

Abram from Ur to Canaan

Gn 11²⁷ This is the genealogy of Terah: Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran begot Lot. ²⁸ And Haran died before his father Terah in his native land, in Ur of the Chaldeans. ²⁹ Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. ³⁰ But Sarai was barren; she had no child.

³¹ And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there. ³² So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.

12¹ 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. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 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."

⁴ So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan.

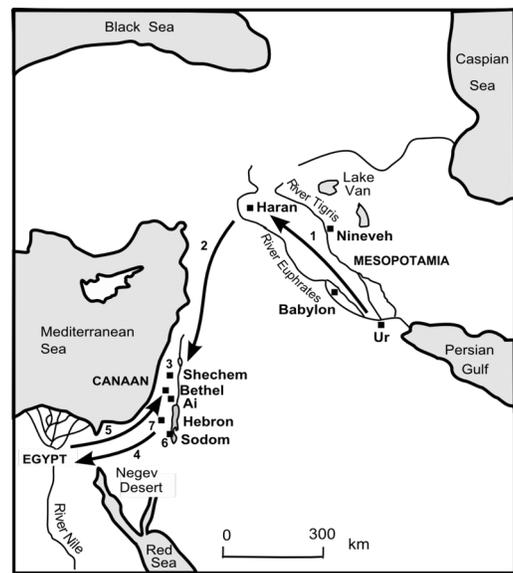
* **With Noah** and at Babel, God's gracious action was chiefly to _____. Beginning with Abram, God's gracious action is chiefly to _____ (12.1-3).

Gn 6⁵ The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent ... of his heart was only evil continually ... ⁷ So the Lord said, "I will destroy man ... from the face of the earth" ... ⁸ But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. ... ¹³ And God said to Noah ... ¹⁷ "I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸ But I will establish My covenant with you" ... ⁹ ¹¹ "I establish My covenant with you: Never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of the flood"

Gn 11⁸ So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. ⁹ Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

* **Ur, Haran,** and their region were thoroughly _____.

Josh 24² Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods. ³ Then I took your father Abraham from the other side of the River, led him throughout all the land of Canaan"



* **What is the sequence of events in our text?**

Acts 7² [Stephen speaking:] "Brethren and fathers, listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, ³ and said to him, 'Get out of your country and from your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you.' ⁴ Then he came out of the land of the Chaldeans and dwelt in Haran. And from there, when his father was dead, He moved him to this land in which you now dwell."

* **What does this mean re "Abram, Nahor, and Haran"?**

Gn 11²⁶ Now Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran ... ³² So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran ... 12⁴ ... Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

cf. Gn 5³² Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth ... 9²⁴ Noah ... knew what his younger son [Ham] had done ... 10²¹ Shem, ... the brother of Japheth the elder

cf. Gn 7¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah's life [the flood came] ... 11¹⁰ Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood.

* **What does this mean Abram was doing in Ur and Haran?**

Gn 11³¹ Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan

Gn 12⁵ Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired [made, gained, won] in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan. ...⁸ And ... there he built an altar to the LORD and called on [proclaimed] the name of the LORD.

Hb 12² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Rm 2⁵ God ...⁶ ... will render ...⁷ eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;⁸ but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath

*** Who is the LORD speaking to Abram?**

Jn 8⁵⁶ "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."⁵⁷ Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

cf. Exo 3¹³ Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"¹⁴ And God said to Moses, ... "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

1Cor 10⁴ [T]hey drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

2) "I will bless those who bless you, and will [must] curse [remove from blessing] him who curses you [treats you lightly]; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (12.3)

Gal 3⁸ God ... preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed."

Mt 28¹⁹ "[M]ake disciples of all the nations"

*** Christ's commands to Abram:**

1) "Get out of your country, from your family, and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you." (12.1)

Mt 19²¹ Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

Mt 16²⁵ "[W]hoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."

Phil 3⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

2) "And be a blessing" (12.2) (literal translation)

Mt 5¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden."

2Cor 2¹⁴ Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

*** Christ's promises to Abram (two series of three):**

1) "I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great" (12.2)

Jn 5⁴⁴ "How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God?"

*** What was Abram's response?**

Gn 12⁴ So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken ... And Abram was seventy-five years old

*** What is the relationship between faith and obedience?**

Rm 1⁵ [W]e have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations. [ESV]

Hb 3¹⁸ [T]o whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey?¹⁹ So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

Hb 6¹ [T]he elementary principles of Christ, ... the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God

Rm 14²³ [W]hatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Jm 2²⁶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Lk 23³⁹ Then one of the criminals ... blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us."⁴⁰ But the other ... rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong."⁴² Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."⁴³ And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."