

THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT: LOCATION, POPULATION, BENEDICTION

Selected Passages in Genesis 12–22

Canada has *one* governmental system with *three* distinct but cooperative branches: the legislative makes laws, the executive implements laws, and the judicial evaluates laws. The whole depends on each part remaining distinct, doing what it is supposed to do and contributing what it is supposed to contribute. The system only works as intended if each branch remains clear on its unique role and unconfused with the unique roles of the other two. If judges start trying to *enact* laws rather than *interpret* them or if the prime minister starts *making* laws rather than *applying* them, the one system suffers. The Abrahamic covenant functions in a similar way, containing three distinct but cooperative branches: the promise of a particular land, the promise of a multitude of descendants, and the promise of a global blessing. And it is important to appreciate each part for what it is, not conflating nor confusing them lest the whole of the covenant suffer.

Question 1: What is the Abrahamic covenant?

- Location 12:1, 7; 13:14–15; 15:7–21; 17:8
- Population 12:2; 15:1–6; 17:1–7
- Benediction 12:2–3; 15:14; 22:15–18

Question 2: Where does the Abrahamic covenant fit?

Question 3: Why does the Abrahamic covenant matter?

- Salvation for the world 12:2–3; 15:6; Gal 3:6–9, 16
- Intercession for Israel 12:3; Rom 11:1–2, 25–29