

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Seven

Seven Ewe Lambs as Witnesses

Gen. 21:25 "And Abraham reproved Abimelech because of a well of water, which Abimelech's servants had violently taken away. 26 And Abimelech said, I wot not who hath done this thing: neither didst thou tell me, neither yet heard I of it, but to day. 27 And Abraham took sheep and oxen, and gave them unto Abimelech; and both of them made a covenant. 28 And Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock by themselves. 29 And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What mean these seven ewe lambs which thou hast set by themselves? 30 And he said, For these seven ewe lambs shalt thou take of my hand, that they may be a witness unto me, that I have digged this well. 31 Wherefore he called that place Beersheba; because there they swore both of them. 32 Thus they made a covenant at Beersheba: then Abimelech rose up, and Phichol the chief captain of his host, and they returned into the land of the Philistines."

Abraham and Abimelech the Philistine entered into a covenant of agreement that Abraham had digged the well at Beersheba. Abraham gave seven ewe lambs of the flock to be a witness that he had digged the well and that the well belonged to him. These seven ewe lambs were set by themselves.

The above points us to a covenant that God made with himself. The Lord's local churches are a witness of that covenant that God made before the foundation of the world and is set forth for us in Rom. 8:29 "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

Just as Abimelech and his servants did not assist or help in any way in the digging of the well Beersheba, so man does not assist or help in any way with the digging of the well of Salvation, but Jesus Christ dug it all by himself.

The true churches of Jesus Christ testify or witness that Christ alone saved his people from their sins without any aid or assistance from man.

While all the other organizations trump what man has done and how man has helped, the true churches of Jesus Christ are set by themselves to declare the truth that salvation is by grace alone through the atoning blood of Christ. The true churches of Christ are typified by the seven ewe lambs that Abraham set by themselves.