



How are the promises to Abraham fulfilled?

“The promises were made to Abraham . . . God bestowed it on Abraham through a promise” (Galatians 3:17,18 NAB). But how are the promises made to Abraham fulfilled? **“Those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham who had faith”—Galatians 3:9 NAB “If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendant, heirs according to the promise”—Galatians 3:29 NAB** All genuine Christians, therefore inherit the blessings promised to Abraham. **“He was to be the father of all the uncircumcised who believe . . . as well as the father of the circumcised who . . . also follow the path of faith the our father Abraham walked”—Romans 4:11,12 NAB** Is the literal, physical “land” a part of this promise? — No! **“Here we have no lasting city”—Hebrews 13:14 NAB “The promise was made to Abraham and his descendants that he would inherit the world . . . through the righteousness that comes through faith”—Romans 4:13 NAB** Abraham **“was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God”—Hebrews 11:10 NAB** All faithful ones **“desire a better homeland, a heavenly one. Therefore, God . . . has prepared a city for them”—Hebrews 11:16 NAB** The literal, physical land promises to Abraham’s descendants were only preliminary, not the final destination, which is actually ‘the better homeland’. **“Your house will be abandoned, desolate”—Matthew 23:38 NAB** Earthly Jerusalem and its Temple were “abandoned” by God at the death of Christ. **“I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband”—Revelation 21:2 NAB** *“New Jerusalem . . . bride: symbol of the*

church—NAB note on Revelation 21:2 **“I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb”—Revelation 21:9 NAB** *“The bride, the wife of the Lamb”: the Church*—NAB note on Revelation 21:9 *“Symbolic of the new Israel (c.f. Rev 14:1-5; Gal 6:16; Jas 1:1 that embraces people from every nation, race, people and tongue (Rev 7:9)”*—NAB note on Revelation 7:4-9 This is how the promises to Abraham (Genesis 17:8) are fulfilled.