



Course: A Survey of the Bible: Genesis to Revelation

Lesson: 5

Title: Abraham

Passage: Genesis 10-22

For Our Learning (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 11:6, 11; Luke 4:4)

The Survey So Far

- (Genesis 1 & 2) Creation
- (Genesis 3) Sin and Satan
- BLUE indicates passage that were not covered in Lessons 2 through 4 but ought to be carefully studied.
- (Genesis 4) Cain and Abel (Hebrews 11:4; 1 John 3:12; Jude 11)
- (Genesis 5) Genealogy of Adam. Noteworthy, Seth, Enoch (Hebrews 11:5-6), Methuselah, Noah.
- (Genesis 10) Genealogy of Noah; Nineveh; Canaanites, etc.
- (Genesis 11) Tower of Babel; Genealogy of Shem and Terah

Why Should Abraham Be Studied by Us Today?

- Three beginning in Genesis.
 - ① (Genesis 1-5) The beginning of the human race.
 - ② (Genesis 6-9) The beginning of the post-flood earth in Noah and his sons.
 - ③ (Genesis 10-50) The beginning of God's chosen people.
- God's call of Abraham was designed to "touch" the whole world.
- Three-fourths of Genesis deals with Abraham and his immediate descendants.
 - ☆ (Genesis 20-28) Abraham, Ishmael, Issac, son of promise
 - ☆ (Genesis 29-39) Esau and Jacob
 - ☆ (Genesis 40-50) Joseph

- God's revelations of Himself as a CHOOSING GOD.
- Abraham is mentioned 71 times in the New Testament. To understand the New Testament one needs to have an understanding who Abraham was!
- Abraham is "the father of all them that believe". (Romans 4:11)
- Abraham is called "the friend of God" three times. (2 Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23) - No one else in all of Scripture is given this title. Consider John 15:10-15.
 - Abraham owned no property (except for a grave); lived in a tent all his life; built nothing but ALTARS! MEDITATE on this.
 - ☆ See Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16.
- Jesus' proclamation of "I AM" in John 8:56-59.
- **WE ARE PARTAKERS or RECIPIENTS OF THE BLESSINGS OF THE ABRAHAMIC COVENANT.**

The Call of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-29)

- Out of all the men on the face of the earth God chose Abraham. Abraham did not choose God but God chose Abraham. God elected Abraham to be His own.
- The father of all them that believe teaches us how not to walk by sight but to walk by faith. (Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:1; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38)
- **FAITH GROWS THROUGH TESTING! GOD IS A TESTING GOD!** (Exodus 115:25-26; 16:4; Deuteronomy 8:1-3, 16; **13:3**, Genesis 22:1; 2 Chronicles 32:31; Psalm 81:7; 66:10; 17:3; Proverbs 17:3; Judges 2:21-22; 3:1-4; Psalm 105:19; Ecclesiastes 3:18; Jeremiah 11:20; **1 Peter 1:7**)
- (Genesis 12:1) "Now the LORD *had said* unto Abram, 'Get out of your country, from your family, your father's house, to a land that I will show you.'"
 - (Acts 7:2,3) Stephen, "The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, and said to him, "Get out of your country and your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you.""
 - "The God of Glory" - Title only found in Psalm 29.
 - "appeared" - first time in Scripture of God appearing to man after the Garden of Eden incident.
 - **THE CALL:** Separate yourself! (Luke 14:25-33; 1 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 1 Peter 2:9)
 - ★ See Joshua 24:2. (See 1 Corinthians 15:33; Amos 3:3)

- This call, as with all of God’s calls, was one that demanded two things:
 - ① Absolute trust in God.
 - ② Absolute obedience.
- These are the two elements of genuine faith.
- **READ HEBREWS 11:8.**

God’s Promise (Genesis 12:1-5)

- ① “I will show you.”
 - ② “I will make you a great nation.”
 - ③ “I will bless you and make your name great.”
 - ④ “You shall be a blessing.”
 - ⑤ “I will bless those who bless you.”
 - ⑥ “I will curse those who curse you.”
 - ⑦ “In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”
- ★ Abraham left Haran at the age of 75! See Psalm 92:12-14; 71:18; Isaiah 46:4.

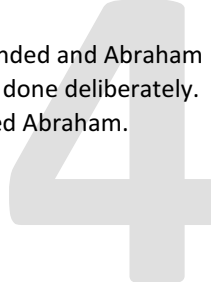
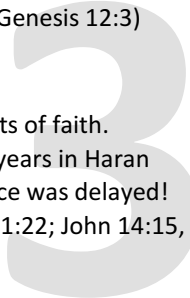
Abrahamic Covenant

- The unholding:
 - ① Introduced to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3.
 - ② Actually made in Abraham in Genesis 15:18-21.
 - ③ Reaffirmed in Genesis 17:1-21.
 - ④ Renewed with Isaac in Genesis. 26:2-5.
 - ⑤ Renewed with Jacob in Genesis 28:10-17.
- It is an **EVERLASTING COVENANT** that extends from Genesis 12:1-3 to Revelation 20. (Genesis 17:7-8; 1 Chronicles 16:17; Psalm 105:7-12; Isaiah 24:5)
- Elements of the Covenant:
 - ① The Promise of a Seed (Genesis 17:2-7; Galatians 3:8, 16)
 - ② The Promise of a Land (Genesis 15:18-21; 17:8)
 - ③ The Promise of a Nation (Genesis 12:2; 17:4)
 - ④ The Promise of Divine Blessing and Protection (Genesis 12:3)

Abraham’s Walk of Faith (Genesis 12:10-22:19)

- We might watch Abraham’s **growth** in faith eight tests of faith.
 - ① (11:27-12:5) Failure to separate. He spent five years in Haran with his father (Terah - “*delay*”). His obedience was delayed!
 - Do I obey? Do I obey immediately? (James 1:22; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3)

- ② (12:10-13:4) Lusts of flesh and selfishness test. Consequences of putting one self first. Travels to Egypt with no word from the LORD. Fears man! Lesson: Colossians 3:1-3; Isaiah 26:3-4; 1 John 3:16.
- ③ (13:5-18) Self-denial test - Gave the choicest land to Lot.
 - Philippians 2:4; 1 Corinthians 10:24; Romans 12:10; Luke 14:10
- ④ (14:1-16) The “fight test” in defeating the kings who took Lot and his family. Trusting God when the “odds” seem to be stacked against us.
 - God’s grace is sufficient. (2 Corinthians 3:5; 12:9)
- ⑤ (14:17-24) Commitment test - refusal of the fortunes of Sodom.
 - Giving proper honor to God. “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” 1 Timothy 6:6.
- ⑥ (16:1-16) Failure in following tradition/culture rather than trusting God’s promises.
 - Am I will to wait on the Lord or am I impatient and choose the ways of world? (Meditate on Isaiah 30:18. Also see Psalm 27:14; 37:7-9; 130:5; Proverbs 20:22; Isaiah 40:31; Lamentations 3:25-26)
- ⑦ (21:8-21) Sending Ishmael away test. This time God commanded Him to send Ishmael away!
 - Do I obey God or my own desires and lusts?
- ⑧ (22:1-19) THE GREATEST TEST - GIVE ME YOUR BELOVED SON! We should learn:
 - ① (v. 1) As soon as we hear God (and we hear Him speak every time we read or hear His Word) our response **ought** to be, “Here I am.” - see 1 Samuel 3:1-10; Isaiah 6:8.
 - ② (vv. 2, 8) God commands with no explanation. Do we trust God or do we demand that God explain Himself first? (See Job 33:13). (v. 8) Abraham’s trust in the Lord. Abraham trusted in God’s promises though he did not understand HOW! (See Hebrews 11:17-19)
 - ③ (v. 3) Circle the word “So!” - God commanded and Abraham obeyed! No questions. Everything was done deliberately.
 - ④ (v. 1) MEDITATE on what God commanded Abraham. Meditate on Luke 14:33!



Lessons for Us

- We have to ask, “Are we growing in our FAITH?”
 - ① Absolute Trust in God.
 - ② Absolute Obedience to God’s Word.
 - Do I trust God with my future? (Genesis 12:1; James 4:13-16; Hebrews 11:8)
 - Do I trust God’s way or do I follow tradition or culture?
 - Am I willing to wait on the Lord even if I have to wait 25 years?
 - God is a forgiving God!!!! Abraham was not perfect!!!! But Abraham grew in his faith and was able to trust God more and more as a result of God’s tests! **Meditate: God still cared for His own even when they did not trust Him.**
 - Do I have a public profession? Remember Abraham built altars in a heathen land!!!!
 - Are you a friend of God?
- ☆ **Where are you in your GROWTH in faith?**

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