

Session 2: The Promised Kingdom

Apprentice Track Workshop: Biblical Story

1) Genesis 12-50 - Summary and Outline

a) Summary: *God is making a gracious covenant with one man and his descendants which will bless the entire world. In this covenant God has promised to be their God. He also promises, unilaterally, that they will be His special _____, that they will live in the _____ of His choosing, and that they will enjoy a unique relationship with Him, under His _____.*

b) OUTLINE:

i) Abraham (Genesis 12-24)

ii) Isaac (Genesis 25-27)

iii) Jacob (Genesis 28-50)

2) GOD AND ABRAHAM (Genesis 12-24)

a) Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-20; 17:1-14)

(1) God's opening words to Abraham are words of promise, words of covenant.

(2) What is a covenant? A covenant is an _____-bound _____ between two or more parties. So God here is binding himself to Abraham and his descendants in a relationship with them making unilateral one-sided promises to them.

(3) Covenant or promise is one of the major themes in all of Scripture. God is a promising, covenant making, covenant-keeping God and these covenants, especially his covenant with Abraham form the backbone, the _____ of the whole bible.

ii) Components of the Abrahamic Covenant

(1) Overflowing Blessing

(a) This word blessing is repeated 5 times in two verses. It is by far the most _____ idea in this promise. God would bless Abraham and his nation in order to bless others.

(b) Blessed to be a blessing - God will _____ the curse through the _____ of one man and his descendants.

(2) A Great Nation

(a) Land (Genesis 12:6-9; 13:14-18; 15:18-21)

(i) Through his promise to Abraham, God plans to reestablish a place like _____.

(ii) Abraham lived in the promised land, BUT he never _____ it (except cf. Genesis 23:4-9; 25:9-10).

(iii) But God is not in a _____ he _____ things!

(b) People (Genesis 13:16; 17:1-6)

(i) Idea #1: _____ – God’s answer: _____!

(ii) Idea #2: _____ and _____ – God’s answer: _____!

(iii) Idea #3: _____ – Sarah’s reaction: _____!

(c) Government

(i) This aspect of God’s plan is _____ clear in the story of Abraham.

(ii) God _____ and _____ and interacts with Abraham throughout his life. God is with him and leading him like a king.

(iii) God gives Abraham a glimpse at the future monarchy of _____. (Genesis 17:16)

b) GOD AND ISAAC (Genesis 25-27):

- i) Is Isaac the promised seed? _____.
- ii) He is simply a _____ figure from Abraham to rest of his line.

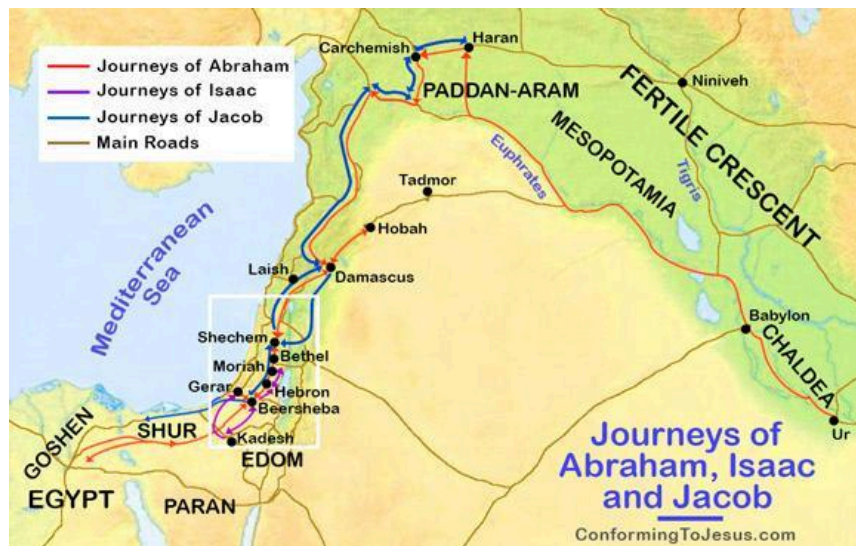
c) GOD AND JACOB (Genesis 28-50)

i) People:

- (1) Jacob has _____ sons.
- (2) We finally move from addition to _____.

ii) Land

- (1) Jacob is forced to live much of his life _____ the promised land because he is so afraid of living near Esau.



- (2) Joseph is the gateway to _____. But this is a colossal step _____ regarding the promised land and their status as a nation.

iii) Government

(1) Will the seed of the women come through Joseph's line? No, but through his brother Judah.

(2) A coming king who will put down the neck of his enemies. **Genesis 49:8-12**

iv) Blessing

(1) God _____ Jacob's enemies while fabulously blessing him to the benefit of his _____.

3) Conclusion

a) King/Kingdom -

b) Presence –

a) Promise – Passing between two animal carcasses (Genesis 15)

(1) - "if I don't hold up my end of the _____, may it be done to me as it was done to these _____."¹

(2) Only God takes on the risk of the curses of the covenant.

(3) This is a covenant God will deliver on regardless of Abraham's obedience.

¹ But notice that Abraham does not pass through the dead animals. Only God does. And notice that there are no obligations for Abraham to keep up his end of the covenant. There are only promises coming down from God! This covenant is completely unilateral, in that God has set all the terms, and entirely unconditional. God *will* keep these promises regardless of Abraham's and his descendants' actions. Now, this does not mean that Abraham's descendants will have no obligations at all. They will receive some duties in Genesis 17, but the bulk of Israel's covenant responsibilities will be given from Mount Sinai, after God leads them out of slavery through His servant Moses. More on that later. The point is that the promise comes before the obligations. So while Israel has real duties, and there will be real consequences if they are not faithful, the promises will still stand. This is because God's plan of redemption, of which this is a part, depends on *His* grace and His desire to renew the universe with a renewed humanity in it. It does not depend on sinful man. We've seen how far sinful man has gotten. **Galatians 3:17-18**: "The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. For if the inheritance depends on the law, then it no longer depends on a promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a promise."