



*And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by **faith**, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." So then those who are of **faith** are blessed with believing Abraham- Galatians 3:8-9 NKJV*

**Sunday Auditorium Class
College View Church of Christ
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Taught by: Justin Roberson

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I. Introduction

1. Of all the people in the world, before and since, why did God call Abraham?

Was it because Abraham was already righteous? (Romans 4:2-3)

2. Consider Abraham's lifestyle, possessions, family, and so on, *before* the call, and decide what he got versus what he gave up.
3. How might Abraham be a "type" of Christ?

II. From Ur to Haran (Genesis 11:27-32)

1. Where was Abram intending to go from Ur when he left? (11:31) About how far (in miles) would such a journey be?
2. Who was **not** supposed to go with Abram? Who did go, and who appeared to lead the way?
3. What did the group do when they reached Haran? (11:32) Was this fulfilling the call of God?

III. The Call (Genesis 12:1-3)

1. List the specific commands in the call, including all conditions:
2. List all the specific promises given by God:
3. What is important to us today about the promise to Abram?

IV. From Haran to Canaan (Genesis 12:1-9)

1. What did God tell him when they reached Canaan?
2. What did Abram do at Shechem?
3. What two things did Abram do between Bethel and Ai?

I. There Was a Famine in the Land (Genesis 12:10)

1. Discuss Abram's faith in light of going to Egypt on his own (God had just said, "To your descendants I will give this land." 12:7). Why go to Egypt? How far was it from Canaan?

II. Abram's Early Lack of Faith (Genesis 12:11-20)

1. What was Abram's plan regarding Sarai, when they went into Egypt?
2. Was this justified? (12:11)

III. Abram Goes Up From Egypt (Genesis 13:1-4)

1. Who came out from Egypt and where did they end up?
2. What did he finally do when he got there?

IV. The Land Was Not Able to Support Them (Genesis 13:5-18)

1. What was causing the strife between Lot and Abram, and how was it manifesting itself?
2. Lot chose the "plain of Jordan." Describe the conditions there (13:10,13). Compare with Genesis. 3:6, 2 Samuel 11:2, and Daniel 1:8.
3. What promises does God repeat to Abram?

V. Lot Taken Captive (Genesis 14:1-17, 21-24)

1. How long had the king of Sodom been living under the rule of Chedorlaomer, king of Elam?
2. As 14:1-10 tells us, four kings defeated five, yet 14:11-16 tells us Abram, with his 318 armed men, was able to defeat Chedorlaomer's forces. What was the secret?
3. What did the king of Sodom offer to Abram (14:21)? What was Abram's response?

VI. Melchizedek, King of Salem (Genesis 14:18-20, Hebrews 7:1-28)

1. What does King of Salem mean? What was Melchizedek the priest of?
2. What did Abram give to Melchizedek?
3. Be prepared to discuss the similarities between Melchizedek and Jesus in Hebrews 7.

I. Abram's Fears (Genesis 15)

1. What are some things that Abram might have been afraid of at this time in his life?
2. Who was Eliezer of Damascus, and what part did Abram think he might play in God's plan for his life? (2-3)

II. God's Answers (Genesis 15)

1. What promise did God make to reassure Abram? (4)
2. What illustration did God use to describe the promise of many descendants to Abram? (5)
3. How did Abram react to God's promise? (6) How did God react to Abram's reaction?
4. What did God direct Abram to do? (9-11) What distressing news did God have for Abram? (13) and what blessings did God promise to counter this news? (14-16)

III. Sarai's Proposal (Genesis 16:1-4)

1. How long had Abram & Sarai been in Canaan? (16:3) How old were Abram & Sarai at this time? (see 16:16 and 17:17)
2. What was Sarai's proposal to her husband Abram? What reasons did she give for suggesting this idea?
3. How did Hagar's attitude toward Sarai change after she conceived? (see Proverbs 20:21-23)

IV. Sarai & Hagar (Genesis 16:5-6)

1. Where does Sarai put the blame for Hagar's new disposition? What did Sarai do to Hagar?

V. The Lord Appears to Hagar (Genesis 16:7-14)

1. Where did Hagar go? Where did she seem to be heading, and why?
2. What command and promise did the Lord give to Hagar? (9-10)
3. What promises did the Lord have about the child Hagar carried? (11-12)

IV. The Birth of Ishmael (Genesis 16:15-16)

1. What is the meaning of the child's name?
2. How old was Abram when he was born?

I. Introduction

1. Before Genesis 17, is there any explicit promise from God that Sarai would be the biological mother of the child of promise?
2. In the thirteen years since the birth of Ishmael, who did Abram think was the child of promise?
3. Is there any record that God communicated with Abram & Sarai during those thirteen years?

II. The Covenant & The Sign (Genesis 17:1-18:15)

1. With what new name for Himself did the Lord appear to Abram? (1)
What command did he have for Abram? In what ways had Abram not been obeying this?
2. What covenant did God make with Abram in 17:2-8? What things are “new” in this covenant?
3. God changes the names of both Abram (17:5) and Sarai (17:15). What did the old names mean?
What are the new names, and what do they mean?
4. God introduces circumcision as a sign of this covenant (17:9-14) Who was subject to it? What purpose would this practice have with respect to the covenant?
5. Back in 16:10-12, the Lord made promises to Hagar about her and her son. Very likely she would have shared the news of those promises with Abram & Sarai upon her return to them. How might that account for Abraham’s reaction to God’s announcement that Sarah would be the mother of the child of promise? (17:15-17)
6. What “substitute” plan did Abraham offer to God, regarding another child being born, this time to Sarah? (17:18) What was God’s answer? (17:19-20)
7. How did Sarah appear to learn of her role in the promise? (18:9-11)
What was her reaction, and what lie did she tell, trying to cover for it?
8. What was to be the child’s name (17:19), what did it mean, and why? (17:17; 18:12)

I. God's Patience Comes to an End (Genesis 18:16-22)

1. Explain the expression, "... the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great..."
2. Explain what God did by going down to see Sodom and Gomorrah?

II. Abraham Attempts a Defense (Genesis 18:23-33)

1. Abraham asked, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?" Is it possible he wasn't just concerned about justice?
2. What were the numbers Abraham asked about? Why did Abraham keep reducing the numbers without looking for people?

III. Prelude to God's Judgment (Genesis 19:1-23)

1. Was Lot aware of the sin in the city of Sodom? Consider the two angels: why didn't they sleep in the street?
2. Was Lot a part of the city and its people? What word gives us a clue in 19:7?
3. When the men of Sodom threatened to break down his door, what did Lot offer as a compromise? What does this say about his moral judgment?
4. How did Lot and his daughters escape that night? Was God involved?
5. Compare Lot's reaction to his "call" to Abram's call in Ur. Does this show any differences in the values of the two men?

IV. Fire and Brimstone (Genesis 19:24-29)

1. Lot's wife turned back, suffering dire consequences. Is there a moral lesson that can be learned from this event? Are there any New Testament references that might apply?
2. What reason does Moses give for Lot being saved?

V. The Aftermath (Genesis 19:30-38, Deuteronomy 2:1-12, Luke 17:20-37, II Pet 2:1-11)

1. What final picture do we get of Lot family morals in the birth of Moab and Ben-Ammi?
2. Tell the rest of what we know about Lot after the events recorded in chapter 19.

I. She Is My Sister (Genesis 20)

1. What practice did Abimelech have, much as Pharaoh did?
2. What did Abraham do to fool Abimelech?
3. What did God do to save Sarah?
4. How did the king react? (Compare his statement in 20:4 with a statement in 18:23.)
5. Why didn't God send plagues on Abimelech?
6. When had Abraham and Sarah actually made their pact of deception?
7. How did Abraham fare from this adventure?
8. How did the king of Gerar fare?
9. In what ways is the story of Abraham and Abimelech different than the story of Abram and Pharaoh in Genesis 12:10-20?

II. Isaac is Born (Genesis 21:1-21, Galatians 4:21-31)

1. What does Isaac mean?
2. At the time of Isaac's birth, how old were Ishmael, Sarah, and Abraham?
3. Isaac was circumcised on the eighth day. Was Ishmael circumcised (17:23)?
4. What problem did they have with Ishmael? How was the problem solved?
5. What suggests that Abraham cared for Hagar and Ishmael?
6. What promise was made by God regarding Ishmael?
7. What people resulted from this promise?
8. What is the spiritual significance of Ishmael leaving?

III. The Covenant with Abimelech (Genesis 21:22-34)

1. Why did Abimelech make Abraham take an oath?
2. What is the name of the place where the covenant was made?
3. What did Abraham do, as recorded in 20:33?

1. What did God mean by referring to Isaac as Abraham's "only son"?
2. Did Abraham know he was supposed to offer Isaac?
3. How did he react when he found out?
4. Did Isaac know what was going on?
5. Was it unusual for Abraham to sacrifice?
6. How many days did it take Abraham to get to the place of sacrifice?
7. How might Abraham have rationalized the outcome of killing Isaac?
8. What gave Abraham the confidence to carry out God's order? Refer to Hebrews 11:17-19 and James 2:21-23 along with Genesis 22.
9. Logically, how must Abraham have felt about this sacrifice?
10. How can we explain the tremendous act of faith in offering Isaac?
11. What fourfold promise was made to Abraham at this point?
12. What similarities can you see between the sacrifice of Isaac and the sacrifice of Jesus?

I. The Death and Burial of Sarah (Genesis 23)

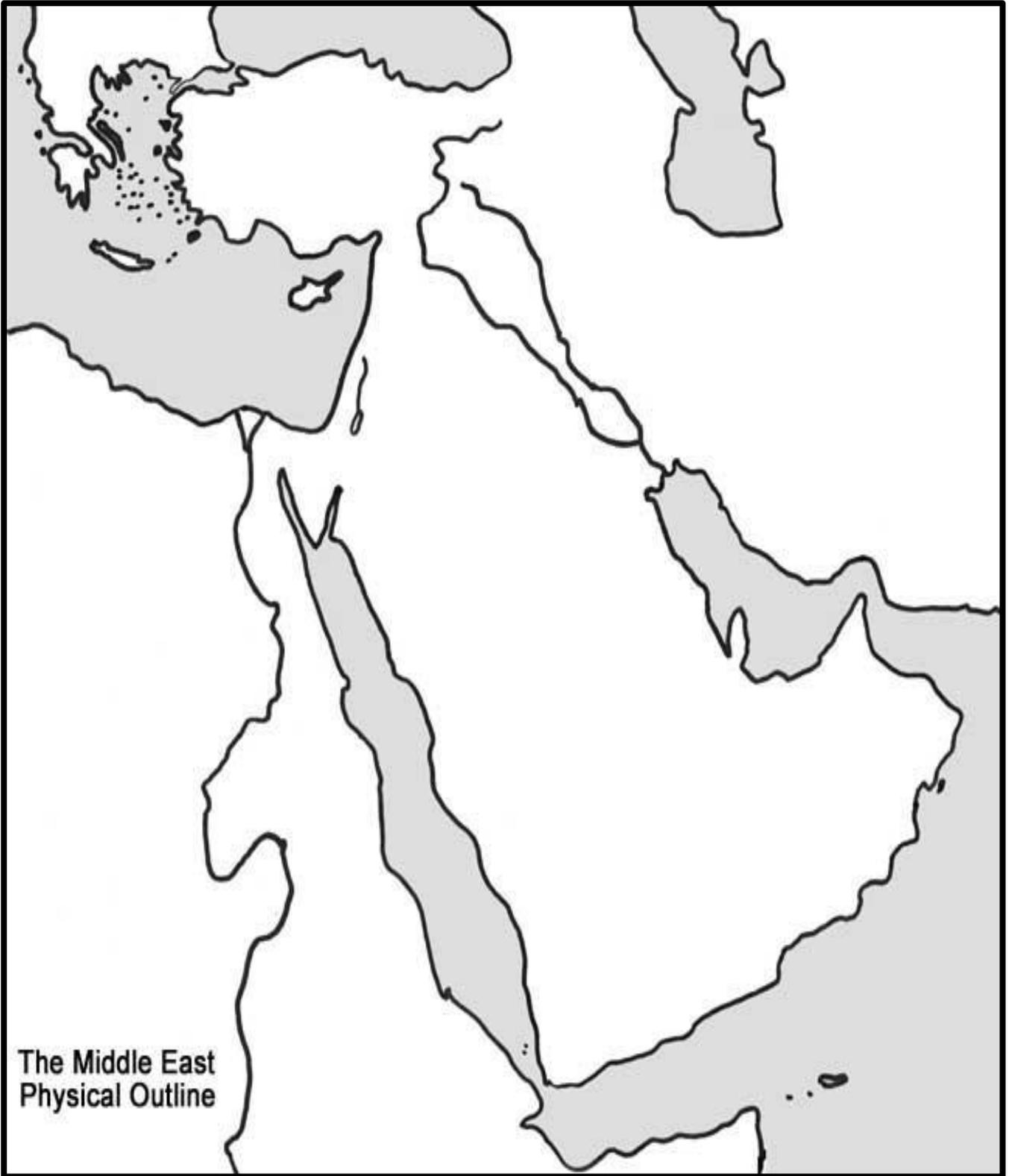
1. How old was Sarah when she died? (1)
2. What problem did Abraham have regarding burying his wife? (2-4)
3. What choices did he have for a location, and what did he choose? (5-9)
4. What sort of “haggling” goes on in this transaction (compare what Abraham wanted to purchase (9) with what Ephron wanted to sell him (11)) ?
5. What record do we have of Abraham owning any property?(20) In what way does that make him like Christ?

II. Abraham Arranges the Marriage of Isaac (Genesis 24)

1. Abraham was old, but there was one thing he wanted to be certain Isaac did. What promise did he ask of his most trusted servant? (1-4)
2. Where did the wife come from? What relation was she to Abraham?
3. Describe how the wife was to be obtained, and the “password” involved. (13-14)
4. What happened at the well in the city of Nahor? (15-20)
5. Describe Rebekah. (24:16)
6. When Rebekah eventually came to Isaac, what was one of the roles that she played? (67) How did Isaac feel about her?

III. The Death of Abraham (Genesis 25:1-11)

1. Abraham had several more children by another wife. Who was she? (1)
2. Abraham died “in a ripe old age, an old man and satisfied with life” – how old was he when he died? (7)
3. Who inherited Abraham’s possessions? (5-6) Who buried him, and where? (9-10)



The Middle East
Physical Outline