

DESCENDANTS AND INHERITANCE (Part 1)

(Genesis 12:1-7)

DRAWING A SMALL CIRCLE OR A BIG CIRCLE

The need to understand the real cause of death of Lady Diana (the late Princess of Wales)

- ✓ By examining the inside of a Mercedes car
- ✓ The point of impact with the bridge
- ✓ Speeds
- ✓ All of those things, to understand...
- ✓ What is going to happen to the occupants of the car

The Viewpoint

It was investigated with a Forensic Pathologist's viewpoint (e.g. The gospels)

The Diagnosis

- ✓ She had damage to one of the veins in her lung.
- ✓ She died from a small tear in her lung.

The Conclusion

If she had worn her seatbelt she would be alive today!

GENESIS 6 – 9

- The story about the flood
- Noah & family leaving the Ark
- Noah, Ham, Shem, Japheth and their wives

GENESIS 10

- Japheth's descendants
- Ham's descendants
- Shem's descendants

GENESIS 11:1-10

- Tower of Babel
- Earth had one language
- People didn't want to be scattered
- God scattered them
- Language confounded
- Inability to understand each other

GENESIS 11:11-28

- Shem's lineage to Abram
- Terah's sons - Abram, Nahor, Haran
- Haran had a son - Lot
- No mention of Haran's wife
- Haran's death in Ur of the Chaldees
- He died before Terah

GENESIS 11:29

- Wives of the remaining sons
- Nahor's wife -> Milcah
- Abram's wife -> Sarai
- Sarai was barren -> she had no child

Questions/Observations:

- ✓ Why talk about Shem again?
- ✓ Why add that Sarai was barren?
- ✓ Last mention of children - vs. 27
- ✓ No mention of Nahor's child/children
- ✓ So, why add that Sarai was barren?

BIRTHS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Child</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Death</u>
Shem	Arphaxad	100	600
Arphaxad	Salah	35	438
Salah	Eber	30	433
Eber	Peleg	34	464
Peleg	Reu	30	239
Reu	Serug	32	239
Serug	Nahor	30	230
Nahor	Terah	29	148
Terah	Abram	70	205

GENESIS 11:31

- Terah left Ur to go to Canaan
- Took Abram, Sarai and Lot with him
- Abram obediently went with his father Terah
- Settled instead in Haran
- Terah died in Haran – 205 years old

Terah

- Same as Tarah in Num. 33:26-28
- Name meant: Delay, Stopping
- Served other gods (Jos. 24:2)
- Sarai's father (Gen. 20:12)

Abram

- Name meant: High Father
- Followed his father to go to Canaan

GENESIS 12:1-7

- God called him out from:
 - Country
 - Relatives
 - Father's house

- I WILL
 - Show you a land
 - Make of thee a great nation
 - Bless you
 - Make your name great (famous)
 - Bless them that bless you
 - Curse them that curseth you
 - Give this land to your seed (second appearance vs. 7)

- YOU
 - Shall be a blessing
 - In YOU shall all the families of the earth be blessed

Observations

- ✓ Sure and definite promises
 - What I WILL do and what will happen to and through YOU, because of me.
- ✓ Abram followed the LORD to Canaan. Left Haran at age 75.
- ✓ Terah is dead but the LORD (Jehovah) is self-existent; eternal.
- ✓ Promised descendants – be a father
 - “Make of thee a great nation”
 - “Give this land to your seed”
 - Sarai is barren!
- ✓ “I will make of thee a great nation”
- ✓ The LORD is aware of:
 - What your concern is
 - What will become your concern
- ✓ Blessings to the families of the earth through Abram.
 - “In you shall all the families of the earth be blessed”
- ✓ Promise two-fold
 - His family/seed
 - Other families

DRAWING A SMALL CIRCLE

- ❖ “His family/Seed”

GENESIS 15

- “..and thy exceeding great reward”
- Reward useless - he has no son
- You said I will be a father
- Inheritance going to a servant
- The one coming from his own body will be heir – get the inheritance
- His seed shall be like the stars
- Didn’t say who the mother will be

“And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him for righteousness” vs. 6

❖ “Other families”

Questions

- What does this mean?
 - “In you shall all the families of the earth be blessed”
- Was it mentioned anywhere else?

GENESIS 18:17-18

And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

GENESIS 22:18

And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou has obeyed my voice. c.f. (Gen. 26:4; 28:14;)

Observation

The nations/families of the earth will be blessed

- In thee
- In thy seed

Question

Was it mentioned anywhere else?

GALATIANS 3:8

And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

GALATIANS 1:6

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1, 2

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved,

EPHESIANS 2:8-9

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Observations

- ✓ The Gospel
 - Saved by it (1 Cor. 15:1,2)
 - The Grace of Christ (Gal. 1:6)
- ✓ The Grace of Christ (Gal. 1:6)
 - Saved by it (Eph. 2:8-9)
 - Wrapped up in -

“In thee (thy seed) shall all nations be blessed”

THE LAW AND FAITH IN CHRIST

3 Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross. 2 Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the Holy Spirit by obeying the law of Moses? Of course not! You received the Spirit because you believed the message you heard about Christ. 3 How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort?

4 Have you experienced[a] so much for nothing? Surely it was not in vain, was it?

5 I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ.

6 In the same way, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." [b] 7 The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God.

8 What's more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." [c]

9 So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.

10 But those who depend on the law to make them right with God are under his curse, for the Scriptures say, "Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the commands that are written in God's Book of the Law." [d] 11 So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, "It is through faith that a righteous person has life." [e]

12 This way of faith is very different from the way of law, which says, "It is through obeying the law that a person has life." [f]

13 But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law. When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing. For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." [g]

14 Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the promised [h] Holy Spirit through faith.

THE LAW AND GOD'S PROMISE

15 Dear brothers and sisters, [i] here's an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or amend an irrevocable agreement, so it is in this case.

16 God gave the promises to Abraham and his child. [j] And notice that the Scripture doesn't say "to his children, [k]" as if it meant many descendants. Rather, it says "to his child"— and that, of course, means Christ.

17 This is what I am trying to say: The agreement God made with Abraham could not be canceled 430 years later when God gave the law to Moses. God would be breaking his promise.

18 For if the inheritance could be received by keeping the law, then it would not be the result of accepting God's promise. But God graciously gave it to Abraham as a promise.

19 Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised. God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people.

20 Now a mediator is helpful if more than one party must reach an agreement. But God, who is one, did not use a mediator when he gave his promise to Abraham.

21 Is there a conflict, then, between God's law and God's promises? Absolutely not! If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it.

22 But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ.