

Gal. 3: 15-17. It is there said, that even in the case of a man's covenant, "Yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto." The Abrahamic covenant is said to have been thus "confirmed of God in Christ," and not at all affected by the giving of the law 430 years after. Hence it is still in full force, unchanged by the lapse of time. Nothing has occurred to make the original "promise of none effect." It may here be asked, are we not told, Heb. 8: 8, that God has made "a new covenant" with his people? I answer, this was not to displace the one made with Abraham, but the one made with the people of Israel when they were led out of the land of Egypt, Heb. 8: 9.—This new covenant was, in effect, a re-affirmation of that for whose perpetuity we are contending.

Moreover, it is positively stated in the New Testament, that this covenant is yet in existence. The following chapters are to the point, Rom. 4. and Gal. 3. Suffice it here to quote a verse from the last mentioned chapter, Gal. 3: 29. "If ye are Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise;" i. e., if you are a believer in Christ, you are one of that promised seed of Abraham, to whom this covenant was given for "an everlasting covenant." So the sacred word affirms, and who shall gainsay it? Who dare do this? What Christian would *desire* to do so? (See also Rom. 15: 8.)

3. Circumcision was the Divinely-appointed token of the Abrahamic covenant in Old Testament times. See Gen. xvii. 11.

"It is," says a commentator on the place, "a sign, evidence, and assurance, both of the blessing promised by that God who appointed this ordinance, and of man's obligation to the duties required." Circumcision is called (Rom. iv. 11,) "a seal of the righteousness of faith." A seal is used to authenticate an instrument:—"to furnish an obligatory proof of the engagements of the sealer." Circumcision made every subject of it, "a debtor to do the whole law," (Gal. v. 3.) It brought him under a solemn obligation to serve God. It was a seal of spiritual blessings, pointing to "the righteousness of faith," and solemnly binding men to obey the Infinite Jehovah. It is repeatedly said to be emblem-