



INTENDED FOR GOOD

THE BOOK OF GENESIS



“Out of the prevailing godlessness, he called one man and his family and promised to bless not only them, but through them, the whole world.”

John Stott,

The Living God is a Missionary God



In the first eleven chapters of Genesis, God dealt with the whole earth en masse: The creation. The family of Adam. The flood of Noah. The tower of Babel. God repeatedly demonstrated that the earth as a whole was bent toward corruption and destruction. The word “earth” occurs ninety-two times in Genesis 1–11. Starting in Genesis 12, however, God launched a brilliant plan to provide redemption for all humanity. He chose one man—Abraham—and gave Him a set of seven [my note: some see only six] remarkable promises.

Commentary, Preceptaustin.com



GENESIS 12:1

The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you.”



HEBREWS 11:8

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.



1 THESSALONIANS 4:3

God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.



The life of Abraham is an example for all Christians who want to walk by faith. Abraham was saved by faith (Gen. 15:6; Rom. 4:1–5; Gal. 3:6–14) and lived by faith (Heb. 11:8–19), and his obedience was the evidence of his faith (James 2:14–26). Abraham obeyed when he did not know where (Heb. 11:8–10), how (vv. 11–12), when (vv. 13–16), or why (vv. 17–19); and so should we. Abraham and Sarah were not perfect, but their walk was generally characterized by faith and faithfulness. When they sinned, they suffered for it; and the Lord was always ready to forgive when they repented. “The victorious Christian life,” said George Morrison, “is a series of new beginnings.” As you study the life of Abraham and Sarah, you will learn what faith is and how to walk by faith. You will discover that, when you trust the Lord, no test is impossible and no failure is permanent.

(Warren Wiersbe, Be Obedient)



GENESIS 12:2-4

I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”

So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.



GALATIANS 3:8-9

What's more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, "All nations will be blessed through you." So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.



Worldview Issues

- Abraham believed God's promises and God has blessed the world through Abraham's descendant, His Son, Jesus.
- God brought Jesus into the world through Abraham's descendants, the Jewish people.
- God has promises to Israel that are not yet fulfilled, and we must still bless this great nation from Abraham (see Romans 11).



GALATIANS 3:16

God gave the promises to Abraham and his child. And notice that the Scripture doesn't say "to his children," as if it meant many descendants. Rather, it says "to his child" —and that, of course, means Christ.

