

Series "In The Beginning...God"
"Faith Answers The Call"
Genesis 12:1-9
Study-31

Genesis 12:1-9; John 17:3

Genesis 1-11 covers over 2,000 years of time.

Genesis 3 First man and woman disobeyed God and were cast out of the garden.

Genesis 4 Firstborn child Cain murdered his brother.

Genesis 6-8 Humanity became so corrupt that God sent a worldwide flood.

Genesis 9 Noah got drunk and was naked in his tent, his son Ham mocked him.

Genesis 10-11 In defiance to God men built a tower, so God sent confusion.

Genesis 11-25 Is given over to one man Abraham, that is 25% of Genesis.

This man Abraham is one of the most significant figures in the Bible. Father of Israel, Father of the Arabs. The Ancestor of the Messiah. The Spiritual Father of all that put their faith in God.

Thought Of Our Passage: Abram Forsook Everything He Had Known All His Life To Begin All Over Again, A Challenge That Required A Great Faith.

1. Verses 1-3 Abram's Call & Promise:

2. Verses 4-5 Abram's Obedience:

3. Verses 6-9 Abram's Sojourn:

1. Verses 1-3 Abram's Call & Promise:

Genesis 12:1 Now Context – left off with the calling of Abram

Genesis 11:30-31 God 1st Called Abram: Was in Ur of the Chaldeans.

Genesis 11:31-32

the LORD said to Abram, This is the 2nd Call of Abram: (Renewal Call in Haran). Abram means "Exalted Father."

We learn from the book of **Joshua** that Abraham was from a family of idolatry.

Joshua 24:2 (Idols) Ur of the Chaldeans a city devoted to Nannar the moon god.

God graciously called Abraham to Himself. **John 15:16;**

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

How did God appear to Abraham? **Acts 7:2** as we read **Genesis**, we note that God communicated to Abram **seven times**.

turn from idols to serve a living God. **1 Thessalonians 1:9**

"Go forth from your country Abraham was called to obey God's Word. Haran to Canaan, Southwest direction about 400 miles plus 1,000 miles already traveled from Ur to Haran. **Hebrews 11:8-10**

Abraham was a spiritual man. Abram was thinking of heaven as his eternal home.

And from your relatives And from your father's house, leaving his friends and relatives. There is a price to follow God!

Why did God call Abram?

1. God loved Abram and wanted him to experience salvation:

2. God wanted to bless the world: (Would do so through Abram)

3. The life of Abraham is an example that God wants us to follow:

He was saved by faith, he lived by faith, his obedience was the evidence of his faith.

Genesis 12:2 The word **Covenant** – “*To eat with*” speaks of fellowship, and agreement. “*To bind or fetter*” means commitment “*To allot*” which means sharing.

The Abrahamic Covenant is an unconditional covenant. The covenant is here in **Genesis 12:1–3**. The ceremony recorded in **Genesis 15**

7 Part Covenant: Peter used all 7 in **Acts 3**, Paul **Galatians 3**

#1. And I will make you a great nation, God was going to take a humanly impossible situation and make a nation out of an elderly barren couple. Abram – 100, Sarah - 90

#2. And I will bless you, (Bless, five times) The spiritual privileges, the physical included. **Genesis 1:28; 9:1, 12:1-3;13:15-16; 15:5, 18; 17:6-8; 22:17-18; 25:11; 26:2-4; 27:27-29** God was faithful to Israel, Jacob the Crook, David adulterer, murder, **2 Timothy 2:13**

#3. And make your name great; Abraham found **74 times** in NT
No one like Abraham.

#4. And so you shall be a blessing; God blesses Abraham to bless Israel so that they might be a blessing to others.

#5. Genesis 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, Those that would be good to this family were going to receive blessings from God.

#6. And the one who curses you I will curse. The other side was that of judgment.

#7. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed." This is the reference to Jesus the Savior that would come to take our sin and place. **Fulfilled in Jesus Christ (Acts 3:25-26) Galatians 3:8,29**

2. Verses 4-5 Abram's Obedience:

Genesis 12:4 Faith Is Not Faith Without Obedience: So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; Abraham acted in faith through obedience, the step of faith.

and Lot went with him. Genesis 12:1 And from your relatives And from your father's house, Some have said, Abram either did not hear or Abram disobeyed! Lot tagged along.

Genesis 11:32 and Terah died in Haran. Matthew 8:22 God had told Abram to leave a godless father and family. **Joshua 24:2, 14**

We are to be "Separated From The World" we are to be "Separated Unto The Lord" Luke 14:26-27

When we fail to separate from things and people, we will have problems.

When God Calls Us, We Must Put God First In Our Lives.

Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram is considered a middle-aged man in Biblical times Abraham was 75 years old when God called him. He trusted God for **100 years**, (**Genesis 25:7 175 years**)

Genesis 12:5 and they set out for the land of Canaan; About a 400-mile trip to Canaan.

The time came when Abraham must go! **Faith Demands A Commitment!**

3. Verses 6-9 Abram's Sojourn:

Genesis 12:6 oak of Moreh – Canaanite worshipped a local deity shrine around a tree, **Genesis 35:4; Judges 9:6,37**

Description of the first steps of faith (Baby Steps) *Abram was walking in the light that was given to him. He would wait for new light to be given to him*

Shechem is about 30 miles North of Jerusalem. Under **Joshua** Israel rehearsed the Law. Later **Joshua** gave his farewell speech. Revolt of the kingdom of Rehoboam. Later **John 4** Jesus was there, **well of Sychar**.

Now the Canaanite was then in the land. descendants of **Ham's** son **Canaan**.

Genesis 12:7 The LORD appeared to Abram, 1st Time The Lord Appeared In Scripture To Someone (God Called and spoke) Adam and Eve fellowshiped with God. **Genesis 3:8 walking in the garden,**

Theophany, Christ-ophany is an appearance of the Son of God before Bethlehem. John 1:18

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

"To your descendants I will give this land." What a promise this was to Abraham. The enemy was living there! **Galatians 3:16**

So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him. The first response

Abraham's life was marked by an Alter and a Tent:

The Alter – spoke of **"Abram, The Worshipper Of God"** being a citizen of another kingdom. That his life was invested in the spiritual.

(A Worshipper)

The Tent – spoke of **"Abram A Pilgrim In This World"** a pilgrim that was just passing through this life. **(2 Corinthians 5:1-10 Body is a tent)**

The moment that Abraham abandoned either the Alter or Tent he got into trouble. (We will observe this)

Genesis 12:8 mountain on the east of Bethel, 10 miles North from Jerusalem. **Bethel** *"The house of God"* and **Ai on the east; Ai** *"Heap of Ruins"*

and there he built an altar to the LORD alter and worshipping the Lord. **and called upon the name of the LORD.** That is asking God for direction in life.

You could track down Abraham's steps by the alters he left behind.

"Faith is not believing in spite of evidence; it is obeying in spite of circumstances."

Genesis 12:9 continuing toward the Negev. in the wrong direction towards Egypt.

Comfortable Christianity is the opposite of the life of faith.
Ephesians 2:8-9

Application:

- 1. Faith Is Not Believing In Spite Of Evidence; It Is Obeying In Spite Of Circumstances.**
- 2. True Faith Believes The Bare Word Of God, True Faith Steps Out On God's Word, True Faith Follows Wherever God's Word Directs.**
- 3. The Moment That Abraham Abandoned Either The Altar Or Tent He Got Into Trouble, So Will We.**