

Abraham—Genesis 12

Abram Traveled to Canaan

I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

- 12:1...** FROM THY KINDRED—“**Thy father’s house** - Terah being now dead, it is very probable that the family were determined to go no farther, but to settle at Charran; and as Abram might have felt inclined to stop with them in this place, hence the ground and necessity of the second call recorded here, and which is introduced in a very remarkable manner; *îêîê* lech lecha, Go For Thyself. If none of the family will accompany thee, yet go for thyself unto That Land which I will show thee. God does not tell him what land it is, that he may still cause him to walk by faith and not by sight. This seems to be particularly alluded to by Isaiah, [Isa 41:2](#) : Who raised up the righteous man (Abram) from the east, and called him to his foot; that is, to follow implicitly the Divine direction. The apostle assures us that in all this Abram had spiritual views; he looked for a better country, and considered the land of promise only as typical of the heavenly inheritance” [Clarke].
- 12:2...** A GREAT NATION—“**And I will make of thee a great nation**,.... In a literal sense, as the people of the Jews were that descended from him, and in a spiritual sense believers in all ages and of all nations, that walk in the steps of the faith of Abram, who are his children, and are blessed with him” [John Gill’s *Exposition of the Entire Bible*].
- 12:3...** Cf., Gal 3:8.
- 12:6...** SHECHEM—“A Canaanite town located in the valley between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim (cf., Deut 27:4, 12), west of the Jordan about 15 miles and north of Jerusalem about 30 miles. Moreh was most likely a resident of the area for whom the tree was named” [MacArthur’s *Study Bible*, p. 32].
- 12:7...** WILL I GIVE THIS LAND—“God was dealing with Abram, not in a private promise, but with a view toward high and sacred interests long into the future, i.e., the land which his posterity was to inhabit as a peculiar people” [MacArthur *Study Bible*, p. 32].
- 12:10...** ABRAM WENT DOWN INTO EGYPT—Perhaps most people would have returned to the land from which they had come, but Abram still held to God’s promise and did not go back to Ur.
- 12:13...** SAY, I PRAY THEE, THOU ART MY SISTER—It was true that Sarai was Abram’s half-sister (Gen 20:12), however this was a deception that should have been avoided. Here we see Abram seeking to “help” God keep His promise to him.
- 12:17...** BECAUSE OF SARAI—The Lord miraculously intervened in this situation to protect Sarai.
- 12:18...** WHAT IS THIS THAT THOU HAS DONE UNTO ME?—Somehow the Pharaoh possessed more honor than Abram had believed would be the case. It is not explained to us, but somehow Pharaoh came to know the truth about the relationship between Sarai and Abram.

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: The Period of Patriarchy.

III. Summary.

Abram was selected by God to receive a very special call. This great Abrahamic Covenant first revealed in this chapter is a further development in God's great Scheme of Redemption. It will be through the descendants of Abram that the Messiah will come. Faithful Abram obeyed God, even though there was so much that was unknown to him. He becomes to us a great example of faithfulness—JUST DO WHAT GOD COMMANDS without questioning! Along with Sarai, his wife, Abram took Lot and other souls (v. 5). He began to journey through the land that God would eventually give to his descendants. At Bethel he built an altar to the Lord (v. 7). There developed a great famine in the land and rather than disobey God and travel back home to Ur, Abram went further south into Egypt. In this place many disasters came to Abram as a result of a deception he tried to carry on regarding his beautiful wife. God miraculously intervened so that Sarai was not added to Pharaoh's harem and Abram was escorted out of the country.

IV. Outline.

1. First statement of the Abrahamic Covenant (12:1-3).
2. Abram surveys the Promised Land (4-9).
3. A famine in the land sends Abram down into Egypt (10).
4. Abram lies about Sarai (11-16).
5. The Lord intervenes in behalf of Sarai (17).
6. Pharaoh rebukes Abram and sends him away with an escort (18-20).

V. Questions.**True or False**

01. _____ God had described the Land of Promise to Abram.
02. _____ Abram's conversation with Sarai proved Abram to be a true prophet.
03. _____ Pharaoh had Sarai as his wife.
04. _____ When Abram traveled to Moreh, he found it uninhabited.
05. _____ Abram was treated well by Pharaoh for Sarai's sake.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ Who told Pharaoh that Sarai was Abram's wife: (a) Abram; (b) Lot; (c) Sarai; (d) it is not revealed.
07. _____ Abram was this age when he left Haran: (a) 55; (b) 75; (c) 99.
08. _____ The word(s) used to describe the famine in the land of Canaan was: (a) grievous; (b) beginning; (c) nearly over.
09. _____ The relationship between Abram and Lot is that Lot was: (a) Abram's friend; (b) Abram's servant; (c) Abram's nephew.
10. _____ The journey of Abram through Canaan was generally which direction: (a) east to west; (b) west to east; (c) north to south; (d) south to north.

Fill in the Blanks

11. "And I will make of thee a great _____, and I will bless thee, and make thy name _____; and thou shalt be a blessing."
12. Abram said to Sarai: "Behold now, I know that thou art a _____ woman to look upon."
13. "...and in thee shall _____ of the earth be blessed."
14. The Lord _____ Pharaoh and his house.
15. Did Abram benefit by way of prosperity from his visit into Egypt? _____

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Teacher: David Lemmons

For More Lessons in this Series, Visit: <http://www.hcis.net/users/dlemmons/BSG-List.htm>

Answers will be found on next week's handout

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. **...in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed** (Gen 12:1-3). This is an extremely important promise. God's great Scheme of Redemption is being further developed here and this relates directly to us. Through the promise that is made here has come our salvation from sin.
2. **And there was a famine in the land...** (Gen 12:10). Abram's visit into Egypt brought to him much sorrow and could have cost him dearly without divine intervention. We have to admire him, however, for not returning to his homeland, Ur.
3. **Say, I pray thee, thou art my sister...** (Gen 12:13). This lie, as most, caused great heartache not only for Abram, but for many others. Truthfulness is exalted in the Bible and we must learn from the mistakes others make. Actually, it seems like Abram was trying to help God out in keeping His promises to Him. I think Abram surely learned some important lessons here.
4. **Why saidst thou...** (Gen 12:19). Oftentimes, we fail to expect the best from others. Sometimes it turns out to be a large mistake as here.
5. **And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had** (Gen 12:20). Abram was enriched by his visit into Egypt. He seemed to be better able to deal with wealth than his nephew, Lot.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q O A Z X A L L F A M I L I E S X S W E
 E U X S B W E D C V F R T G R E A T T G
 G T B N L H Y U J M K I O L P U J M N G
 N O T G E B V F F C D E K I N D R E D R
 Q F A Z S X S B W A E D C V F R T G B E
 N T H Y S U J M E I T T G B N H Y U L A
 M H K I O P L I U A Y H H N B G T R A T
 F Y V C D E W S X W B Q E A Z X S W N N
 E C D C V F R T O T G L B R N H Y U D A
 N O N H Y T G H B V F R E E S D C X W T
 O U X S W E S C N A M E V S B H G T Y I
 I N N H Y L U J M K I O Y H S B O E D O
 T T C D L E R F V B M N H Y U I J U R N
 A R F I V F R T G B I N H Y U J N M S A
 N Y W X C U R S E T H T H E E C D G E E
 T I D C V F R T G B E N H Y U J M K I O
 A V F R T G B N Y U S B A B R A M V F R
 E E D C V F R T G B R N H Y U J M K I O
 R X X B L E S S E D U C D E R F V B G T
 G B G T Y H N M J U C E D C X S W D R L

[The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you use the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL]

Genesis 12:1-3--¹Now the LORD had said unto **Abram**, Get thee **out of thy country**, and from thy **kindred**, and from thy **father's house**, unto a **land** that **I will show** thee:
²And I will make of thee a **great nation**, and I will **bless** thee, and make thy **name great**; and thou shalt **be a blessing**:
³And I will bless them that bless thee, and **curse him** that **curseth thee**: and in thee shall **all families** of the earth be **blessed**.