

Overview:**Topic 6 - Circumcision:****Name Change to Avraham:**

1. Hashem is going to make a "special relationship" covenant with Avraham, which requires a physical Bris.
2. Avram will no longer be called by that name, which means "Father of Aram"
3. He will be called Avraham, which means "Father of a Multitude of Nations."
4. Numerical value of Avraham = 248 - now all organs, including eyes, ears, and male organ will be complete.

The Promise of Children & the Land:

1. Hashem promises Avraham: 1) to be very fruitful, 2) have more nations, 3) kings
2. Hashem is going to set up an eternal covenant with Avraham & his descendants
3. Hashem will give to Avraham & his descendants the land of Israel as an eternal Heritage.
4. Hashem will be to them as "Elokim."

Command of Milah:

1. Cutting of the foreskin of the male organ will be the covenant and a sign for the covenant.
2. Every male will be circumcised on the 8th day.
3. All male 1) Jews, 2) Slaves born in Jewish homes, 3) Slaves purchased by Jews will be circumcised
4. The covenant is only with the Jewish males who circumcise themselves.
5. A Jewish male who refuses to be circumcised will be punished with "Kareis."

Name Change to Sara & Her Blessings:

1. Sarai, will no longer be called by that name, which means "my princess." (over one nation)
2. She will be called "Sara", which means "princess" over all nations
3. Sarah will be blessed with:
 1. Her body will be young again.
 2. She will give birth to a son.
 3. She will nurse many babies.
 4. Nations will come out of her children.
 5. Kings over other nations will come out of her children.
4. Avraham laughs out of happiness for 3 great kindnesses Hashem is doing:
 1. Avraham will be 100 at this birth.
 2. Sara, a barren woman will have a child.
 3. Sara will be 90 at this birth.
5. Avram is concerned about Yishmael's physical and spiritual welfare.

Blessings of Hashem to Yishmael:

1. Avram is commanded to call his son "Yitzchak" because of the laughter he will bring displaying God's miracles.
2. The eternal covenant of Avraham will go through Yitzchak - not Yishmael.
3. Yishmael will be blessed & will have 12 princes issue from him.
4. Yitzchak will be born precisely one year after this Bris is made.

Bris Milah of Avraham & Yishmael:

1. Avraham circumcised himself first - at age 99 - on his birthday.
2. Avraham circumcised Yishmael - at age 13 - on his birthday.
3. Avraham circumcised the 318 men who were his students.
4. Avraham circumcised his non-Jewish slaves born in his house.
5. Avraham circumcised his non-Jewish slaves bought by him.
6. Avraham performed the circumcision immediately after Hashem commanded him - in daylight.

TESTS OF AVRAHAM BY THE END OF THIS PARSHA:**RASHI:**

1. Avraham hid underground for 13 years from King Nimrod, who wanted to kill him.
2. Nimrod flung Avraham into a burning furnace.
3. Avraham was commanded to leave his family and homeland.
4. Almost as soon as he arrived in Canaan, he was forced to leave to escape a famine.
5. Sara was kidnapped by Pharaoh's officials
6. The kings captured Lot, and Avraham was forced to go to war to rescue him.
7. God told Avraham that his offspring would suffer under for monarchies.
8. At an advanced age, Avraham was commanded to circumcise himself and his son.

RAMBAM:

1. Avraham was commanded to leave his family and homeland.
2. Almost as soon as he arrived in Canaan, he was forced to leave to escape a famine.
3. Sara was kidnapped by Pharaoh's officials
4. The kings captured Lot, and Avraham was forced to go to war to rescue him.
5. His marriage to Hagar after having despaired that Sara would ever give birth.
6. At an advanced age, Avraham was commanded to circumcise himself and his son.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN THIS PARSHA:

YEAR IN CREATION	AGE OF AVRAM	EVENT
2023	75	Avraham was commanded to leave his family and homeland
2023	75	Almost as soon as he arrived in Canaan, he was forced to leave to escape a famine
2023	75	Sara was a kidnapped by Pharaoh's officials
2023	75	The kings captured Lot, and Avraham was forced to go to war to rescue him
2018	70	Covenant between the Parts - Bris Bein Habesarim
2033	85	Avram marries Hagar
2034	86	Birth of Yishmael
2047	99	Name Change for Avraham & Sara
2047	99	Circumcision of Avraham & Yishmael