GENESIS 12:2-3 2025 GOD CALLS ABRAM -- Promises to Abraham!

6/28/25 - Sat. Morn. Prayer - P. Twente, https://www.ptwente.com ptwente@gmail.com 714 425-9221

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND:

- The Covenant (*Gen 12:1-3*) God had called Abraham in Ur of the Chaldees (*Acts 7:2-4*), but he had lingered at Haran until the death of his father (*Gen 11:27-32*). God demands total separation to Himself, even if death must accomplish it.
- This call was completely of grace and the blessings of the covenant wholly from the Lord's goodness. God promised to give Abraham (1) a land; (2) a great name; (3) a great nation; and (4) a blessing that would spread to the whole world. It took a good deal of faith for Abraham to respond to these promises for he had no children, and he and his wife were getting old (*Gen 11:30*). Note the repeated "*I will*" (5 times!) from the lips of God. God would do it all if only Abraham would believe. Certainly God has fulfilled His promises; for Israel has her land (and will get more); the Jews have blessed all nations by giving us the Bible and Christ; and Abraham's name is revered by Jews, Moslems, Christians, and even unbelievers.
- The men of Babel wanted to make a name for themselves and failed (*Gen 11:4*); but Abraham trusted God and God gave him a great name!

GENESIS 12:2-3 "I will make you a great nation."

- **God promised to make a nation from Abram**. He will have enough children and grandchildren and future descendants to populate a nation. Has God made good on His promises to Abraham?
- God has certainly brought from him a great nation, and it has probably the longest tenure as a nation of any people on this earth. No one can quite match them. In a literal sense, as the people of the Jews were that descended from him, and in a spiritual sense believers in all ages and of all nations, that walk in the steps of the faith of Abram, who are his children, and are blessed with him:

"<u>I will bless you</u>"

• Not only with temporal blessings, but principally with spiritual ones, since Abram in person had no share of the land of Canaan; even with the adoption of children and friendship with God; with justification by the imputed righteousness of Christ, which blessedness came upon him when uncircumcised; with a large measure of faith, and every other grace; with the sanctification of the Spirit, and an increase of it until brought to perfection; and with eternal glory and happiness, a right, title, and the full possession of it:

"And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing."

- God promised to bless Abram and to make his name great. There is probably no more honored name in history than the name of Abram, who is honored by Jews, Muslims, and Christians. As it was among the Jews his descendants, who boasted of having Abram for their father; and among the several nations of the world; his name is famous in profane history, and is in high esteem with the Muslims to this day; and especially his name is great and famous, and the memory of him precious among all those who have obtained like precious faith with him, in every age and in every nation:
- Has Abraham been a blessing to all mankind? Yes, through the Lord Jesus Christ he has been a blessing to the whole world. Also the entire Word of God has come to us through Abraham. To all that knew him and conversed with him, they received spiritual light and knowledge by means of his instruction, and to all that should hear and read of his faith

and piety, being encouraged by his example, that is, most blessed, exceedingly blessed; so a good man may be called blessing itself, extremely happy.

[3] "I will bless those who bless you,"

• Not the priests only that should bless his children, the children of Israel, but all men of all nations, and of every age, that speak well of him, commend him for his faith and holiness, and tread in his steps, these are blessed with faithful Abraham, (Gal_3:7) <u>"Therefore know</u> that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham."

And *I will curse him who curses you*.

- This remains true today and is a significant reason for the decline and death of many empires.
- When the Greeks overran Palestine and desecrated the altar in the Jewish temple, they were soon conquered by Rome. When Rome killed Paul and many others, and destroyed Jerusalem under Titus, Rome soon fell. Spain was reduced to a fifth-rate nation after the Inquisition against the Jews; Poland fell after the pogroms; Hitler's Germany went down after its total excesses of anti-Semitism; Britain lost her empire when she broke her faith with Israel.
- This is also one reason why the United States has been so blessed. The United States was one of the first modern nations to grant full citizenship and protection to Jewish people.
- This promise has also affected the church. The times when the church took upon itself the persecution of the Jewish people were dark times not only for the Jews, but also for the church.

"And <u>in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.</u>"

- Not only was Abram promised blessing, but God also promised to *make him* a blessing, even to the point where all the families of the earth would be blessed in Abram.
- 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. (Gal 3:8-9)
- And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation (Rev 5:9). The work of Jesus will touch every people group on the earth.
- Luther said the promise that in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed should be written in golden letters and should be extolled in the languages of all people, for who else has dispensed this blessing among all nations except the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ?"
- In his seed, as in (Gen 22:18) "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice." and which is interpreted of Christ, (Acts 3:25) "You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'AND IN YOUR SEED ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH SHALL BE BLESSED.'
- Meaning not every individual of all the families or nations of the earth; but that as many as believe in Christ, of all nations, are blessed in him; and that whoever of them are blessed, they are blessed and only blessed in him, and that they are blessed for his sake with all spiritual blessings; (Eph 1:3) "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ," such as redemption, justification, remission of sins, sanctification, adoption, and eternal life.

SUMMARY – GOD PROMISES TO ABRAM:

- Note the repeated "*I will*" from the lips of God. God would do it all if only Abraham would believe.
- I will ... show you a land!
- I will make you a great nation!
- I will bless you and make your name great and you shall be a blessing!
- I will bless those that bless you!
- I will curse him who curses you!
- *In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed,* foreseeing that **God would justify the Gentiles** *by faith,* preached the gospel to Abraham!

<u>Pray Today for State legislators – 119th Congress</u>: 100 Senators; 435 House of Representatives.

<u>Colorado</u> - Governor: Jared Polis; Lt. Gov. Diane Primavera; US Senators: John Hickenlooper, Michael Bennet; US Representatives (8): Diana DeGette, Joe Neguse, Jeff Hurd, Lauren Boebert, Jeff Crank, Jason Crow, Brittany Pettersen, Gabe Evans. <u>Connecticut</u> - Governor: Ned Lamont; Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz; US Senators: Richard Blumenthal, Chris Murphy; US Representative (5): John Larson, Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes, Jahana Hayes.

<u>Delaware</u> - Governor: *Matt Meyer*; Lt. Gov: *Kyle Gay*; US Senators: *Chris Coons, Lisa Blunt Rochester*; US Representatives (1): *Sarah McBride*.

<u>Florida</u> - Governor: *Ron DeSantis*; Lt. Gov. *Jeanette Nunez*; US Senators: *Ashley Moody*, *Rick Scott*; US Representatives (28): Dist. #1 vacant, *Neil Dunn, Kat Cammack, Aaron Bean, John Rutherford*, Dist. #6 vacant, *Cory Mills, Mike Haridopolos, Darren Soto*, *Maxwell Frost, Daniel Webster, Gus Bilirakis, Anna Luna, Kathy Castor, Laurel Lee*, *Vern Buchanan, Greg Steube, Scott Franklin, Byron Donalds, Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick, Brian Mast, Lois Frankel, Jared Moskowitz, Frederica Wilson, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Mario Diaz-Balart, Maria Salazar, Carlos Gimenez.*

<u>Georgia</u> - Governor: *Brian Kemp*; Lt. Gov. *Burt Jones*; US Senators: *Jon Ossoff, Raphael Warnock*; US Representatives (14): *Buddy Carter, Sanford Bishop, Brian Jack, Hank Johnson, Nikema Williams, Lucy McBath, Rich McCormick, Austin Scott, Andrew Clyde, Mike Collins, Barry Loudermilk, Rick Allen, David Scott, Margorie Taylor Greene.*

<u>Hawaii</u> - Governor: Joshua Booth Green; Lt. Gov. Sylvia Luke; US Senators: Mazie

Hirono, Brain Schatz; US Representatives (2): Ed Case, Jill Tokuda.

<u>Idaho</u> - Governor: **Brad Little**; Lt. Gov. **Scott Conrad Bedke**; US Senators: **Mike Crapo**, **Jim Risch**; US Representatives (2): **Russ Fulcher**, **Mike Simpson**.

<u>Illinois</u> - Governor: J.B Pritzker; Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton; US Senators: Dick Durbin, Tammy Duckworth; US Representatives (17): Jonathan Jackson, Robin Kelly, Delia Ramirez, Chuy Garcia, Mike Quigley, Sean Casten, Danny Davis, Raja Krishnamoorthi, Jan Schakowsky, Brad Schneider, Bill Foster, Mike Bost, Nikki Budzinski, Lauren Underwood, Mary Miller, Darren LaHood. Eric Sorenson.

Indiana - Governor Mike Braun; Lt. Gov. Micah Beckwith; US Senators: Jim Banks, Todd Young; US Representatives (9): Frank Mrvan, Rudy Yakym, Marlin Stutzman, Jim Baird, Victoria Spartz, Jefferson Shreve, Andre Carson, Mark Messmer, Erin Houchin.

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE Thomas Oliver - ben Judah/Yigdal (Leoni) (3:20)

1 The God of Abraham praise, Who reigns enthroned above; Ancient of everlasting days, And God of Love; Jehovah, great I AM! By earth and Heav'n confessed; I bow and bless the sacred name Forever blessed.

2 The God of Abraham praise, At whose supreme command From earth I rise—and seek the joys At His right hand; I all on earth forsake, Its wisdom, fame, and power; And Him my only portion make, My shield and tower.

3 He by Himself has sworn; I on His oath depend, I shall, on eagle wings upborne, To Heav'n ascend. I shall behold His face; I shall His power adore, And sing the wonders of His grace Forevermore.

4 The whole triumphant host Give thanks to God on high; Hail Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, They ever cry: Hail Abraham's God and mine! I join the heavenly lays All might and majesty are thine, And endless praise.