

Blood Covenant of Friendship

TITLE PAGE

- **Blood Covenant of Friendship with Abraham**
- Information taken from:
- From Jay Snell's book nr 2:
- **WHAT'VE THEY DONE WITH ABRAHAM'S BLESSINGS ?**

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Blood Covenant of Friendship

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Blood Covenant of Friendship

- The Six Steps Ceremony
 - 1. TERMS
 - 2. BLESSINGS AND CURSES
 - **3. THE CUTTING**
 - 4. THE FEAST
 - 5. MEMORIAL
 - 6. THE GIFTS

Blood Covenant of Friendship - 01

■ 4. THE CUTTING

- the prophet Jeremiah prophesied that there would come **a day in future** when the Blood Covenant God made with Abraham, would be **"KARATH"**, or **"cut"**.
- *Jeremiah 31:31, (KJV) Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make **a new covenant** with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:*
- Hebrews 8:8 quotes Jeremiah 31:31,
- *Hebrews 8:8 (KJV) For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make **a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:*

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- The translation "**will make a new covenant**" in the KJV is **not** the most accurate.
- Hebrews 8:8 refers to Jeremiah 31:31 and uses the Greek word **SUNTELEO** to translate KARATH.
- The writer of Hebrews says that **the preexisting covenant will be completed, not** that God "will make" a **brand-new covenant** in the future.
- The writer of Hebrews sees Jeremiah's future "cutting" as the "**completion**" of the **Abrahamic Covenant**", which begins **the Christian era**.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- A more accurate translation of Jeremiah 31:31 would be that God would now "KARATH", or "cut" the Blood covenant from God's side.
- *Jeremiah 31:31, (KJV) Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will "cut the pre-existing covenant" with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:*
- Hebrews 8:8 quotes Jeremiah 31:31,
- *Hebrews 8:8 (KJV) For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will "complete the pre-existing covenant" with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:*

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- Note:
- **See separate study** for further detail on the meaning and application of the Greek word **SUNTELEO** the Writer of Hebrews has selected to describe the New Covenant.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

■ Questions:

- How could God “do” what Jer 31:31 prophesied?
- How could God covenant with a man (Abraham)?
- How did God become a man?
- God is spirit, (reference: John 4:24 *God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*)
- We know **a Spirit does not have blood.**

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- The Answer:
- It was accomplished in the person of Jesus Christ, who in the days of his flesh **was both God and man.**

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

■ Question:

■ How did He (God) become also a man.

■ Answer:

■ How he came to be both God and man is best understood by **examining the Greek word EPISKIADZO**

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

■ Questions:

■ EPISKIADZO = This word combines EPI, a Greek preposition meaning "over or upon," with SKIADZO, meaning "shadow."

■ EPISKIADZO = EPI + SKIADZO

■ "over or upon," + "shadow."

■ EPISKIADZO = "Overshadow"

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- This word is used five times in the Greek New Testament and is **always translated "overshadow."**
- Each **use of this word concerns the Spirit of God coming upon human flesh, enabling it to accomplish what it could not accomplish apart from the power of God.**

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- **4. THE CUTTING - "overshadow."**
- Example 1
- In Matthew 17:5; Mark 9:7; and Luke 9:34, a **cloud "overshadowed" Peter, James, and John** enabling them to hear the voice of God, which said, **"This is my beloved Son."**

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- **4. THE CUTTING - "overshadow."**
- Example 2
- In Acts 5:15, the people brought the sick so that the **shadow of Peter might "overshadow some of them."**
- "They were healed, everyone" (Acts 5:16).

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- **4. THE CUTTING - "overshadow."**
- Example 3
- In Luke 1:35, the angel said unto Mary, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the **power of the Highest shall overshadow thee**: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called **the Son of God.**"

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- **4. THE CUTTING - "overshadow."**
- Summary of **EPISKIADZO**
- the "overshadowing" enabled Peter, James, and John **to audibly hear the very voice of God.**
- the "overshadowing" enabled **human flesh to be healed** by the power of God.
- the "overshadowing" enabled Mary, in the flesh, **to produce an offspring which was both God and man.**

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- **As man, Jesus was the seed of Abraham.**
- "Now **to Abraham and his seed** were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, **And to thy seed, which is Christ**" (Galatians 3:16).
- The meaning of Galatians 3:16 can be stated therefore as:
- "**Now to Abraham and Christ** were the promises made".

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- "It (the law) was added because of transgressions, till **the seed should come to whom the promises were made;...**" (Galatians 3:19).
 - *Side note: The "Instructions" were added so that the Israelites would not lose the promises and BENEFITS of the Abrahamic Covenant, we can see the role of the INSTRUCTIONS being the TEACHER*
- "For verily he took **not on him the nature of angels;** but he **took on him the seed of Abraham"** (Hebrews 2:16).
- Gal 4:4 and when the fullness of time did come, God sent forth His Son, come of a woman, come under law, (*note: the time period still during the Mosaic law*)

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- **As the seed of Abraham, Jesus was circumcised into the Abrahamic Covenant.**
- "And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called Jesus, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb" (Luke 2:21).

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- **Jesus viewed circumcision as the token of the Abrahamic Covenant, not as having originated with Moses.**
- "Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision: (not because it is of Moses, **but of the fathers;**) and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man" (John 7:22).
- **AMPLIFIED:** John 7:22 Now Moses established circumcision among you—though it did not originate with Moses **but with the previous patriarchs**—and you circumcise a person [even] on the Sabbath day.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

■ In addition to being the seed of Abraham, Jesus is also God in human form.

- In Matthew 1:23 Jesus is called "God with us." "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is God with us."
- In Hebrews 1:8, the Son is called "God," by God himself. "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom."
- In 2 Corinthians 5:19, God himself is said to be in Christ. "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto **himself.**"

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- In John 1:1 and 1:14, both Jesus and God are called "the Word" and are seen as the same person. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (v. 1). "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (v. 14).
- Finally, in Acts 20:28, Paul says that the blood of God himself, paid the purchase price for the redemption of a world of lost sinners. "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- Also, look at these **marvelous contrasts and comparisons:**
- Jesus was born of a woman that he had created with his own hands.
- As a tiny baby in Bethlehem's manger, he weighed just a few pounds. Yet, he was bigger than the mother who gave him birth.
- When he was just minutes old, lying in Mary's arms, he was eons older than she.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- He was so helpless as a baby, yet even then his power kept the planets his own hands had made in their icy tracks.
- As a little child, he knew nothing, save the security of his mother's breasts. Even then, somehow, "Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world" (Acts 15:18).
- Here, in a stable in Bethlehem cradled in his mother's arms, lies the one who cradles all of creation, including his own mother in his own arms.
- It staggers our minds to think that 2000 years ago, God was born of a little Jewish virgin, entered the stream of human existence, and actually lived and walked on this planet as a human being.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- And we stand amazed, even more, when we realize that some 33 years later, this same God in human flesh, mounted a cruel cross on Golgotha's rugged brow, and gave up his own life, completing the Abrahamic Covenant; fulfilling the demands of Moses' Law, thereby delivering the eternal salvation promised Abraham.
- Jesus' "completion by cutting" contains all six elements of the ceremony attached to The Blood Covenant of Friendship.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- When the promises were "ceremonialized" in **Genesis 17, God required Abraham and his male descendants to shed their blood as a token of their fidelity to the Abrahamic Covenant.**
- Nothing, however, was said of God's blood.
- But now, it is His own blood that must be shed, to complete forever the ceremony begun between God and Abraham (Acts 20:28).
- Again, no sacrificial animal will do.
- The "cutting" is in the human flesh of God himself.

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- **4. THE CUTTING**

THE CUTTING STARTS

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- **The cutting began with the scourging (Matthew 27:26; Mark 15:15).**
- They scourged a malefactor in those days with a Roman cat-o-nine-tails: a whip with small whips on the end.
- They attached to the end of each small whip a sharp, jagged piece of metal or bone.
- They stripped the victim at least to the waist.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- Each time the whip struck, bits of flesh and skin were torn away by the jagged bone or metal teeth of the whip.
- It was not uncommon for the whip to completely surround the victims body, striking him in the face, chest, and stomach.
- Eyes could be gouged out, teeth knocked down his throat, even his face torn away.
- The whip cut his stomach so that it lay open, the inner organs spilling down his front.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- The beating left his back a lacerated mass.
- Jesus, God in human flesh, endured such a scourging.
- The "cutting" had begun.
- The blood was drawn.
- They jerked his beard from his face (Isaiah 50:6), leaving it a bloody mess.
- They blind-folded and hit him in the face (Luke 22:63).

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- They (Roman soldiers) crowned him with a crown of thorns (Matthew 27:29).
- The thorns surely dug into his skin, also causing the blood to flow.
- The "cutting" progressed.
- With his back, neck, and shoulders beyond recognition, resembling a mass of raw meat,
- they clothed him in a scarlet robe, put a reed in his right hand, and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews" (Matthew 27:29).

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- They spat on him.
- They took the reed from his hand and hit him in the head with it.
- They then took off the scarlet robe and put his own garment on him and led him away to be crucified (Matthew 27:30-31).
- Simon, of Cyrene carried his cross (Luke 23:26).
- On the way to "the place of the skull," he spoke briefly to the women (Luke 23:28- 31), the blood still flowing.

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- Having ascended Golgotha, they fastened him to the cross with three iron spikes seven inches long.
- The feet that had walked the sandy shores of beautiful Galilee were now nailed together with one spike to the cross.
- The hands that had ministered to the poor and needy were nailed separately to the cross, first one hand, then the other.
- The "cutting" was now in full force as his blood ran freely.

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- **Yet, in his heart and Spirit, he ministered even unto death (Luke 23:34; 42, 43).**
- **while he was suffering and burdened under all the sins of the world, he still did not threaten but committed Himself to His Father!! - 1 Peter 2:23 (NKJV) who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return;**
- **when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed <Himself> to Him who judges righteously;**

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- **4. THE CUTTING**
- Finally, after he gave up his blood and very life, the Roman spear penetrated his heart, **blood and water poured forth.**
- **The "cutting" was complete.**

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■ 4. THE CUTTING

- That which began 2000 years before between God and Abraham was complete.
- On the same mountain two fathers presented their own son, separated by approx. 2000 years.
- After the test of Abraham's faith, Abraham received Isaac back *(after the three day's journey to Mount Moriah)*.
- With the "covenant cutting" of God Himself completed, by the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus, the promises of the ABRAHAMIC Covenant became available for ETERNITY to all those who accept Jesus.

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- **End of the presentation “THE CUTTING”**
- **Next presentation:**
 - ◆ Key words used in the Abrahamic covenant
 - ◆ Covenant Terminology explained in Book 1, Chapter 1
 - ◆ **Bless, Blessed, Blessing,**
 - ◆ **Hebrew Barak, Greek Eulogia.**