:24:37

They knew that only God could get them out of that difficulty, solve their problem and set them on their way to the land of planet.

00:24:45

And they are so desperate for solution that they that they they have any ideas of inventing or injecting into the whole thing, their own device things or plannings.

00:24:57

And are prepared to do the work exactly as God specified, or God stipulated in this whole situation back there in the land of Egypt.

00:25:05

And so while they entered into the physical right of circumcision as a visible promise or signature on their part, they carry out the.

00:25:14

Work of God.

00:25:15

Simply simply signing the covenant by entering the into the physical right of circumstance was not.

00:25:25

Enough and is so.

00:25:27

That outward sign had to be a statement of an inner mental attitude and the inner mental attitude wasn't there.

00:25:36

The end of this position wasn't there.

00:25:38

The signature, of course, meant nothing at all, as you can read later in the Book of Romans, where Paul talks about the fact that circumcision means nothing at all if it's not.

00:25:46

Welcome season of the heart or a genuine committal on that person's path to carry out the way of God, exactly as God said it.

00:25:57

But as we move into the study of the deliverance in Egypt and the corresponding typology which deals with our own personal limiting land of sin, we can't over emphasise the principle that we have to get this settled in our minds that God has.

00:26:16

Formed the plan of salvation.

00:26:19

Man cannot invent a plan of salvation.

00:26:23

Man doesn't have that capacity.

00:26:24

God alone can do it.

00:26:26

And God.

00:26:26

Has done us.

00:26:28

We must be completely set on their minds.

00:26:31

That we are to study and to be understand exactly.

00:26:36

And and do we understand the plan of surviving exactly as God has formed it and do we understand what God has promised to do?

00:26:45

And what we have to do in order to obey God and respond to his leadership, and when we understand exactly what God has determined to do, we dedicate ourselves, no matter what the cost may be to do in God's way.

00:27:00

As he leads us on step by step, we must be determined with nothing to enter by way of human devising or human plans to distract us or divert us from the pathway which God has planned for us.

00:27:14

Now if we will make that kind of dedication, then spiritually we're entering, entering into the circumcision experience.

00:27:20

We are placing our signature on the covers.

00:27:25

Just bear in mind, of course, that the covenant or the signature.

00:27:28

I think I found on the covenant and even the covenant itself is not deliberate.

00:27:34

When Questons, you go down to a market to buy a new car.

00:27:39

The salesman comes out after you've grieving him to pay a certain price bid, and to receive some most of your trading.

00:27:45

He comes out and writes.

00:27:47

Down all these.

00:27:48

Agreed facts upon a piece of paper.

00:27:51

And then says, now sign up.

00:27:53

Now is that piece of paper the.

00:27:55

Car. No, it's not.

00:27:57

It's the giving for you to buy the car.

00:28:00

And on his part to sell the car for, to stay, to stay with prices.

00:28:05

And once he signs that covenant or contract and you sign that contract, then what must he do?

00:28:11

He must sell the car to the agreed price.

00:28:13

And what must you do?

00:28:14

You must pay the agreed price and then you receive the car.

00:28:20

Clearly very clearly, of course, the signing of the covenant is not the receiving of the car.

00:28:29

It only prepares or opens the way for the receiving of the car, and so likewise second sister is not the the blessing itself.

00:28:40

Second thing is that Isaac, for instance, circumcision is our dedication or our signature that we will do the part.

00:28:48

Exactly as God has stipulated, and no other way but.

00:28:53

And very obviously, of course, urging this series of studies is very important, that we recognise this principle and make a very solemn dedication our hearts to doing God's way, because that's the only way which works.

00:29:06

Anyone or other inventions, of course like Ismail will leave those who follow them.

00:29:14

Lead them on to total and final destruction.

00:29:17

As time has gone for this presentation to leave it them and the next series will continue to examine the remaining five steps in the series on the liberal end of Egypt.