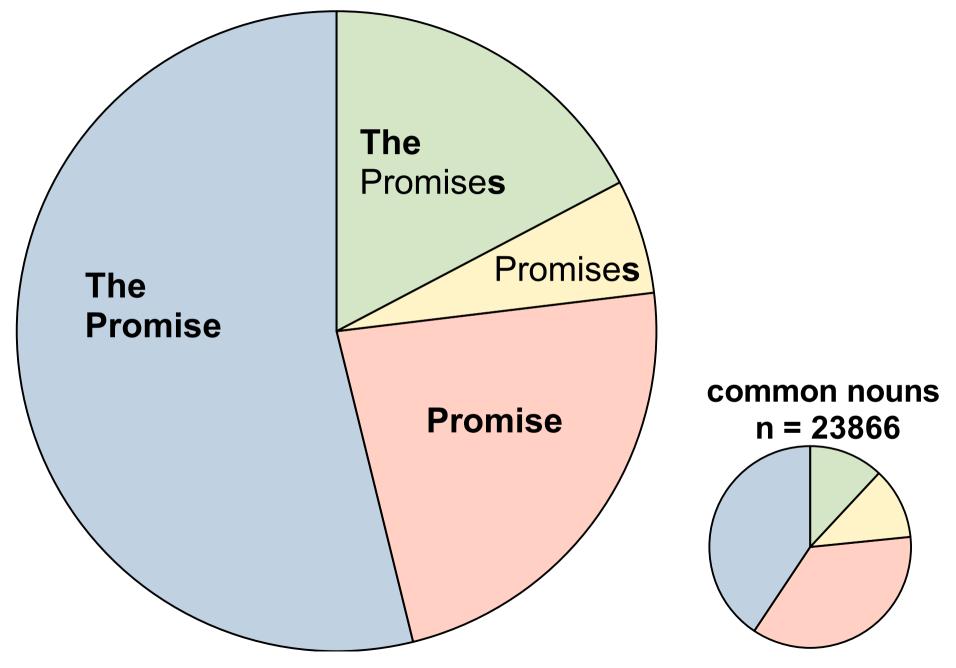
"Promise" $\varepsilon \pi \alpha \gamma \gamma \varepsilon \lambda_{1} \alpha$ in the NT (n = 52)



Paul and The Promise: Pisidian Antioch

Act 13:32-33 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, 33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

Paul and The Promise: Before Agrippa

The Jews' accusation:

Act 25:18-19 when the accusers stood up, they brought none accusation of such things as I supposed: 19 But had certain questions against him of their own superstition, and of **one Jesus, which was dead, whom Paul affirmed to be alive.**

cf. Paul's Gospel:

1Co 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel which I preached unto you**, ... 3 ... how that Christ **died for our sins** according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he **rose again** the third day according to the scriptures:

Paul's defense:

Act 26:6-7 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of **the promise made of God unto our fathers**: 7 Unto which *promise* our twelve tribes, instantly serving *God* day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, king Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.

The Heart of the Promise:

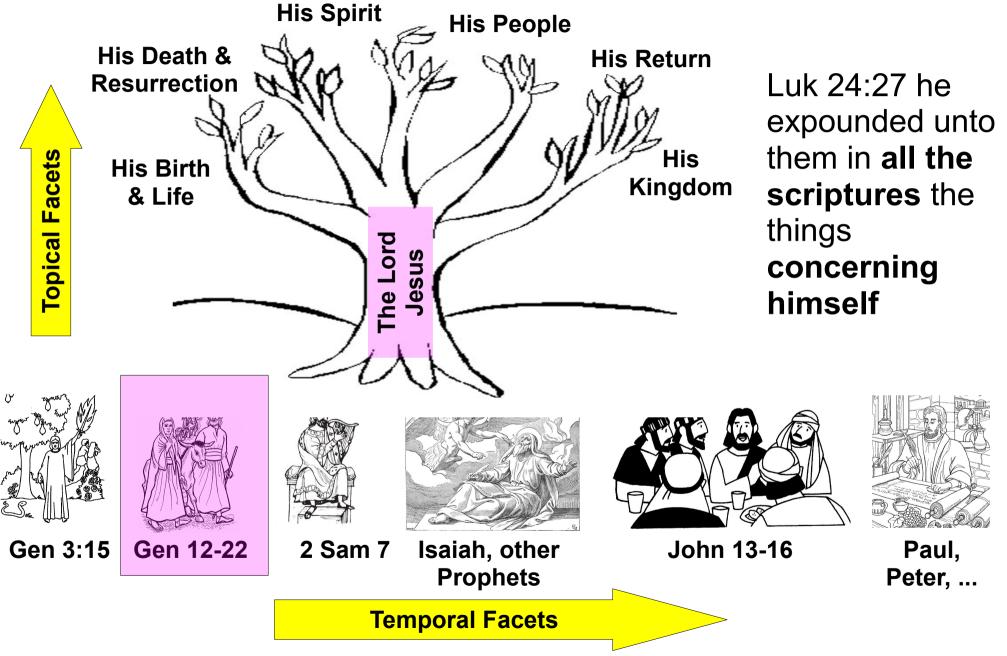
- Promise, not prophecy, which in the NT is uniformly negative, e.g.,
 - Matt 24:25; Mark 13:23; 2 Pet 3:2; Jude 17, false Christs and apostasy
 - Acts 1:16, the betrayal of Judas
 - Rom 9:29; Gal 1:9; 5:21; 1 Thes 4:6, coming judgment
 - 2 Cor 7:3; 13:2, apostolic rebuke
 - 2 Thes 3:4, coming tribulation
- The coming of the Messiah
- To the Fathers, and notably (10x in NT) associated with Abraham.
 Compare Ps 105:42,

For he remembered his holy **promise**, and **Abraham** his servant.

The Promise or The PromiseS?

	The Promise	The PromiseS
Abraham & his Seed	Rom 4:13 For the promise , that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.	Gal 3:16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made.
OT Saints	Heb 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise :	Heb 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises , but having seen them afar off,
Unto the Fathers	Acts 13:32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, Acts 26:6 And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers:	Romans 15:8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises <i>made</i> unto the fathers:

Many Facets of The (one) Promise



The Promise to Abraham: Gen 12:1-3

Gen 12:1-3 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, [command:] Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

[promise:] 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; [command:] and be thou a blessing:

[promise:] 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

The Promise to Abraham: Gen 13:14-17

Gen 13:14-17 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him,

[command:] Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

[promise:]

15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

[command:] 17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it;

[promise:] for I will give it unto thee.

Gen 15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said,

[command:] Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them:

[promise:] and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

18-21 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying,

[promise:] Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: 19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, 20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, 21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

- Gen 17:3-8 And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, 4 As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee,
- and thou shalt be a father of many nations. 5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.¹
- 6 And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, 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 thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.
- 8 And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.
- ¹cf. Joseph in 45:8, "God ... hath made me **a father to Pharaoh**, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt"]

Gen 18:13-14 And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old? 14 Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

Gen 22:16-18 By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: 17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; 18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

¹Compare

Deu 6:10-11 And it shall be, when the LORD thy God shall have brought thee into **the land** which he sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly **cities**, which thou buildedst not, 11 And **houses** full of all good *things*, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; Jos 11:13 But *as for* **the cities** that stood still in their strength, **Israel burned none of them**, save Hazor only; *that* did Joshua burn.

The Promise(s) to Abraham

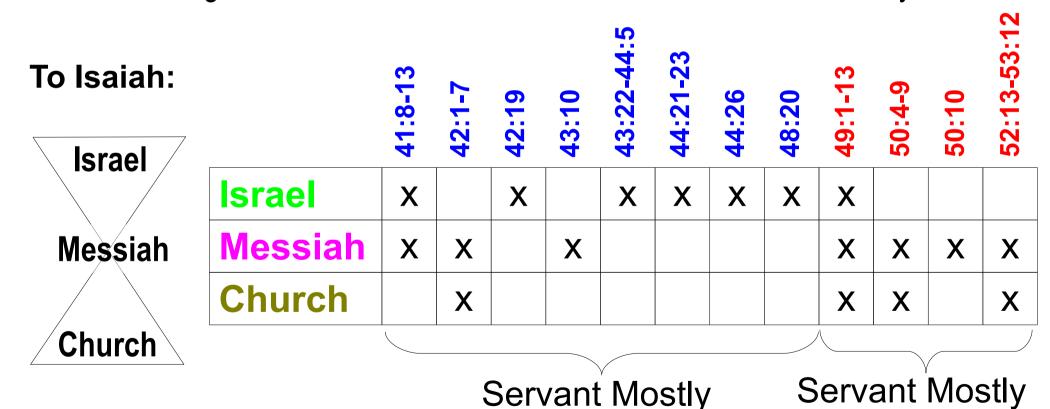
	12	13	15	17	18	22
Land of Canaan	X	X	X	X		X
Seed	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blessing	X		X	X		X
Worldwide Dominion	X		X	X		X

...but where is the Messiah?

The Promise of the Seed

To David:

2Sa 7:12-14 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, **I will set up thy seed after thee**, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. 14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son.



Israel

Messiah

The Lord Jesus and The Promise

He is the Seed	Gal 3:16 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.
He rules from the Land	Jer 33:15-16 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land . 16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely : and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.
He sends the Blessing	Act 2:32-33 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost , he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.
He rules the Nations	Psa 2:7-9 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. 8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance , and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

2Co 1:20 For **all the promises of God** in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.