

**COVENANT REFLECTIONS**  
**Genesis 16:15-17:13 & Luke 18:15-17**

Consider Abraham's situation as **Gen. 17** opens: Thirteen years have passed since Abraham produced a covenant enemy in Ishmael. (**Gen. 16:16**). During that time – those silent years of reproach, Abraham must have assumed that God's grace was significantly withdrawn from him. He must have given up on the promise of a 'covenantal heir' from his loins (**Gen.15:4**). After all, was not the conflict and pride over Ishmael within the covenant circle (**Gen.16:5-6**) proof to Abraham that the peace of God's covenant was now gone? Was this not a harbinger proving that Ishmael was NOT the covenant seed and would have to be sent away (**Gen.17:18-19 & 21:12-14**)? Surely Abraham must have known that he had blown it! God was judging what he had done (**Gen.16:5**)!

Thus Abraham has 13 years to think over his failure. But what would such 'failure-meditation' produce in Abraham? That's the key question. Surely he learned through such failure to hunger for grace! As one writer puts it:

Abraham's 13 years to reflect on his unfaithfulness to God would prepare him to recognize and appreciate the grace of God when it came to him! In spite of everything, God appeared once again to the man who had let Him down (**Gen.17:1-2**), and confirmed His covenant with him. God's promises of grace are not destroyed after all by Abraham's failure, for our God is a God of grace.(Professor Iain Duguid)

And it is this covenant grace which is symbolized both in circumcision's substance and baptism's substance.

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**LORD'S DAY MORNING WORSHIP**

February 15, 2026



**GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE**

**Prelude, Reflection**

**Salutation**

**Call to Worship**

**GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND**

**\* Opening Hymn**

*Praise The Savior, Ye Who Know Him!*  
# 311 Trinity Hymnal (vv 1, 2 & 4)

1 Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!

Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

2 He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.

4 O'er ev'ry foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest,  
from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blessed;  
the tide of time shall never his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand forever— that name to us is Love. \*\*

**\* Invocation & Lord's Prayer**

**God's Law**

Genesis 17:1-13  
(p 14 pew Bible)

**Confession of Sin (unison)**

Psalm 107:4-22  
(p 599 pew Bible)

**Assurance of Pardon**

Psalm 107:8-9; 15-16; 21-22  
(p 599 pew Bible)

**\* Song of Response**

*Only A Holy God*  
(see insert) CCLI License # 2604271

BAPTISM OF CARL JEFFREY TIMM

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

The Apostle’s Creed (p 845, *Trinity Hymnal*)

Congregational Prayer

Prayer of Dedication & Offering

Offertory Hymn *’Tis So Sweet to Trust In Jesus*  
# 679 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 1-3)

1 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;  
just to rest upon his promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

**Refrain:** Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!

2 O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;  
just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood! [Refrain]

3 Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;  
just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace. [Refrain] \*\*

\* *Gloria Patri* #735 *Trinity Hymnal*

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer & Scripture Readings Luke 9:43-48 (p 978 pew Bible)  
Genesis 17:1-3 (p 14 pew Bible)

Sermon Title Grace: God Restoring The Years The Locusts Have Eaten

Prayer of Application

\* Closing Hymn *Shine Thou Upon Us, Lord*  
# 411 *Trinity Hymnal* (all verses)

1 Shine thou upon us, Lord, true light of men, today,  
and through the written Word thy very self display,  
that so from hearts which burn with gazing on thy face  
thy little ones may learn the wonders of thy grace.

2 Breathe thou upon us, Lord, thy Spirit's living flame,  
that so with one accord our lips may tell thy name.  
Give thou the hearing ear, fix thou the wand'ring thought,  
that those we teach may hear the great things thou hast wrought.

3 Speak thou for us, O Lord, in all we say of thee;  
according to thy Word let all our teaching be,  
that so thy lambs may know their own true Shepherd's voice,  
where'er he leads them go, and in his love rejoice.

4 Live thou within us, Lord; thy mind and will be ours;  
be thou belov'd, adored, and served with all our pow'rs,  
that so our lives may teach thy children what thou art,  
and plead, by more than speech, for thee with ev'ry heart. \*\*

\* **Benediction**

\* *Doxology* #731 *Trinity Hymnal*

\* Please stand if able

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