

New Names

The Apostle Paul said

Romans 2:29

but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.

Jewish writers called this internal devotion "circumcision of the heart".

Deuteronomy 10:16

Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer.

Deuteronomy 30:6

And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

Sarai also had a part. Her name would be changed to Sarah which means princess. A fitting name for one

who would bring forth nations and kings.

Genesis 17:15-16

(15) Then

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.

(16) And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her."

May I say to you that from a New Testament Christian perspective, God is still in the changing business. **WHAT YOU NEED IS NOT A CHANGE OF NAMES BUT A CHANGE OF HEART.** God can not only change you life but through His Son Jesus, He can give you eternal life.



Slowing Down

In Verse 18 Abraham presents the idea that Ishmael could be the one God wants but God in verse 20 has chosen Sarah to give birth to Isaac. Remember Abraham laughing about He and Sarah to have children in their old age? God has a sense of humor too! He instructs them to name the child Isaac which means "laughter".

Genesis 17:19

Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.

Let's pause for a moment. You may be old and have slowed down some. You have many years of experience to tell you what I am about to say. Abraham lived 1,750 years and he would tell you this to. Slow down. Getting ahead is not about money or a career and doing as much as you can.

Charles Swindoll says "Find a way to cut out the noise. Make time for meditation". "It's by slowing down and growing deeper that you begin to receive all that the Lord has in store for you".

- ◆ Your discernment will increase.
- ◆ Your anxiety will decrease.
- ◆ You will avoid unnecessary tragedy.

Deliberately devote yourself to walking with Him

