



Bible Geography

Historical Geography – The Patriarchs

I. THE PATRIARCHS

- A. Abraham
- B. Isaac
- C. Jacob

II. TIME PERIOD

A. Events Covered

1. The Call of Abraham
2. The Promise of Isaac & Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed
3. The Sacrifice of Isaac
4. The Providing of a Wife for Isaac
5. The Choosing of Jacob
6. The Fleeing of Jacob
7. The Return of Jacob
8. The Sons of Jacob

B. The Call of Abraham

1. Originally from Ur of the Chaldees (Genesis 11:27-32; Acts 7:4)
 - a. The Son of Terah
 - b. Nahor and Haran his brothers
 - i) Haran died in Ur
 - ii) Nahor would stay in Ur
 - c. The Individuals in the group – to travel to Haran (Genesis 11:31)
 - i) His father Terah
 - ii) His nephew Lot (the son of Haran)
 - iii) His wife Sarai (from Ur)
 - d. Haran – (See The Journeys of the Patriarchs map) (Genesis 11:32)
 - i) Terah would die being 205 years old
 - ii) Abraham will once again move (Genesis 12:1, 4; Acts 7:4)
2. From Haran to Canaan (Genesis 12:1-5)
 - a. Abram remembers what the LORD had told him (Genesis 12:1; Acts 7:4)
 - b. The promise of God (Genesis 12:2-3)



- i) To make a great nation from him
 - ii) To bless all those that bless him and his children (Isaac)
- c. The characters
 - i) Abram
 - ii) Sarai
 - iii) Lot
 - iv) And all of the souls that they had gotten in Haran
- d. Abram comes to Sichem (Genesis 12:4-7)
 - i) This is also known as Shechem, Sychar, and Sychem
 - i. Jacob would pitch here much later (Genesis 33:18)
 - ii. It was a City of Refuge (Joshua 20:7)
 - iii. Joseph would be buried here (Joshua 24:32; Acts 7:16)
 - iv. Rehoboam went here to be crowned asking (1 Kings 12:1)
 - v. Jacob gave Joseph land here (John 4:5)
 - ii) To the Plain of Moreh
 - i. Near Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal (Deuteronomy 11:29-30)
 - ii. Abram builds an altar to the LORD
- e. Abram moves on to Bethel (Genesis 12:8-9)
 - i) Bethel on the West
 - ii) Hai on the East
 - iii) Abram builds an altar unto the LORD
 - iv) Abram calls on the name of the LORD
 - v) Abram journeyed further south
- f. Abram journeys down to Egypt (Genesis 12:10-20)
- g. Abram journeys up out of Egypt (Genesis 13:1-4)
 - i) Back to Bethel
 - ii) Unto the altar that he had built unto the LORD
- h. Abram and Lot Separate (Genesis 13:5-13)
 - i) Lot chooses the plain of Jordan
 - i. Like the garden of the LORD
 - ii. Before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorah
 - ii) Lot parts with Abram
 - i. Abram continues to dwell in Canaan
 - ii. Lot dwells in the cities of the plain
 - iii. Lot pitches his tent toward Sodom



- i. The final revealing of the promised land
 - i) The need to separate from the Lot (Genesis 13:14)
 - i. The LORD had told Abram to remove himself from his kindred in Genesis 12:1.
 - ii. However, it wasn't until Genesis 13:11 that it actually occurred
 - ii) The blessing revealed
 - i. The LORD finally showed him what He wanted to give him **after** he separated himself from Lot.
 - ii. All the land that he could see was to be given him and his seed by the LORD
 - iii) Application:
 - i. The Christian today has been asked of God to do some things and to walk by faith
 1. To remove some things in their lives
 2. To institute some things in their lives
 3. To walk by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:1)
 - a. Abraham was asked to leave his country and his kindred (Hebrews 11:2, 8)
 - b. Abraham obeyed God, and he sojourned in that land (Hebrews 11:9-10)
 4. To work out our salvation (Philippians 2:12)
 - a. We work out (show forth our faith) our own salvation in what we do.
 - b. Our works should show the faith that we have
 - c. We act upon what we believe
 5. Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6)
- j. Abram moves himself to Hebron (Genesis 13:18) – (See The Journeys of the Patriarchs map)
 - i) To the plain of Mamre
 - ii) Abram builds an altar unto the LORD



C. The Promise of Isaac & Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed

1. The Promise of Isaac (Genesis 15:1-4)
 - a. The renewal of the promise of Isaac (Genesis 17:15-19)
 - b. The birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-8)
2. The Abrahamic Covenant Confirmed (Genesis 15:4-21)
 - a. Location:
 - i) At or near Hebron
 - ii) Abraham had moved his tent to the plain of Mamre in Hebron (Genesis 13:18) – (see: Journeys of the Patriarchs map)
 - b. The promise of the seed (Genesis 15:4-6)
 - c. The sacrifice made for the covenant (Genesis 15:7-21)
 - i) The animals of the sacrifice
 - i. Heifer (3 years old)
 - ii. Female goat (3 years old)
 - iii. Ram (3 years old)
 - iv. Turtledove
 - v. Pigeon
 - vi. All of the animals divided (exception of the birds – not divided)
 - ii) God himself passed through the midst of the animals to confirm the covenant (Genesis 15:17)
 - i. A smoking furnace
 - ii. A burning lamp
 - iii. Note: these items represented God Himself
 - iv. Note: The Lord was proclaiming that the promise that He made here was conditional on Himself alone.
 1. The nature of covenants of man (Jeremiah 34:18-19)
 - a. Jeremiah refers to one specific practice in Bible times. In order to confirm a covenant, two parties would kill a calf and cut it into two pieces.
 - b. They would then pass together between the two parts of the dead animal as a solemn sign of both parties that they fully agreed to the terms of the covenant. They confirmed or sealed the covenant by passing through the parts of the calf.



- c. By the two parties passing through the dead animal, both agreed to keep the covenant.
 2. The nature of the covenant with Abraham (Genesis 15:7-12, 17)
 - a. In the covenant that God made with Abraham there were five animals involved.
 - b. All of these animals were divided with the exception of the birds.
 - c. All of these animals would later be used for the sacrifices made under the Law by the Levitical priests.
 - d. By the LORD passing through the animals in Genesis 15 He proclaimed that the responsibility of keeping the covenant was upon Him alone. Therefore this covenant became an unconditional one.

D. The Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22)

1. Location of events
 - a. It appears that Abraham would have journeyed from Beersheba (Genesis 21:33; Genesis 22:19)
 - b. In or around where the Philistines would have dwelled (Genesis 21:27-34)
 - c. The sacrifice to be made in the land of Moriah (Genesis 22:2)
 - i) The same location where the Lord would appear to David (2 Chronicles 3:1; 1 Chronicles 21:15)
 - ii) The same location of Solomon's Temple (2 Chronicles 3:1)
 - iii) The same place that David bought (2 Samuel 24:18-25)
 - iv) The place that was named by Abraham; "Jehovah-jireh:" "in the mount of the LORD it shall be seen" (Genesis 22:14)
2. The Sacrifice (Genesis 22)
 - a. The Call by God to sacrifice (Genesis 22:1-2)
 - i) The readiness of Abraham (Genesis 22:1)
 - i. To answer the LORD



- ii. A show of a close relationship with God
 - 1. Abraham had a history of walking with the LORD
 - 2. Abraham had obeyed the voice of the LORD when God called him out of his father's house (Genesis 12:1, 4)
 - 3. Abraham had built an altar unto the LORD in Sichem (Genesis 12:6-7)
 - 4. Abraham would call on the name of the LORD in Bethel (Genesis 12:8)
 - 5. Abraham would build an altar in Hebron (Genesis 13:18)
 - ii) To sacrifice Isaac (Genesis 22:2)
 - b. The trip taken (Genesis 22:3-7)
 - i) A three day journey
 - ii) One that was taken by faith, just like Abraham's first trip (Genesis 12:1)
 - c. The sacrifice attempt (Genesis 22:8-10)
 - i) By Abraham
 - ii) The trust of Abraham in the sacrifice (Hebrews 11:17-19)
 - d. The stay by God (Genesis 22:11-12)
 - e. The substitution provided (Genesis 22:13-14)
 - i) That day
 - ii) By God Himself many years later (John 1:14; 1 Timothy 3:16)
 - f. The blessing by God (Genesis 22:15-18)
- E. The Providing of a Wife for Isaac (Genesis 24)
- 1. From Abraham's own people (Genesis 24:3-4)
 - 2. Trusting that God would provide (Genesis 24:7)
 - 3. Locations
 - a. In Mesopotamia
 - b. The City of Nahor (Haran) (See Old Testament World map)
 - 4. The selection of Rebekah
 - a. The prayer (Genesis 24:10-14)
 - b. The prior preparation (Genesis 24:15-21)
 - c. The answered prayer (Genesis 24:22-28)
 - 5. The faith of Rebekah (Genesis 24:54-59)
 - 6. The journey home (Genesis 24:60-67)
 - a. Good possibility that this would be back in Hebron
 - b. Near the cave of Machpelah (were Sarah had been buried) (Genesis 23:2, 16-17).