2 | SOUL TIES

What does the Bible say about ancestral blessing? Gen 17: 3-8

Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

Gen 26: 3-5

Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because Abraham obeyed me and did everything I required of him, keeping my commands, my decrees and my instructions.

Gen 28: 13,14

There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

In Genesis we see three generations receiving the same blessing from God. The blessing continues through the generations because Abraham listened to and obeyed God.

How can we respond when God shows that the sin of our ancestors is affecting us today?

Ezra 9: 6

"I am too ashamed and disgraced, my God, to lift up my face to you, because our sins are higher than our heads and our guilt has reached to the heavens.

Neh 1:5,6

"LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you.

Is there an ancestry influence?

The Bible gives several examples of how ancestry and blood connections affect our daily life:

- Genetic inheritance.
- Physical traits.
- Some family diseases.
- Some sins can be seen through family ties:
- David's adultery with Bathsheba and murder of her husband goes on to his son Amnon who rapes his half-sister. The other brother Absalom killed Amnon.
- Through Adam's sin, death comes. This continues to the next generations.
- Tribal skirmishes in families, tribes and peoples are often repeated in each generation.
- For example tribal quarrels, tribal hatred and contempt continues for generations.
- By role model examples:
- Environment shapes behavior, anger teaches anger, revenge teaches revenge,
- we often see a drinking problem recurring in the next generation, how you as a man look at women is like your dad's behavior.
- By the law of sowing and reaping (Gal 6: 7)
- For example by constantly cursing or making vows, you see these words coming true.
- Family feuds and unresolved problems.
- These produce fertile soil for roots to shoot up, including in the next generation.

How do you see sin continuing from the ancestors into the next generation?

- Women who are molested in the family and this is a common thread in the next generation.
- o Death from strange accidents or violence of war.
- Miscarriages that recur in generations.
- Frequent poverty, financial failures and constant setbacks.
- \circ Occult sins.
- Addictions that pass down to the generations.

What is the influence of good and bad soul ties?

Ex 20: 6 tells us that God gives mercy to the generations after you because of a lifestyle that is centered on God and does what He shows. Good examples are Abraham, David and Jesus.

Good soul ties in the family and circle of friends always bring a blessing. Through divine bonds the blessing flows to your family members. This is a very powerful creed.

When someone comes to faith, the blessing of God will be on that person and continue into the blood ties that person has.

Bad soul ties arise when a dependent relationship develops that is unhealthy.

This may be due to a sexual relationships outside of marriage. You are bound together in mind and soul through such a relationship.

This can be due to an emotionally dependent relationship. In this kind of relationship, the person becomes totally dependent on the other and thus no longer depends on God.

For example, someone who loses his father or mother early can ease his pain by allowing a father or mother figure into his soul life. As soon as this father or mother figure starts to abuse his or her position, a wrong dependence arises.

For example, a man who does not have a good relationship with his wife can look for another woman who does give him attention. This can lead to a dependent relationship that is unhealthy.

What are the consequences of a false soul tie and ancestral sin?

- It brings a separation with God.
- It affects our relationships and often separates loved ones and good soul bonds.
- The favor of God leaves your life.
- You take matters into your own hands.
- $\circ~$ No trust in others and no trust in God.
- You become blinded to reality and truth.

How do I recognize a wrong soul tie in myself?

- You are totally dependent on certain people with whom you are not legally connected.
- $\circ~$ The opinion of that one is decisive.
- You can only think about that person and do everything you can to satisfy them.
- o If that person is there, all is well.
- For example, in a relationship of authority, there can be so much fear of satisfying the manager so that you do everything he or she says.

Steps to recovery

- 1. Look at your family tree and recognize dominant patterns that are not godly.
- 2. See if you have any problems with these patterns too.
- 3. Are there people with whom you have a non-legal sexual relationship? Or people with whom you have become totally dependent?
- 4. Confess the sin of your forefathers.
- 5. Ask forgiveness that you have entered into a soul tie that has made you dependent.

6. Break the bond of soul spiritually and cleanse the bond of soul with your ancestors.

PRAYER:

Thank you Jesus for dying for me and my family. I confess the sin ... that has been committed by my family and myself. Forgive me, cleanse me and the soul bond I have through these family ties. I break in the name of Jesus any ungodly bond of soul with (insert person's name) I ask forgiveness that I have become dependent on this person and therefore not dependent on you. I commit myself to You and commit myself to Your love and truth.

