[Jesus] gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.

Galatians 1:4

Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection was to not only deliver us from our sins and future punishment in hell, but also to deliver, protect, and provide for us in this present evil world—this physical world right now. Not only that, but, this is the will of God . . .our Father.

The Abrahamic Covenant Blessings Are for Us Now.

Gal. 3:6-9 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham.

First, you are Abraham's descendants and heirs of his covenant promises.

- God said to Abraham in Gen. 17:4, "Behold, my covenant is with you and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations."
  
  - But Genesis makes plain that Abraham did not father a multitude of nations in a physical or political sense. Therefore the meaning of God’s promise was probably that a multitude of nations would somehow enjoy the blessings of sonship even though physically unrelated to Abraham.
  
  - That's no doubt what God meant in Gen. 12:3 when he said to Abraham, "By you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
  
  - From the very beginning God had in view that Jesus Christ would be the descendant of Abraham and that everyone who trusts in Christ would become an heir of Abraham's promise. So it says in Gal. 3:29, "If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise."
  
  - Or as Romans 4:16-17 says, "The promise is according to grace in order to be guaranteed to all Abraham's descendants, not only to [the Jews] but also to [Gentiles] who share the faith of Abraham, who is father of us all, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations.'"

- So when God said to Abraham 4,000 years ago, "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations," he opened the way for anyone of us,
no matter what nation we belong to, to become a child of Abraham and an heir of God's promises through our faith in Jesus.

- We don't become heirs of Abraham's promises by working for God but by being confident that God works for us. "Abraham grew strong in his faith, giving glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised" (Rom. 4:20).

Second: the promises that come to you as part of Abraham's covenant are more spectacular than anything you will ever see or experience.

- Just consider Gen. 17:7, "I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout this generation for an everlasting covenant to be God to you and to your descendants after you."

- The heart of the Abrahamic covenant is that God will be God to us. He will be our God. The longer you meditate on that deceptively simple truth the more spectacular it becomes.
  - Jeremiah tells us what it means. He quotes God: "They shall be my people and I will be their God … I will not turn away from doing good to them … I will rejoice in doing good to them … with all my heart and with all my soul" (32:38-41).
  - It boggles the mind to try to imagine what it must mean if the God who made the planets and stars and galaxies and molecules and protons and neutrons and electrons rejoices to do you good with all His heart and with all His soul.
  - If God is God for you then all His omnipotence and all His omniscience are engaged all the time to do good for you in all the circumstances of your life.
  - Paul says in Rom. 4:13, "The promise to Abraham and his descendants [is] that they should inherit the world."
  - In 1 Cor. 3:21-23 he says, "All things are yours whether … the world or life or death or the present or the future, all are yours; and you are Christ's and Christ is God's."

First, then, you who hope in Christ are the descendants of Abraham and heirs of the covenant promises.

Second, the covenant promise that God will be your God is spectacular beyond imagination. It means that God engages all His power and all His knowledge all the time to do good to you in all the circumstances of your life with all His heart and with all his soul.

Third: this covenant promise is sure, rooted in God's unchanging truthfulness and confirmed by Christ's coming.

- "A thousand years in thy sight, O God, are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night" (Ps. 90:4).
If the living God had made his spectacular covenant promise to you personally four days ago would it not still be today an utterly overwhelming power in your life? Well, 4,000 years are like four days to him.

And if you trust him as the living God, his promise will have that power in your life.

What is the scope of the Abrahamic blessings? Is it just salvation?

Vss. 13-14 *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.*

The blessings and curses are contrasted in Deut. 28. The curses were the result of God removing His blessings. The curses were the result of this evil world, sin and Satan. Christ took all the curses on Himself and from us. God does not remove His blessing from us nor curse us—He does not put any of these things upon us as punishment or to teach us a lesson.

In Gal. 3:9, the gospel preached to Abraham was for us to receive the blessing by faith. Those of faith are blessed as they share in the blessings of the Abrahamic covenant.

Christ became the second Adam to bring the opposite results that Adam brought.

The first Adam was first perfect, sinless, and immortal, but became sinful, mortal, and separated from God.

The second Adam (Christ) was first perfect, sinless and immortal, who became sinful, mortal and separated from God, briefly. (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:31)

**Healing is as much a part of the Abrahamic covenant and Christ’s atonement as is forgiveness of sins.**

- Many people become Christians just to escape hell and get an insurance policy to heaven.
  - They don’t realize that Jesus died to cancel out **ALL** the effects of sin.
  - This includes their healing as much as their forgiveness of sins.
  - God wants you whole! He wants you healed of your sickness as much as He wants you forgiven of your sins.

- There are many scriptures which show that **HEALING AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS GO TOGETHER. IT IS A FULL PACKAGE!**
  - Jesus said: *your heavenly Father already knows all your needs.* Matthew 6:23 NLT.
o David wrote in Psalms 103:2-3 (HCSB)

My soul, praise the LORD, and do not forget all His benefits.
He forgives all your sin;
He heals all your diseases.

o We have a prophecy in Isaiah 53:4-5 HCSB Yet He Himself bore our sicknesses, and He carried our pains. . . But He was pierced because of our transgressions, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on Him, and we are healed by His wounds.

- In Matthew 8:16-17 Jesus quoted Isaiah 53:4 this way; That evening many demon-possessed people were brought to Jesus. He cast out the evil spirits with a simple command, and he healed all the sick. This fulfilled the word of the Lord through the prophet Isaiah, who said, “He took our sicknesses and removed our diseases.” NLT

- Later, Peter wrote, Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed. 1 Peter 2:24 NKJV

• God caused His Son to bear all of our sins and all of our sicknesses on the cross.
• For God and Jesus, getting rid of sin is as easy as getting rid of disease.

  o See the story of the cripple who was let down through the roof. (Mark 2:1-12)
  Vss. 9-11 Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or ‘Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk’? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins.” Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!”
    - How did that prove He could forgive sins?
    - One is as easy to say as the other, but they are not equally easy to prove. One can be seen and the other cannot.
    - He chose to perform the one that could be seen to prove He could also do the one that could not be seen.

• We should believe that we can be healed as much as we believe that we are forgiven.

Jesus has already rescued us—delivered us—restored us—healed us!

[Jesus] gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of Jesus and our Father. Galatians 1:4

• Jesus suffered and died to DELIVER us from this “present world”.
  o We are not just saved from hell, from our sins, and from eternal punishment.
Jesus also died to deliver, protect, and provide for us in this present physical world right now.

This is seen in God’s use of the Greek word Sozo in the New Testament.

The following 108 English words in the New American Standard Bible all came from the same root Greek word SOZO:

- saved, 50 times; save, 36; saves, 1; saving, 1; ensure salvation, 1; bring...safely, 1; cured, 1; get, 1; get well, 2; made well, 5; made...well, 6; preserved, 1; recover, 1; restore, 1;

- Strong’s Greek Dictionary of the New Testament, states that sozo means “to save, deliver, heal, and preserve.”
- So, the Greek word sozo means to save, deliver, rescue, make well, heal, and restore to health.
- It is an all-encompassing word basically meaning “to deliver”.
- Therefore, the scriptures reveal that we are being delivered from much more than hell.

Sozo means Salvation

- There is salvation (sozo) in no one else! There is no other name in all of heaven for people to call on to save (sozo) them. - Acts 4:12
- For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved (sozo). - Romans 10:9
- God saved (sozo) you by his special favor when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. - Ephesians 2:8

Sozo means Healing

- Jesus turned around and said to her, “Daughter, be encouraged! Your faith has made you well (sozo).” And the woman was healed (sozo) at that moment. Matthew 9:22
- Jairus . . . . begged Him (Jesus) earnestly, saying, “My little daughter lies at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her, that she may be healed [sozo], and she will live.”Mark 5:23
- A little later, when Jesus heard the news that Jairus’ daughter had died, He answered saying: Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole [sozo]. Luke 8:50
- ...The sick begged him (Jesus) to let them at least touch the fringe of his robe, and all who touched it were healed (sozo). - Mark 6:56
- In another instance, Jesus knew the thoughts of the scribes and Pharisees, so He asked:
Is it lawful on the Sabbath days to do good, or to do evil? to save [sozo] life, or to destroy it? Luke 6:9

- When they didn’t answer, He turned and healed the man with the withered right hand (Lk. 6:8-11). When Jesus said to save life He meant the healing of the body.

- The same word, sozo, was also translated made whole in reverence to healing. Consider the example of the woman with an issue of blood:

  But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole [sozo]. And the woman was made whole [sozo] from that hour. Matthew 9:22

- This same instance, recorded in Mark, reveals that right before she reached out to Jesus, she said: If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole [sozo]. Mark 5:28

- Sozo was translated “make whole” or “be whole” eleven times in scripture. It’s obvious from God’s Word that SALVATION OR DELIVERANCE is not limited to only the forgiveness of sins.

  And whithersoever he entered, into villages, or cities, or country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole [sozo]. Mark 6:56

- Paul saw A crippled man and perceived that he had faith to be healed [sozo], and he was (Acts 14:8-10).

  Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed [sozo] told the man to stand up and he leaped up and walked. Acts 14:9

Sozo means Deliverance

This same word, sozo, that is used for both forgiveness of sins and physical healing also applies to deliverance from demons.

- In Luke 8 Jesus healed the Gadarene demon possessed man.

  Then those who had seen what happened told the others how the demon-possessed man had been healed. [sozo]. Luke 8:36 NLT

- 2 Tim. 4:18 Yes, and the Lord will deliver [sozo] me from every evil attack and will bring me safely into his heavenly Kingdom.

So, Jesus has already made provisions to DELIVER (SOZO) us from all of Satan’s devices: from our sin and its penalty, from sickness, from poverty, from depression, etc.
• James 5:15 is a classic example of Christ's saving power manifesting in our lives both as healing and forgiveness of sins.

*The prayer of faith shall save [sozo] the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.*

○ The various Bible translations render *sozo* in this verse as: *get well; make…well; restore; heal (4 trans.)*; as well as *save*.

**Abundantly Supplied**

When Christ died to purchase our redemption from sin, that meant that He freed us from ALL consequences of sin—sickness, disease, depression, and poverty.

*Warn the rich people of this world not to be proud or to trust in wealth that is easily lost. Tell them to have faith in God, who is rich and blesses us with everything we need to enjoy life.* 1 Timothy 6:17 CEV

*God’s divine power has given useverything we need for life and for godliness* 2 Peter 1:3a (We have) (everything we need to live and to serve God).