

Genesis Chapter 17

God Appears and Renews the Covenant

At age 99, Abram encounters God again. God introduces Himself as El Shaddai (“God Almighty”) and calls Abram to walk before Him and be blameless.

This sets the tone: covenant relationship requires trust, obedience, and a life aligned with God’s character.

Key emphasis

- God is the initiator.
- Abram is invited into deeper covenant faithfulness.

2. Abram’s Name Becomes Abraham

God changes Abram’s name (“exalted father”) to **Abraham** (“father of a multitude”).

This isn’t cosmetic—it’s identity-shaping. God is declaring what Abraham *will be*, not what he currently is.

God’s promises

- Abraham will be the father of many nations.
- Kings will come from him.
- God will establish an **everlasting covenant** with Abraham and his descendants.
- The land of Canaan will be theirs as an everlasting possession.