

In The Beginning

The Prophetic Trip to Egypt

Abram enters the promised land ...Gen.12:4-9

What may be the meaning of ‘persons they had acquired’? vs. 4-5

Some think this may be others trusting the Lord because of Abram’s influence.

The Lord now shows Abram where he is to go. Where is it? vs.5 Comment? 9:25

The promised land is Canaan, occupied by the direct descendants of Ham, cursed.

What is the likely significance of ‘the oak of Moreh’? vs.6

The Canaanites were idol worshipers and had shrines in groves. Likely a major one.

What happened at this point? vs.7 Abram’s response?

The Lord promises to give this land to his descendants. Abram built an altar to the Lord.

Where does Abram seem to be headed? vs.8-9

Toward the Negev, which is a barren desert south of Canaan. Unclear reason for this...

Abram leaves the promised land. The nation foretold ...Gen.12:10-20

Why did Abram head for Egypt? vs.10 Why did Jacob later head for Egypt? 47:13

Because of famine in Canaan, both times. It’s not clear Abram was walking by faith here.

What ‘tiny’ lie did Abram involve Sarai in? vs.13 Why? vs.12-13

The Egyptians could kill Abram (as husband) to have her. As her brother, permission

Comment on this situation. Is Abram acting in faith? vs.7 What about Sarai?

God’s promise was through Sarai. Abram was putting her in jeopardy. No faith here

What was threatened from the Egyptians that was later duplicated for Israel? 12:12; Ex.1:22

To kill the males and save the females. This action later brought Moses to the forefront.

But who wants Sarai? vs.15 Resulting? 12:16; 13:2 Later? Ex.12:35-36

The Pharaoh of Egypt. And Abram gets wealthy. Later Israel spoils Egypt!

And how does the Lord intervene to save Sarai? vs.17 And later for the nation? Ex.7:14-11:10

HE sends plagues on Egypt/Pharaoh. The parallel is unmistakable.

When Pharaoh figures out why the plagues, what does he do? 12:18-19 Later? Ex.12:31

He thrusts him (later them) out. Arise and GO! The Lord directs His people...

When Abram (and later, Israel) leave Egypt, where do they go? 13:1; Num. 13:17

In both cases they head for the Negev, southern Canaan. Desert area near fertile valleys.

Discussion:

What do you think about Abram’s deception regarding Sarai?

How has the Lord provided a ‘prophetic event’ to encourage believers today?