

text:

The Promise: Abraham

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Sunday July 24, 2011

So far the story of the Bible begins with...
CREATION then it leads to the FALL. Because of Adam and Eve's choice to disobey God, sin entered into a perfect world.

THE PROMISE OF A RAINBOW: (NOAH)

"The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. So the LORD said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them. But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD." Genesis 6:5-8

"Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him. 'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you. I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth'" Genesis 6:8,9,13

THE PROMISE OF A BLESSING: (ABRAHAM)

- RICH
- RESPECTED
- RELIGIOUS

"So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." Galatians 3:6

ABRAHAM WAS A MAN OF REAL FAITH

"Then the LORD told Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you. I will cause you to become the father of a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and I will make you a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the families of the earth will be blessed through you. So Abram departed as the LORD had instructed him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran." Genesis 12:1-4

TEST #1

THE PROBLEM - God needed a family line to PRODUCE the Messiah who would be the SAVIOR OF THE WORLD

THE PROPOSAL - START with Abraham

THE PRICE - Abraham was asked to LEAVE HIS COUNTRY HIS CULTURE AND HIS PEOPLE

TEST #2

"At that time there was a severe famine in the land, so Abram went down to Egypt to wait it out. As he was approaching the borders of Egypt..." Genesis 12:10-11

THE PROBLEM - They might KILL ME to get you

"Abram said to Sarai, "You are a very beautiful woman. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'this is his wife. Let's kill him; then we can have her!' Genesis 12:11-12

THE PROPOSAL – Tell the Egyptians you are MY SISTER

"But if you say you are my sister, then the Egyptians will treat me well because of their interest in you, and they will spare my life. And sure enough, when they arrived in Egypt, everyone spoke of her beauty." Genesis 12:13-14

THE PRICE – It COST EVERYBODY

"When the palace officials saw her, they sang her praises to their king, the pharaoh, and she was taken into his harem. Then Pharaoh gave Abram many gifts because of her sheep, cattle, donkeys, male and female servants, and camels. But the LORD sent a terrible plague upon Pharaoh's household because of Sarai, Abram's wife. So Pharaoh called for Abram and accused him sharply. 'What is this you have done to me?' he demanded. 'Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? Why were you willing to let me marry her, saying she was your sister? Here is your wife! Take her and be gone!' Pharaoh then sent them out of the country under armed escort—Abram and his wife, with all their household and belongings. Genesis 12:15-20

TEST #3

THE PROBLEM - NO SON

THE PROPOSAL – SLEEP with my servant Hagar

“But Sarai, Abram’s wife, had no children. So Sarai took her servant, an Egyptian woman named Hagar, and gave her to Abram so she could bear his children. ‘The LORD has kept me from having any children,’ Sarai said to Abram. ‘Go and sleep with my servant. Perhaps I can have children through her. And Abram agreed.’” Genesis 16:1-6

THE PRICE - RESENTMENT, REBELLION, REJECTION, and RIVALRY

“So Abram slept with Hagar, and she became pregnant. When Hagar knew she was pregnant, she began to treat her mistress Sarai with contempt.” Genesis 16:4

“‘It’s all your fault! Now this servant of mine is pregnant, and she despises me, though I myself gave her the privilege of sleeping with you. The LORD will make you pay for doing this to me!’ Abraham replied, ‘Since she is your servant, you may deal with her as you see fit.’” Genesis 16:5

TEST #4

THE PROBLEM – SACRIFICE your son

“Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.” Genesis 22: 1-2

THE PROMISE – God will PROVIDE A WAY

“Abraham answered, ‘God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.’ And the two of them went on together.” Genesis 22: 8

THE PRICE - God PROVIDED A SACRIFICIAL RAM

“Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, ‘On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.’” Genesis 22:13-14

TIME WITH GOD

Monday – read Genesis 6-9.

What do these verses say about God?

What do they say about me?

How can I apply this to my life?

Pray and praise God for his tremendous promise to Noah.

Tuesday – read Genesis 10-11

What do these verses say about God?

What do they say about me?

How can I apply this to my life?

Pray for our world today and that God’s kingdom peace would rule and reign.

Wednesday – read Genesis 12-15

What do these verses say about God?

What do they say about me?

How can I apply this to my life?

Pray and ask God to increase your faith.

Thursday – read Genesis 16-20

What do these verses say about God?

What do they say about me?

How can I apply this to my life?

Pray for our church, our pastors and our community that God would move in a mighty way.

Friday – read Genesis 21-22

What do these verses say about God?

What do they say about me?

How can I apply this to my life?

Praise God for his provisions in your life and how he gave us his Son as our sacrifice.

Saturday – read Hebrews 11

What do these verses say about God?

What do they say about me?

How can I apply this to my life?

Pray that God would increase your faith.