### Genesis

## Chapter 17

1Then, when Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to him [again] and said:  
  
 ‘I am your God. So, if you’ll be pleasing before Me and not do anything for which you can be blamed, 2I’ll establish a Sacred Agreement between you and Me, and I will make you prosper greatly!’  
  
3Well at that, Abram fell with his face [to the ground]. Then The God spoke to him [again], saying:  
  
 4‘Look!  
  
 ‘I am making My Sacred Agreement with you. Since you’ll become the father of many nations, your name will no longer be called Abram, but AbraHam... 5For I’ve made you the father of many nations.  
  
 6‘I will make you grow tremendously, I’ll make nations come from you, and kings will descend from you.  
  
 7‘I’ll also extend my Sacred Agreement between you and Me to the offspring that comes from you through its generations. It’s a Sacred Agreement throughout the ages that [I] will be your God and the God of the offspring that comes from you.  
  
 8‘Also, I’ll give the land where you’re [now] living as an alien, to you and to your offspring. This includes the entire land of CanaAn… It’ll become yours throughout the ages, and I’ll be their God.’  
  
9Then The God told AbraHam:  
  
 ‘You must absolutely keep my Sacred Agreement… Both you and your offspring that descends from you through all their generations.  
  
 10‘This is the Sacred Agreement between you and your offspring and Me through all its generations:  
  
 ‘All of your males must be circumcised… 11The foreskin of their flesh must be circumcised, for this will be the sign of the Sacred Agreement between you and Me.  
  
 12‘All of your male children must be circumcised by you when they’re 8-days old, throughout all your generations. [This includes all your] home-born servants and those who are bought with money (the sons of aliens that are not your offspring).  
  
 13‘Those who are born in your house and those who are bought with money must surely be circumcised. So My Sacred Agreement will be in their flesh as [a sign of the] Sacred Agreement throughout the ages.  
  
 14‘As for the uncircumcised males who aren’t circumcised in the flesh of their foreskin on the 8th day... Such individuals must be totally destroyed from among their families for breaking My Sacred Agreement!’  
  
15Then The God told AbraHam:  
  
 ‘Your wife Sara will no longer be called Sara… SarAh will be her name. 16For I’ll bless her and give you a son from her, whom I will also bless… nations and kings of nations will come from him!’  
  
17Well with that, AbraHam fell to his face and laughed, asking in his heart:  
  
 ‘Will a 100-year-old [man] father a child? And will SarAh –who’s 90 years old– give birth to it?’  
  
18Then AbraHam said to God:  
  
 ‘Please accept IshMaEl to [stand] before You.’  
  
19But God told AbraHam:  
  
 ‘Look; your wife SarAh will give birth to your son, and you should name him IsaAc [which means ‘Laughter’].  
  
 ‘I’ll make my Sacred Agreement [with you] firm through him… It’ll be an age-long Sacred Agreement that I’ll be his God and [the God] of his offspring that descends from him.  
  
 20‘As for IshMaEl; {Look!} I’ve heard you and I’ve blest him. I’ll make him grow and multiply tremendously, so he will become the father of 12 nations that I’ll make a great people.  
  
 21‘However, My Sacred Agreement will be established with IsaAc, whom SarAh will bear to you at this time next year.’  
  
22Then The God stopped talking to him, and He left AbraHam.  
  
  
23Well thereafter, AbraHam took his son IshMaEl, all of his home-born servants, all of those whom he’d bought with money… All the males in AbraHam’s house, and circumcised their foreskins on that very day, just as God had told him.  
  
24AbraHam was 99 years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, 25and his son IshMaEl was 13 years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.  
  
26Both AbraHam and his son IshMaEl were circumcised that very day, 27along with all the men of his house… Those who were born there and the foreigners who were bought with money.