

## The “SEED” of ABRAHAM

**Gen. 22:17** ... indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your **seed** as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your **seed** shall possess the gate of **their/his** enemies.

**Gen. 22:18** And in your **seed** all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice.**

In Gen 22, the Hebrew word “seed” is always singular, meaning ONE. But when 22:17 refers to “stars” and “sand on the seashore”, even though the word “seed” is singular, it is obviously referring to many, many people.

The emphasis changes, however, when God says “your seed will possess the gate of *their* enemies.” In Hebrew, the pronoun “*their*” is singular – *His* enemies. It can still refer to many as well as to one but the focus on “seed” begins to shift from a plurality, many children, to a singular, SON. That is why Paul in Galatians takes Gen 22:18 and quotes it like this:

**Gal. 3:8** And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, *saying*, “ALL THE NATIONS SHALL BE BLESSED IN YOU. (**Gen 22:18**)

**Gal. 3:16** Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his **seed**. He does not say, “And to **seeds**,” as to many, but to **One**, “And to your **seed**,” that is, Christ. (*Paul is focusing only on verse 22:18*)

**And it all started in Genesis:**

**Gen. 3:15** And I will put enmity

Between you and the woman, And between your **seed** and her **seed**;

**He** shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise **Him** on the heel.

**SEED: Sometimes means MANY, Sometimes just ONE**

<b>THE FOUR SEEDS OF ABRAHAM IN SCRIPTURE</b>
<p><b>NATURAL SEED</b> All physical descendants of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3, 7; et al.)</p>
<p><b>NATURAL-SPIRITUAL SEED</b> Believing physical descendants of Abraham (Romans 9:6, 8; Galatians 6:16)</p>
<p><b>SPIRITUAL SEED</b> Believing non-physical descendants of Abraham (Galatians 3:6-9, 29)</p>
<p><b>ULTIMATE SEED</b> Jesus Christ (Galatians 3:16)</p>