

## The Message of the Pentateuch

### *From Paradise to the Promised Land*

## Paradise...Promised Land

### Unifying Theme of the Bible:

- the establishment of God's Kingdom

*God is forming a people to live in His place enjoying His presence under His rule and blessing*

## Paradise...Promised Land

### 1. The Kingdom Patterned (Gen. 1-2)

- Man enjoyed God's limitless blessing and His presence in the sanctuary of Eden
- Man, as God's image bearer, was to subdue and fill the earth (*i.e. extend Eden to the whole earth*)

*Man failed and rebelled against God and was banished from Eden*

## Paradise...Promised Land

### 2. Kingdom Promised (Gen. 12)

- to Abraham – God irrevocably promised kingdom restoration
  - Key elements: "Seed", "Blessing", "Land"

*This is the foundational promise of the Bible!*

## Paradise...Promised Land

### Toward Fulfillment

#### 1. Seed (*zarah*)

- A) Physical descendants – the establishment of the nation of Israel through the Law
- B) Spiritual descendants – the true seed of Abraham formed by God's power and sovereign grace

## Paradise...Promised Land

### Toward Fulfillment

#### 2. Land

- A) Geographic land of Canaan inherited by Israel – represents in part a return to Eden
- B) An everlasting possession that culminates God's final rest for His people

## Paradise...Promised Land

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### Toward Fulfillment

#### 3. Blessing

➤ *a relationship with God that provides peace, victory and prosperity*

- A) Nation of Israel – in the land of Canaan
- B) All the nations – in the seed of Abraham

## Paradise...Promised Land

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### Toward Fulfillment

#### ➤ Main Point

*The formation of Israel by the Mosaic Covenant and their inheritance of Canaan is not the fulfillment of the promise to Abraham*

The necessity of a new covenant to fulfill the promises

## Paradise...Promised Land

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### Ultimate Fulfillment

*Jesus is the promised seed of Abraham through whom come the blessing and inheritance to the nations*

**Galatians 3:14-29**