**CHAPTER** **17**

*The Covenant of circumsion.*

**1** And after he began to be ninety and nine years old, the Lord appeared to him: and said unto him: I am the Almighty God: walk before me, and be perfect.

**2** And I will make my covenant between me and thee: and I will multiply thee exceedingly.

**3** Abram fell flat on his face.

**4** And God said to him: I AM, and my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

**5** Neither shall thy name be called any more Abram: but thou shalt be called Abraham: because I have made thee a father of many nations.

**6** And I will make thee increase, exceedingly, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

**7** And I will establish my covenant between me and thee, and between thy seed after thee in their generations, by a perpetual covenant: to be a God to thee, and to thy seed after thee.

**8** And I will give to thee, and to thy seed, the land of thy sojournment, all the land of Chanaan for a perpetual possession, and I will be their God.

**9** Again God said to Abraham: And thou therefore shalt keep my covenant, and thy seed after thee in their generations.

**10** This is my covenant which you shall observe, between me and you, and thy seed after thee: All the male kind of you shall be circumcised:

**11** And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin, that it may be for a sign of the covenant between me and you.

**12** An infant of eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations: he that is born in the house, as well as the bought servant shall be circumcised, and whosoever is not of your stock:

**13** And my covenant shall be in your flesh for a perpetual covenant.

**14** The male, whose flesh of his foreskin shall not be circumcised, that soul shall be destroyed out of his people: because he hath broken my covenant.

**15** God said also to Abraham: Sarai thy wife thou shalt not call Sarai, but Sara.

**16** And I will bless her, and of her I will give thee a son, whom I will bless, and he shall become nations, and kings of people shall spring from him.

**17** Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, saying in his heart: Shall a son, thinkest thou, be born to him that is a hundred years old? and shall Sara that is ninety years old bring forth?

**18** And he said to God: O that Ismael may live before thee.

**19** And God said to Abraham: Sara thy wife shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name Isaac, and I will establish my covenant with him for a perpetual covenant, and with his seed after him.

**20** And as for Ismael I have also heard thee. Behold, I will bless him, and increase, and multiply him exceedingly: he shall beget twelve chiefs, and I will make him a great nation.

**21** But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sara shall bring forth to thee at this time in the next year.

**22** And when he had left off speaking with him, God went up from Abraham.

**23** And Abraham took Ismael his son, and all that were born in his house: and all whom he had bought, every male among the men of his house: and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskin forthwith the very same day, as God had commanded him.

**24** Abraham was ninety and nine years old, when he circumcised the flesh of his foreskin.

**25** And Ismael his son was full thirteen years old at the time of his circumcision.

**26** The selfsame day was Abraham circumcised and Ismael his son.

**27** And all the men of his house, as well they that were born in his house, as the bought servants and strangers were circumcised with him.