

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

APRIL 27, 2022

GENESIS 12:1-7

INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Genesis is a book of beginnings.
 - a) The beginning of creation. (Genesis 1-11)
 - b) The beginning of a nation. (Genesis 12ff)
2. The historical account of human history narrows its focus on the origin of the nation of Israel by providing the genealogy of Shem. (Gen. 11.10,26)
3. Abraham was the first Hebrew and father of the nation of Israel. (Matt. 3.9; Rom. 4.16)

I. THE PROMISE OF LAND

- A. **GENESIS 12.1:** *“Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you.”*
 1. When did God appear to Abram? God appeared to Abram twice.
 - a) God appeared to Abram when he was in the land of Ur. (Acts 7.2-4; Gen. 11.31,32)
 - b) God then appeared a second time when he was in Haran. (Gen. 12.4)
 2. The family of Abram remained in Haran as Abram made his way to the land of promise.
 - a) **GENESIS 27.42,43:** Jacob’s mother, Rebekkah sent him to her brother in Haran.
 - b) **GENESIS 30.4-6,9-12:** Jacob meets his future wife in Haran.
 3. Where did God send Abraham? (Gen. 12.5-7; 13.14,15; 15.7-20)
- B. How did Abraham respond to the command and promise of God?
 1. **HEBREWS 11.8:** *“By faith Abraham obeyed...not knowing where he was going.”*
 2. **HEBREWS 11.9:** *“By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country”*
 3. **HEBREWS 11.10:** *“for he waited for the city which has foundations”*

II. THE PROMISE OF A GREAT NATION

- A. **GENESIS 12.2:** *“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing.”*
- B. Abraham would become a great nation in three ways.
 1. A Populous Nation. (1 Kings 3.8)
 - a) The descendants would be as numerous as the stars. (Gen. 15.5,6)
 - b) The descendants would be as the dust or sand. (Gen. 28.13,14)
 - c) The promise was fulfilled. (Gen. 46.3; Deut. 1.10)
 2. A Prosperous Nation.
 - a) Wealthy in abundance of their possessions. (Deut. 8.6-10,18)
 - b) Solomon: The richest man in all of history. (2 Chr. 1.11,12; 1 Kings 10.21-23)
 3. A Powerful Nation: (Lev. 26.7,8; Deut. 2.25; Josh. 2.8-11)

III. THE PROMISE OF CHRIST

- A. **GENESIS 12.3:** *“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*
 1. The blessing of the world would come through Abraham’s seed. (Gen. 22.18; 28.14)
 2. In what way would the world be blessed? (Gen. 3.15; Acts 3.25,26; Gal. 3.8)
- B. The seed is used in two different ways.
 1. The seed is in reference to Christ. (Gal. 3.15,16,19)
 2. The seed is in reference to the people of God who would inherit the blessing.
 - a) **ROMANS 4.13:** *“For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.*
 - b) **ROMANS 9.8:** *“the children of the promise are counted as the seed.”* (cf. Gal. 4.28)
 - c) **GALATIANS 3.29:** *“And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed”*