

December 22, 2013

## SOVEREIGN GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

Of Princeton, New Jersey

### Jesus Christ

For by Him were all things created,  
that are in heaven, and that are in earth,  
visible and invisible ...

And He is before all things,  
and by Him all things consist.

- Colossians 1:16-17

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday: 10:15 AM Bible Class  
11:00 AM Morning Service  
Thursday: 7:30 PM Mid-week Service

**Services Broadcast Live @**  
[www.FreeGraceMedia.com/live](http://www.FreeGraceMedia.com/live)

#### WEB ADDRESS

Be sure to bookmark our website for daily articles and audio messages:  
[www.FreeGraceMedia.com](http://www.FreeGraceMedia.com)

#### WEEKLY MEETING LOCATION

Rocky Hill Firehouse, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
150 Washington Street  
Rocky Hill, NJ 08553

#### MAILING ADDRESS

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#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

10:15 a.m. Bible Class

11:00 a.m. Service

Opening Hymns

Scripture Reading

Message

Closing Hymn

**Announcements: B'Days:** Cheryl D.—3rd; Debbie D.—17<sup>th</sup>; Anthony D—26<sup>th</sup>; Wedding Anniversary: Joe and Abby Z—2<sup>nd</sup> **Nursery Today:** Melinda C. **Nursery Thurs:** Debbie D.

#### GOD FULFILLS HIS PROMISE

*Genesis 21: 1: And the LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did unto Sarah as he had spoken. 2: For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.*

Salvation is according to the word of God's promise. Everything God does in time in the salvation of each of God's elect is according to God's everlasting covenant of grace. The promise of God is sure because God himself fulfills every word himself.

God gave Sarah a child because God promised he would—as God had said. Sara represents the everlasting covenant of grace. (Galatians 4: 22-24) God made this promise long before then brought it to pass through Sarah. Likewise before God made time the three persons in the Godhead made a covenant promise with himself to save an elect people by Christ Jesus.

God the Father chose his Son, chose an elect people in his Son, and promised to give Christ Jesus all preeminence as the GodMan for glorifying God and saving his people from our sins on the cross. (Is 42: 1; Eph 1: 3-4; Col 1: 18-19; Rom 3: 25-26) God the Son promised to become a man like unto his brethren, to magnify and honor the law of God, saving all God's elect by making us the righteousness of God in him. (Heb 2: 14-18; Is 42: 21; 2 Cor 5: 21) God the Holy Spirit promised to overshadow the virgin forming Christ in her womb, to rest upon Christ as he walked this earth, to regenerate each elect child, to convince us of our sin, of Christ's righteousness, of judgment accomplished. (Lu 1: 35; Mt 3: 16; Jn 3: 5; 16: 7-11)

Since Sarah is a type of the everlasting covenant we could replace her name and read verse 1 this way, "And the LORD visited [through the

everlasting covenant] as he had said, and the LORD did [according to the everlasting covenant] as he had spoken.” Everything that has and is coming to pass in time, the crucifixion of Christ Jesus, every sinner called to faith in Christ, every believer kept so that none shall be lost, is God fulfilling his everlasting covenant of grace—as *God had said*. God fulfills his covenant promise because “He doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?” (Dan 4: 35); God fulfills his covenant promise because “Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.” (Ps 135: 6); God fulfills his covenant promise “according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.” (Eph 1: 11) By doing so the glory of God is manifest, all the work of salvation is of the Lord and all who believe glory only in the Lord.

Believe God. “God *is* not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?” (Nu 23: 19)

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### ON PURPOSE FOR A PURPOSE

*Genesis 21: 2: For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. 3: And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac.*

Isaac is a type of Christ. (Gal 3:16) That is not by accident but according to the purpose of God. Here are some ways Isaac is a type of Christ:

- Both births were announced years before. (Gen 21: 1-3; Gen 3: 15)
- Both births occurred at the set time. (Gen 21: 2; Gal 4: 4)
- Both were named before their birth. Of Isaac read Genesis 17:19; Of Christ, “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” (Mt 1: 21)
- Both births were a miracle of God. (Gen 21: 7; Lu 1: 35)
- From both God promised seed would be born. Of Isaac, “for in Isaac shall thy seed be called.” (Gen 21: 12; Rom 9: 6-9) Christ is the Seed born through Isaac. Also, we are told that the promise made to Abraham was also made to Christ concerning the regeneration of all Christ’s redeemed (Gal 3: 16) and that the very reason Christ was made a curse for his people was so this blessing would come upon all Christ’s seed among all nations, that each shall be called to life, “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: THAT the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ;

THAT we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.” (Gal 3: 13-14)

- Both were offered of their Father as a sacrifice. Of Isaac, “And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.” (Gen 22: 2) Of Christ, “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.” (1 Jn 4: 9)
- Both bore the wood on which they were offered. Of Isaac, “And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son.” (Gen 22: 6) Of Christ, “And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha.” (Jn 19: 17)
- Both freely submitted. (Gen 22: 9; Jn 10: 17-18)
- With both God provided himself a lamb. With Isaac, God provided himself a lamb to take Isaac’s place. (Gen 22: 8) Christ is God providing himself to be the Lamb who took the place of, and put away the sins of, his people. (Jn 1: 36; Heb 1: 3)

One purpose of God in making Isaac a type of Christ is to show us that God does all things according to the word of his promise, on purpose, for the purpose of glorifying himself in the person of his only begotten Son—“*as he had said, as he has spoken.*”

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### ESTEEM OTHERS BETTER THAN SELF

The Holy Spirit says through the apostle Paul, “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.” (Php 2: 3) If we criticize a brother then we are esteeming self as better than them. That is sure to promote strife and vain glory. If we must be critical then rather than rather than doing so of our brethren, let us be critical of how we treat others. Rather than exalting self, let us exalt the other as better than ourselves. Strife and vain glory cannot exist when we esteem others better than ourselves.

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One reason it is impossible for a natural man to believe that God has done the things he reads in the Bible is because everything God does is impossible with man.