

# PASTOR RAY'S BIBLE SCHOOL 301

## KINGDOM NATION

### Session Three

#### “Seed Power”

##### I. The Kingdom Nation Identified

###### A. Working From Oaks To Acorns

1. In the prophetic view of scripture, we “see” the scriptures as a “big picture”, from God’s perspective.

2. Like climbing a tree when lost in the woods, we see to see the “forest”, not just the trees.

3. We are focusing on God’s “Kingdom Nation”, all of the redeemed in all of history, as God’s transcendent purpose to have a people who would glorify His name in time and eternity.

4. In the OT, this people was called “Israel”; in the NT, they are called the “church”.

5. In both cases, the “visible” group contained mixture; believer/unbeliever, “true” Jew and hypocrite, etc.

a. Just as “not all Israel is Israel”, (Romans 9:6), so the church will always have “wheat and tares” until the end, (Matthew 13:23-30). Nevertheless, the true “Israel of God” is the truly REDEEMED of all time, OT or NT.

###### B. The “Oak Tree” Of The Kingdom

1. When we have a prophetic view of scripture, we can start anywhere and work backwards or forwards in our understanding of what is being said.

2. We can take a single important verse or passage of scripture, and work toward the “macro” context, from “acorn” to “oak”; or we can look at the “end result” of something God has done and work back toward the “micro” roots of the revelation.

3. The “Kingdom Nation” is a major theme of scripture. This is the great company of the “sheep”, separated from the “goats” at the Final Judgment.

Matt 25:31-34 KJV

31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

32 *And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:*

33 *And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.*

34 *Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...*

4. This is a “macro” picture of the Kingdom Nation coming into the final fulfillment of its destiny.

5. We will now work our way back to the “origins” of this amazing story.

## II. Seed Power

### A. The Glorious History Of The Kingdom Nation

#### “Mighty oaks from little acorns grow...”

1. The ORIGIN or “spiritual acorn” of the redeemed nation of the “sheep” in Matthew 25 can be found as a prophecy, all the way back in Genesis 3!

a. Remember in the 201 course, we showed how the Book of Genesis might be called the ‘seed plot’ of the Bible, because every major doctrine, principle and truth can be found there in “seed” form.

2. In Genesis 3, immediately after the ‘Fall’ of Adam, we find the “first mention” of the Gospel of man’s redemption in Genesis 3:15:

Gen 3:14-15

14 And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it (**the woman’s** seed) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

KJV

3. Scholars call v.15 the “Proto-Evangel”, the “first preaching of the Gospel, the “Good News” that the Serpent would be crushed in defeat by the “seed” of the woman.

### B. Identifying The Nature Of The Seed

1. In the natural order, the male carries the “seed”, (Greek, “sperma”), and the genealogical line is established by the males.

a. The Hebrew genealogies in the Bible consistently trace the generations via the males, or the ‘fathers’.

b. In most cultures, it’s the family name of the males that traces family history, the woman in marriage taking the last name of the husband.

2. The “seed” of the woman, therefore, must be *spiritual* in nature, not physical; after the spirit, not the flesh.

3. This prophecy in the Garden of Eden is shrouded in mystery for a season...but the unfolding revelation of scripture brings the seed to full bloom!

4. The “seed of the woman” can be none other than Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh! (John 1:1,14)

5. The Proto-evangel in Genesis 3:15 provides the prophetic view with the first hints of many important doctrines:

- The “virgin birth”, since in the immaculate conception of Christ in the womb of Mary, the “seed” of man is unemployed! (Luke 1:34-35)
- The “Cross” of Christ is foreshadowed, where Christ’s “heel” would be “bruised” (Hebrews 2:14-15; Isaiah 53:3-4;12)
- We get a hint of the Resurrection and triumph of life over death, where the Serpent’s “head” would be “crushed” (Colossians 2:11-15)
- We get our first glimpse of the doctrine of the necessity of being “born again”, since only the “seed of the woman” can triumph over sin!

1 Peter 1:22-25

<sup>22</sup> Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, <sup>23</sup> for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God. <sup>24</sup> For,

" ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,  
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS.  
THE GRASS WITHERS,  
AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,

<sup>25</sup> BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ABIDES FOREVER. "  
And this is the word which was preached to you.

1 Peter 1:22-25 NASB

6. The “seed of the woman” in Genesis 3, is the same “incorruptible seed” by which we are born again, (1 Peter 1:23), and it is the connecting link between the Church and the Patriarch Abraham, explaining how he is the “father” of all them that believe, AND a model of how to live our lives in faith by following in his “steps”!

## Connecting The Dots

**The “seed of the woman” in Genesis 3:15>The “sheep” (Kingdom Nation) of Matthew 25**  
**In between, the “seed” is at work (primarily) in ISRAEL in the OT, the CHURCH in the NT!**

### C. Tracing Our Family Tree

1. The SEED of Genesis 3 is Christ Himself, the Living Word of God that makes us alive through the (spiritual) new birth which results in saving faith for ALL of the redeemed of ALL time!

2. This is spiritual seed, not natural seed; incorruptible, not corruptible; living and abiding forever, not perishable.

3. This “seed” of Christ is sown in the hearts of ALL believers of ALL times, with Abraham as a prototype of all those who truly believe God and are made right with God by faith, not works!

Rom 4:7-18, NASB, with comments in parentheses added  
(Paul, quoting David from Psalm 32)

" BLESSED ARE THOSE (ALL THE REDEEMED) WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN,  
AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED.

<sup>8</sup> " BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT. "

<sup>9</sup> Is this blessing then upon the circumcised, (limited to natural born Jews) or upon the uncircumcised (non-Jews) also? For we say, " FAITH WAS RECKONED TO ABRAHAM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. " <sup>10</sup> How then was it reckoned? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised; (Being right with God occurred BEFORE any works of faith were performed) <sup>11</sup> and he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all who believe without being circumcised, that righteousness might be reckoned to them, <sup>12</sup> and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also follow in the steps of the faith of our father Abraham which he had while uncircumcised. <sup>13</sup> For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified; <sup>15</sup> for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup> For this reason *it is* by faith, that *it might be* in accordance with grace, in order that the promise may be certain to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup> (as it is written, " A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU ") in the sight of Him whom he believed, *even* God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist. <sup>18</sup> In hope against hope he believed, in order that he might become a father of many nations, according to that which had been spoken, " SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE. "

1. From the heavenly point of view, the “seed” of Christ brings the “new birth” through faith in God’s promise; but from the earthly point of view, the “seed” resided in a nation called Israel.
2. The origins of the nation of Israel is the focus of this class.
3. We begin with one of the most remarkable figures in all of human history, the patriarch Abraham.
4. Three of the world’s great religions look to Abraham as their “Father”.
  - Judaism (Through the natural seed of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the Patriarchs)
  - Islam (Through Ishmael)
  - Christianity (Through the Promise, as expressed in Isaac)
5. The Islamic and Jewish religions are focused on Abraham’s seed “after the flesh”; The Christian faith is (or should be) focused on Abraham’s “seed” after the Spirit, Jesus Christ!
6. In Islam and Judaism, salvation is accomplished by works; In Christianity, justification is by grace through faith, NOT by works!
7. This great distinction marks out the Kingdom Nation of God’s truly redeemed from all “other” nations, ethnic groups or religions.
8. God chose Abraham as the most identifiable “starting place” for building the nation of Israel; and because the “Kingdom Nation” is ONE people, Abraham holds a very special place in relationship to the Church, as seen in Romans 4:11-13

### Abraham As Our Father And Model Of Faith

(1) ...that he (Abraham) might be the father of all them that believe...

(2) *And the father of* circumcision to *them* who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.

13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

9. Here are 2 critically important points:

- a. Abraham is the (spiritual) “father” of ALL who truly believe
- b. His life is a MODEL OF FAITH for believers to copy

10. We will now see the foundational importance of the first of these two principles

## II. Abraham And Us

### A. Abraham: The Father Of All Them That Believe

1. What did Paul mean when he told the Christians at Rome that Abraham was their ‘father’? We suggest the following:

a. In the same way Abraham was the “natural father” of the nation of Israel through his “natural” seed, so also he is the “spiritual father” of all truly “born-again” members of the Church of Jesus Christ because we share regeneration by “spiritual seed”, the seed of faith!

b. Abraham’s “seed” is two-fold: Natural Israel by natural seed; “spiritual Israel” (the Church) by the “seed of the woman”, the “Word of God”, (1 Peter 1:23), Christ Himself! (Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 19:13) Thusly, the REDEEMED OF ALL TIME share a common “re-birth”...not after the flesh, but after the spirit!

2. This common “birth” is NOT BY WORKS; it is a JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH!

What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Romans 4:1-5 KJV

3. The student with a Prophetic View of scripture can now “connect the dots” quite dramatically and see the breathtaking consistency of the scriptures regarding salvation/redemption...

- In Genesis 3, after the Fall, our first parents immediately sought to “cover” their nakedness with the works of their own hands! God, however, provides acceptable covering by slaying innocent animals and supplying them with garments made from their skins...the first picture in scripture of how God will save His Kingdom nation!
- In Genesis 4, we find the same principle expressed in the next generation; Cain seeks to approach God with the fruit of the works of his own hands, and is rejected; Abel approaches God by faith, with the blood of an innocent sacrifice, and is accepted.
- In Romans 4, the Apostle Paul declares that God’s plan of redemption for His people is CONSISTENT and UNIFIED throughout scripture! Salvation was NEVER through the flesh (by works), but ALWAYS by grace (through faith in God’s substitutionary sacrifice)

## B. Justification By Faith

1. The greatest doctrine in the Bible regarding salvation is “justification by faith”
2. “Justified” means “made right” or “in a condition of righteousness before God”.
3. The great lesson ALL believers of ALL the ages learn from Abraham’s “prototype” is that he was NOT justified or made right with God by his works or anything having to do with the flesh!
4. The Book of Romans is the Apostle Paul’s theological masterpiece and “justification by faith” is its transcendent theme:

Rom 1:16-17 KJV

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Romans 1:16-17 New Living Translation

16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile.\* 17 This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." \*

5. Again, (always), we try to connect the dots of NT and OT. We see here that Paul is quoting the Old Testament Prophet Habakkuk.

Hab 2:4 KJV

4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

Hab 2:4 NLT

4 "Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith.

Hab 2:4 Message Bible

4 "Look at that man, bloated by self-importance —full of himself but soul-empty. But the person in right standing before God through loyal and steady believing is fully alive, really alive."

**The “Kingdom Nation”, (the redeemed of God), is ONE people, ALL (and EACH ONE) saved (made right with God) in the same way, JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH!**

## III. Conclusion: The Abrahamic Model Of The Kingdom Nation

### A. The Fundamental Cornerstone: Justification By Faith

1. One of the first things one should ask about any religion or philosophy ought to be their view of “salvation” or “redemption”, (if they have one), and HOW that salvation is accomplished.

2. The PV of scripture holds that there are only TWO religions in all of human history, (see the 201 course): God’s way of justification by faith, and secondly, ALL the other religions or philosophies of men which appear to be MANY, but are really only ONE...anything in opposition to God’s way is the wrong way. We contend this is what Jesus meant in His controversial “exclusive” statements in the Gospels:

3. Unfortunately, the faithful child of God must not only contend for the faith once and for all delivered to the saints, (Jude), and stand for the truth against false religions and humanistic philosophies (and “isms”), but must ALSO hold for the truth against heresies and false doctrines from WITHIN the (visible) church itself!

### Systems Of Men

- Humanism
- Communism/Socialism
  - Marxism
  - Fascism
  - Statism
- Humanitarianism
- Intellectualism

### False Religious Systems

Buddhism/Confucianism

Islam

Taoism

Unitarianism

Scientology

### “Christian” Cults/Heresies\*

Mormonism

Jehovah’s Witnesses

Christian Science



## 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventism (some forms)

*\*The primary way we identify cults presenting themselves as “Christian” is Christological, that is, their primary error is discovered in their view of Jesus Christ.*

For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted...

2 Cor 11:4 NASB

4. The Biblical presentation sets itself against all these (and any other) systems that deny the revelation of scripture. These systems/religions all find their “root” in the “other tree in the garden”, the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil”, the source of all ethical and epistemological systems outside of the “tree of life”.

5. God gives ethical instruction out of an epistemology that truth is given by revelation of God.

6. So we conclude this class by presenting Abraham as “the father of all them that believe” in that he models *how* God saves...in our next class, we’ll focus on what it means that those who believe will **“walk in the steps of that faith”** which was modeled by Abraham! (See Romans 4:12)