

Acts 7:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he gave him the covenant of circumcision: and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs.

Analysis

God gave Abraham 'the covenant of circumcision' as sign and seal of relationship. Stephen traces covenant succession through Isaac, Jacob, and the twelve patriarchs. This genealogy connects his audience to promises through the fathers.

Historical Context

Circumcision (Genesis 17) marked covenant membership for Abraham's male descendants. The twelve patriarchs became the foundation of Israel's tribal structure.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does circumcision as covenant sign teach about God's initiative in relationship?
2. How do you trace your spiritual heritage to Abraham's covenant?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὸν διαθήκην περιτομῆς· καὶ οὕτως
And **he gave** **him** **the covenant** **of circumcision** **And** **so**
G2532 G1325 G846 G1242 G4061 G2532 G3779

ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰσαὰκ καὶ περιέτεμεν αὐτὸν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ
Abraham begat **Isaac** **And** **circumcised** **him** **day**
G1080 G3588 G2464 G2532 G4059 G846 G3588 G2250

τῇ ὀγδόῃ καὶ ὁ Ἰσαὰκ τὸν Ἰακώβ καὶ ὁ Ἰακώβ
G3588 **the eighth** **And** G3588 **Isaac** G3588 **Jacob** **And** G3588 **Jacob**
G3590 G2532 G2464 G2384 G2532 G2384

τοὺς δώδεκα πατριάρχας
G3588 **begat the twelve** **patriarchs**
G1427 G3966

Additional Cross-References

Acts 2:29 (Parallel theme): Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

Genesis 35:16 (Parallel theme): And they journeyed from Beth-el; and there was but a little way to come to Ephrath: and Rachel travailed, and she had hard labour.