

## Abram and God's Promise

March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014

### REVIEW

- GENESIS 1-11 IS PREHISTORY AND COVERS A PERIOD OF MORE THAN 2000 YEARS--CREATION, CORRUPTION, CATASTROPHE, CONFUSION
- GENESIS 1-11 IS ABOUT CREATION, THE FALL OF MAN, THE FLOOD AND THE TOWER OF BABEL
- GENESIS 12 BEGINS A NEW SECTION (TAKE A TURN)
- GENESIS 12-50 COVERS A PERIOD OF 350 YEARS
- GENESIS 12-50 IS ABOUT ABRAHAM, ISAAC, JACOB AND JOSEPH
- GENESIS 12 BEGINS THE SECTION OF CHRIST, CROSS AND CONSUMMATION

"The story begins with one individual, and extends gradually to his family, then to a people, and later still to a nation".<sup>1</sup>

Quick observation before we jump in: Terah, Abram's father, was said to have settled (11:31). Are you settling?

Genesis 1:1-9

### The Call of Abram and His Response!

#### 1) The call was from God

"The Lord said to Abram"

It wasn't man's idea or man's call it was God's

Our call must be from the Lord

#### 2) The call was specific to Abram at first

"I will make you into a great nation"

"Bless you and make your name great"- who was making the name great and who was doing the blessing? God. It wasn't Abram doing it, it was God but He used Abram's faith!

God has called and given us specific instructions in His Word.

Gods' Word and Promises + Trust and Obedience = True Faith

Intenders- Terah

Endeavor-ers- Lot

Performers- Abram and Sarai- Abraham and Sarah were the performers because they trusted God to perform what He promised.<sup>2</sup>

#### 3) The call was for others

"And you will be a blessing"

When we disobey or don't follow we miss out and so do others!

"Offspring"-verse 7

#### 4) The call demanded a response and was conditional

Either go and obey

Stay where you are and disobey

Either way his choice would affect millions of people

God speaks to us...we respond with yes or no

#### 5) The call, once obeyed by Abram, was given the next step

"To your offspring I will give you this land"

We most often are not given a road map just the next step

#### 6) The call Abram assumed was for the long haul

"Tent" - he wasn't setting up permanent residence

Serving and following God is for the long haul

#### 7) The call, when not fully trusting God, left Abram to fend for himself

Famine- went to Egypt

Half-truth to Pharaoh about his wife

Even Abram, a righteousness man, sometimes got off course

We will have struggles maybe with the call, following, or doing

what God intended- don't get off the road. Don't let the side roads become the main road!

To whom or what has God called you? Are you trusting Him? Are you obeying? How many people are affected by your obedience or disobedience?

<sup>1</sup> Logos Bible Software, Lange's Commentary

<sup>2</sup> Bible Exposition Comm (BE Series) – Old Testament – The Bible Exposition Comm-Pentateuch. Thomas Fuller