

Alan Branford 2022.07.19 15.02

In **Genesis 17**, Abram is living as a foreigner in Canaan. God enters into a covenant (that is, a deal) with Abram. As part of the covenant Abram is renamed Abraham.

³ *Abram fell facedown, and God said to him,* ⁴ *“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations.* ⁵ *No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations.* ⁶ *I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you.* ⁷ *I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.* ⁸ *The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.”*

⁹ *Then God said to Abraham, “As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come.* ¹⁰ *This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised.* ¹¹ *You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you.* ¹² *For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring.* ¹³ *Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant.* ¹⁴ *Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.”* (New International Version)

So, God gives Abraham and his descendants the land of Canaan, despite it already having a native people, namely the Canaanites. (Genocide? Compare with the British invasion of Australia) In return, Abraham and all his household's male from that time until eternity have to have their penises mutilated. What the ... !!?

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In **1 Samuel 15**, there is the following jaw-dropping passage.

¹ *Samuel said to Saul, “I am the one the LORD sent to anoint you king over his people Israel; so listen now to the message from the LORD.* ² *This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt.* ³ *Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy all that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.”*

So, God gives an order for the **GENOCIDE** of the Amalekites!

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The presentation handout talks of “The Cosmic Christ of the Early Christians”, and references **Colossians 1:15-20**.

¹⁵ *The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.* ¹⁶ *For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created*

through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

The last verse, “and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.” Makes no logical sense. Why does Jesus the Christ, or Jesus the son of Joseph, or Jesus of Nazareth have to **DIE** to permit this reconciliation? There is no logical connection!