

Legaspi – Lesson 8

Big Question: How are the Abrahamic promises fulfilled in Christ?

Key points

In this lesson, our journey of Israel from God's promises to Abraham are fulfilled in Christ. Teachers should understand these few key points before the lesson, and students should take these points away from the classroom.

- A. The promises made to Abraham seemed to find fulfillment when Israel finally settled in the Promised Land and established a kingdom and a Temple in which to dwell with God.
- B. However, the exile took all of that away, leaving a big question mark as to God's plans for His People.
- C. Even after Israel is allowed to return to her land and rebuild the Temple, they do not possess the land and have no king.
- D. This is the scene onto which Christ comes as the ultimate fulfillment of the Abrahamic promises for Israel and all humanity.

Review

Ask students:

1. What did we learn last class? Review your notes and rewrite a key point or takeaway that you found significant. If you were absent, your job is to review the student guide from last class and then ask your fellow students questions about the points they're about to share.

Give them 3 or so minutes to review and write, then ask them:

- Share what you've written (go around the room systematically to get feedback)
- Then ask students who were absent last class: do you have any questions they have about their points? Students may not be able to answer their questions, and that's okay. You can affirm the question, and if it's easy to answer yourself, do so. And if not, say "We'll hold on to that question to see if it's answered in any of the future classes."

Finally, review any key points from last class that were missed, especially if they are really important for this upcoming lesson.

Opening Reflection

Say something like:

- What happened to God's promises to Abraham?
- They were taken into exile because of their own unfaithfulness, but is this the end of the story? Has God now abandoned His People?
- What about God's promise to David that He will build him a house which will last forever? Did this promise go out of the window with David's descendants' unfaithfulness?

- Or were these promises all along hints at something far greater that God had in mind?
 - Let's keep these questions in mind as we listen to this lecture.

 - Israel has now lost everything. It is amazing that they remain in some sense a people, dispersed as they are throughout the world.
 - When they are allowed to return to the land, nothing is as it was. They no longer have a kingdom, but are subject to foreign powers. They rebuild the Temple, but what is next?
 - We come now to Christ, who both embodies and fulfills the entire narrative of Scripture so far.
2. We've seen the Abrahamic promises seemingly fulfilled before when Israel possessed the Promised Land and established a kingdom. What do you think is different about Jesus' fulfillment of the promises?

Preparing for Video Clip

- After we have studied the Bible together through these lessons, we have not seen so much a discussion of theological concepts, but a narrative told about God's dealings with His people.
 - With Abraham, we saw the foundation of this people by God's choosing, which entailed His promises of land, descendants, and blessing.
 - With Moses, we saw the instructions given to God's people in the Law as to how they should live.
 - With David, we saw this people emerge into a great kingdom with a grand Temple in its center to emphasize their covenant with the true God.
 - However, we have also seen this people's disobedience and unfaithfulness to God, resulting in their exile and calling into question the original promises made to Abraham.
 - Here we will see everything we have discussed so far come to culmination in Christ.
 - Reflecting back on the first lecture, we will see here what it means through the example of Christ to live a Bible-shaped life.
 - While the kings, priests, and even the prophets had failed to realize the expectations of God for His People, we will see all of this fulfilled in Christ.

 - Encourage students to take notes in their student guide as they watch and listen to the video clip. Tell them that you will discuss the lecture afterwards.
 - Take a moment to help students get oriented with the student guide, and then play the lecture.
3. Now fill in the points Dr. Legaspi makes in this video clip.
- a. The virgin birth reveals Jesus to be the true _____ of God.

- b. Jesus fulfills the roles of _____, _____, and _____ in the Old Testament.
- c. Whereas we see God grant victory to Israel over various enemies in the Old Testament, Jesus defeats _____, the ultimate enemy of humanity.

Reflection on the Video

- 4. How does Jesus' embodiment and fulfillment of Israel impact your view of what it means to be the People of God?
- 5. We have seen what it meant for Jesus to live a Bible-shaped life, both embodying and fulfilling the narrative of the Old Testament Scriptures. What about us? What would it mean for us to live a Bible-shaped life?
- 6. Any final thoughts?

Close with any of the key points that they might not have addressed in their own sharing/discussion.