

Old Testament Stories

for Levels 1-4

As told by
Bettye Garrett

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THE CREATION

Genesis 1

In the beginning god created the heavens and the earth. This is the first verse of the first chapter of Genesis. The word Genesis means beginning. The book of Genesis tells of the beginning of the world and all things in the world. This first verse of Genesis tells us what God did in the beginning, and the rest of chapter one and chapter two tells us how God created everything.

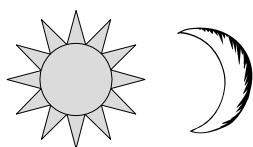


In the beginning the world was in total darkness. There was no light anywhere on the earth. The earth was without form, and it was empty but covered with water. The Spirit of God moved over the top of the waters, and God spoke saying, **“Let there be light.”**

Suddenly there was light!! God saw that the light was good, so He divided the light from the darkness. He called the light day and He called the darkness night. This was the first day.

God spoke again saying, “Let the waters on the earth be separated from the waters above the earth. Let there be a space to divide the waters above from the waters below.” It happened just as God commanded. On the second day God created the sky (or firmament) and He called it the heavens. (This is not heaven where God lives but our sky.)

On the third day God spoke and commanded that the waters on the earth be gathered together so the dry land could appear. It happened just as God commanded. God called the dry land EARTH and He called the gathered waters SEAS. Again God spoke and commanded the dry land to bring forth grass, trees, and all kinds of plant life that grows upon the earth. Just as God had commanded the earth



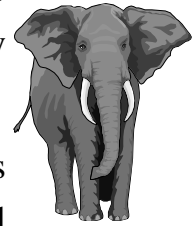
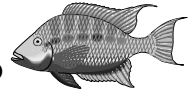
brought forth living, growing plants. God created the plants and trees full grown, and He commanded them to multiply and reproduce more of their own kind. God did not have to plant little seeds and wait years

Level 1A

for them to grow! He simply commanded the earth to grow these things and it happened! So on the third day God created the land, the seas, grass, plants, and trees. And God saw that it was good.



On the fourth day God spoke and created a great light to rule the day and a lesser light to rule the night. He set them in the sky to give light on the earth and to rule over the days and the seasons. So God created the sun, moon, and stars, and He saw that they were good.



On the fifth day God commanded the sky to be filled with all kinds of birds and winged creatures. He commanded the seas to be filled with all kinds of fishes and sea creatures. And it happened exactly as God commanded. God created the birds and fishes and sea creatures full grown, and He commanded them to multiply and reproduce and fill the sky and the sea. God saw this new creation and it was good.



On the sixth day God commanded the earth to bring forth all kinds of beasts, and animals, and creeping things that live upon the land. Just as God commanded, the earth filled with all kinds of full-grown animals and creeping things. God told them to multiply and reproduce more of their own kind.

Then God said, “*Let us make a man in our own image, in our likeness.*” So God created man in the image of God. He created both a male and a female and told them to reproduce more of their own kind. God saw everything that He created on the sixth day (the animals, creeping things, and man), and it was good. God looked upon all these things He had created and it was all very good. So God rested on the seventh day because He was finished with His work of creation.

In the next lesson we will learn just how God made the man and the woman. Today we have learned that God created everything on the earth. He created it from nothing, and He did it by speaking. We have also learned that God created everything

full grown and commanded it to multiply and reproduce more of its own kind. God saw that His creation was very good so He rested ... which means He stopped creating things ... He was finished!

STORY QUIZ

1. Who created the heavens and the earth?
2. When were the heavens and earth created?
3. How did God create all things?
4. What did God see about everything He created?
5. What did God command every living thing to do?
6. Why did God rest on the seventh day?
7. In what image did God create man?
8. In what stage of growth were all living things created?
9. What conditions existed on earth in the beginning?
10. When did God create woman?

Memory Verse Level One

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Genesis 1:1-2

Memory Goal Level One THE DAYS OF CREATION

- Day 1 Light (divided it into day and night).
- Day 2 Sky (also called the heavens or firmament).
- Day 3 Land, Seas, Grass, Plants, and Trees.
- Day 4 Sun, Moon, and Stars.
- Day 5 Birds and Fishes.
- Day 6 Animals, creeping things, and man.
- Day 7 God saw that it was very good and He rested.

ANSWERS:
 1. God; 2. In the beginning; 3. By speaking; 4. It was good; 5. Reproduce and multiply;
 6. He was finished; 7. God's image; 8. Full grown; 9. dark, empty, formless;
 10. Last on the 6th day.

THE CREATION OF MAN

Genesis 2

In our last lesson we learned how God created the world and all things in the world by giving spoken commands. God prepared the earth for man. He did not create the man until all other things were created, and the earth was then ready to support man.

God created man in the image of God. This means that man was created by God, and he is like God. No one knows what God really looks like, but we know He is a Spirit. Man was given a Spirit (or soul) and the ability to think and reason. It is in these ways that man is like God.

God created man from the dust of the earth, and He breathed into the man and the man became a living soul. God had planted a garden eastward in Eden, and it was in that garden that God placed the man. In this garden in Eden there grew every tree that was good for food and pleasant to look at. In the middle of the garden there grew two very special trees the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. The earth was watered by a mist which rose up from the ground (for God did not yet cause it to rain on the earth.) A river flowed through the garden to water it, and when the river



left the garden it became four rivers, the Pishon, the Gihon, the Tigris, and the Euphrates.

God put the man in the garden in Eden and told the man to take care of the garden. God commanded man, *“You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”*

God said, *“It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”* So God sent all the animals to the man. The man gave each animal a name, but there was not one of them suitable for man's companion. So God caused a deep sleep to come upon the man, and while the man slept God opened up his side and took out one of the man's ribs. From the man's rib God created a woman and gave her to the man. And the man said, *“This is part of my bones and part of my flesh. She shall be called woman for she was taken out of man.”* The man and his woman were both naked,



but they were not ashamed. (They were not ashamed because there was not any evil in the world, yet.)

From this lesson we see that God created man and gave him a work to do. God does not intend that man sit around doing nothing. He has work for all of us. God created the woman to be man's helper and companion. She was God's gift to man. God gave the woman a very special place in life, and He intends for her to fill the position He gave her. The man should be very careful to love and cherish and protect this very special gift which was given to Him by the Creator.

STORY QUIZ

1. In what image was man created?
2. What is God?
3. From what was man created?
4. Where did God put the man?
5. Name two special trees which grew in the garden?
6. How was the earth watered in the beginning?
7. Who gave names to the animals?
8. What tree could man not eat from?
9. What was the penalty for eating this fruit?
10. From what did God create a companion for the man?

Memory Verse Level One

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Genesis 1:1-2

Memory Goal Level One

THE DAYS OF CREATION

- Day 1.....Light (divided it into day and night).
Day 2.....Sky (also called the heavens or firmament).
Day 3.....Land, Seas, Grass, Plants, and Trees.
Day 4.....Sun, Moon, and Stars.
Day 5.....Birds and Fishes.
Day 6.....Animals, creeping things, and man.
Day 7.....God saw that it was very good and He rested.

ANSWERS: 1. God's 2. A Spirit 3. Dust 4. Garden in Eden 5. Tree of Life and Tree of Knowledge 6. A mist from the ground 7. Man 8. Tree of Knowledge 9. Death 10. Man's rib

ADAM AND EVE

Genesis 3

In our last lesson we learned how God created man and woman and put them in the beautiful garden in Eden. He told them that they could eat from every tree in the garden except one the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. We learned that the man and woman were naked, but they were not ashamed because there was no evil in the world.

Now the serpent was the most sly creature God created. The devil entered the serpent and spoke to the woman saying, “Did God tell you not to eat from all these trees in this garden?” The woman answered the serpent, “We may eat from every tree in the garden except the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. God said if we eat from it we shall surely die!” Then the serpent lied and said, “You will not surely die! God knows when you eat the fruit of this tree you will become wise like a god, knowing good from evil.

The woman looked at the fruit on the Tree of Knowledge. She saw that it was pretty, and it looked delicious, and she desired it because it would make her wise. So the woman took the forbidden fruit and ate from it, and she gave some to her husband, and he ate it also. Suddenly their eyes were open, and they knew good from evil. They saw that they were naked, and they were ashamed. They sewed fig leaves together to make aprons to cover their naked bodies.



Level 2A

In the cool of the evening, they heard the Lord God walking in the garden, and they were ashamed so they hid among the trees. God called to them, "***Man, where are you?***" The man answered, "We heard you in the garden, and we were ashamed because we are naked." God said, "***Who told you that you are naked? Did you eat from the tree I told you not to eat not to even touch?***" The man said to God, "This woman You gave me took the fruit and ate it, then she gave it to me and I ate." God said, "***Woman, what have you done?***" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me and I ate it."

God cursed the serpent for what he had done. God said, "***You are cursed more than any other creature on earth. You will crawl on your belly and eat dust for all the days of your life.***" (Until this time the serpent must have had legs.)



God also cursed the devil which was in the serpent and made the first prophecy concerning Christ the Savior. God said, "***I will put hatred between you and the seed of woman. You will bruise His heel, but he shall crush your head.***" We know from Bible study that Jesus Christ is the man always referred to as 'the seed of woman'. When Jesus died on the cross, the devil hurt him (bruised his heel) But Jesus rose from the dead and crushed the power of Satan, who is the ruler of death.

God spoke then to the woman saying, "***You will have great pain when you have babies, and your husband shall have the rule over you.***" To the man God said, "***Because you listened to the woman and ate the fruit from the tree of which I said not ot eat, even the ground is cursed because of you. You will have to work hard to have food for your family. You will work and sweat all the days of your life. Thorns and thistles will grow up and you will have to work hard for your food. You are made of dust and you will return to dust!***"

The man called his wife Eve because she is the mother of all living; the man was called Adam. God made clothes from the skins of animals and clothed the man and woman, then God sent them out of the beautiful garden in Eden. At the east of the garden God, placed cherubim and a flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the Tree of Life, so man could not eat from it now and live forever.



God created a wonderful world for the man, and He gave the man a wonderful home in Eden. Man had everything he needed for complete happiness, but he wanted more. He disobeyed God's commandment and lost everything. God has given us everything we need for happiness. He even sent His Only Son to die for our sins, so that we could have everlasting life. Adam sinned so he had to die. He died SPIRITUALLY that very day, and he died physically when he was nine hundred thirty years old. When we disobey God we also die SPIRITUALLY, but God loves us so much that He sent His Son to die in our place. All we have to do to live with God forever is keep His commandments.

STORY QUIZ

1. Why were the man and woman not ashamed of their nakedness?
2. Who spoke to the woman about the fruit in the garden?
3. What lie did the serpent tell the woman?
4. Why did the woman desire to eat the forbidden fruit?
5. What tree was forbidden to the man and woman?
6. What were the first clothes made from?
7. On whom did the man blame his sin?
8. On whom did the woman blame her sin?
9. Who is the “seed of woman” prophesied about in Genesis 2?
10. What tree did God guard to keep man away from it?

Memory Verse Level Two

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise, that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. Ephesians 6:1-2

Memory Goal Level 2

Lineage to Christ from Genesis, 1 Chronicles, & Matthew

God	Adam	Seth	Enos
Kenan	Mahalaleel	Jared	Enoch
Methuselah	Lamech	Noah	Shem
Arphaxad	Shelah	Eber	Peleg

ANSWERS: 1. There was no evil. 2. Serpent 3. You will not die. 4. It would make her wise. 5. Tree of Knowledge 6. Fig leaves 7. God & woman 8. Serpent 9. Jesus 10. Tree of Life

CAIN AND ABEL

Genesis 4

In our last lesson we learned that Adam and Eve sinned by eating the fruit which God commanded them not to eat. God sent them out of their beautiful garden home in Eden. Now they would have to work hard to grow food for their family.

Adam and Eve's first son was called Cain, and he grew up to become a farmer or tiller of the ground. Their second son was Abel and he grew up to become a shepherd.

One day when they both were grown-up, the sons of Adam brought gifts to God



as worship commanded by God. Cain brought fruits and vegetables that he had grown in the ground. Abel brought his best young lamb to offer it to God. Now God was pleased with Abel's offering but Cain's offering did not please God. (No one knows why Cain's offering did not please God. We know that God must have told him what to offer and how to offer it. Maybe Cain brought the wrong thing as an offering or maybe his attitude was wrong. We just know that something was wrong with Cain or with his offering for it did not please God.)

Cain was angry with his brother.

God spoke to Cain and said, “Cain, why are you angry? If you had done right then you would be happy now. Since you did wrong, sin is very near you, and you must be careful or you will commit sin.” Cain told Abel what God said to him.

One day while out in a field, Cain rose up and murdered his brother, Abel. God called out, “*Cain, where is your brother, Abel?*” Cain said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?”



God said, *“Your brother’s blood cries to me from the ground. Now you are cursed!! When you work the ground, it will not grow crops for you. You will become a wanderer and a vagabond on the earth.”*

Cain said, “My punishment is too hard!! You are driving me out away from my home and my family, and You will be hidden from me. I will wander over the earth and whoever finds me will kill me.” So God put

a mark on Cain so no one would kill him. Cain went out from the presence of the Lord God and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Adam and Eve had another son after Cain left home, and they called him Seth. It is the family of Seth that we will be studying as we go through our lessons together. Cain displeased God, but instead of being sorry, he was angry at his brother who had pleased God. He should have been sorry and repented, instead, he sinned by murdering his own brother. God wants us to be sorry when we do not please Him. He wants us to be sorry and repent. If we repent of our sins God will forgive us and forget what we did wrong.



No one knows what kind of mark God put on Cain, but it was something to keep other people from killing him. Some Bible scholars believe that Cain was the first giant. There is, of course, no way to prove this, but it is the most logical theory I have ever heard. We do know that giants were on the earth before and after the flood. It is possible that Cain was the first one of these large people ... that would certainly discourage people from attacking and killing him!

STORY QUIZ

1. Who was the first son of Adam and Eve?
2. Who was the second son of Adam and Eve?
3. What was Cain's occupation?
4. What was Abel's occupation?
5. What did Cain take to God as a sacrifice?
6. What did Abel take to God as a sacrifice?
7. Whose offering pleased God?
8. Who said "My punishment is too hard."?
9. What did God put on Cain to keep others from killing him?
10. Who is the son of Adam born after Abel's death?

Memory Verse Level Two

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise, that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth. Ephesians 6:1-2

Memory Goal Level 2

Lineage to Christ from Genesis, 1 Chronicles, & Matthew

God	Adam	Seth	Enos
Kenan	Mahalaleel	Jared	Enoch
Methuselah	Lamech	Noah	Shem
Arphaxad	Shelah	Eber	Peleg

ANSWERS: 1. Cain, 2. Abel, 3. Farmer, 4. Shepherd, 5. Fruit of the ground, 6. His best lamb, 7. Abel's, 8. Cain, 9. A mark, 10. Seth

NOAH

Genesis 5-7:17

In our last lesson we learned about the death of Abel, how God sent Cain away, and the birth of Adam's son Seth. It is the descendants of Seth we will be studying.

Adam lived to be nine hundred thirty years old, and he had many sons and daughters. Seth lived to be nine hundred twelve, and he had many sons and daughters. Seth's son, Enosh, lived to be nine hundred five years old, and his son Kenan lived to be nine hundred ten. Kenan's son, Mahalaleel, lived to be eight hundred ninety-five, and his son Jared lived to be nine hundred sixty-two. Enoch, son of Jared, was a righteous man and God took him alive to heaven when he was three hundred sixty-five. Enoch's son, Methuselah, lived longer than any other man. He was nine hundred sixty-nine when he died (he died the year of the great flood). Lamech, son of Methuselah, died at seven hundred seventy-seven years. Lamech was the father of Noah. Noah was the father of three sons, Japheth, Shem, and Ham.

By this time (about 1600 years since Adam's creation), the people of the earth had become very wicked. The Bible says that their thoughts and imaginations were evil continually. So God was sorry that He had ever made man and He decided to destroy the man and all living things which He had created.

But Noah was a righteous man who walked with God, and Noah was found favorable in the eyes of God. God said to Noah, ***“The end of all living things is coming. For the earth is filled with evil and I am sorry I ever made man. I will send my flood of water upon the earth to destroy it.***



Now Noah, make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Cover it inside and outside with pitch (tar). Make rooms in the ark, and a window, and a door. The ark shall have three floors and many stalls or nests. You shall make the ark three hundred cubits long (450 feet), fifty cubits wide (75 feet), and thirty cubits tall (45 feet).

Noah did everything just exactly as God commanded him. Noah and his family

Level 3A

worked and prepared this great ship ark. Noah preached to the people and begged them to repent, but they did not listen. Finally when the ark was finished, God told Noah to go into the ark with his wife, sons and sons' wives. God commanded Noah to take in the animals, two by two, the male and his female, to keep them alive. God commanded



Noah to take seven of all CLEAN animals and birds. Noah was to take two (one male and one female) of each UNCLEAR animal. The animals came to Noah, and he took them into the ark with him.

Taking seven of each clean animal would leave one without a mate. Following the flood Noah offered sacrifices to God one of each clean animal. This would explain the one without a mate. Clean animals were ones that could be sacrificed.

When Noah and all his family and the animals were inside the ark, God closed the door and

no man could open it. For seven days they remained in the ark and nothing happened!! Then God opened the windows of heaven and the fountains and springs of the earth burst forth with water. The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and the flood of water rose higher and higher on the earth. But the ark was lifted up, and it floated on the water.

Noah had great faith and trust in God. Noah had never seen rain (remember the earth was watered by a mist from the ground), but he believed God and built the ark. An ark is more than just a boat. An ark is a place to safely keep things that are precious to God. (We will study about some other arks as we go through our lessons together.)

Noah believed God, and he did everything exactly like God told him to do it. We should try very hard to be like Noah ... we should try to obey God, even if we do not understand all the reasons for His commands.

STORY QUIZ

1. What man was taken to heaven when he was 365 years old?
2. What man lived to be 969 years old?
3. What was the condition of mankind about 1600 years after creation?
4. What righteous man found favor in the eyes of God?
5. What did God tell Noah to build?
6. What is the definition of Ark as given in this lesson?
7. How many of each species of unclean animals went into the ark?
8. How many of each species of clean animals went into the ark?
9. How many people went into the ark?
10. How long did the rain fall upon the earth?

Memory Verse Level Three

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:3

Memory Goal Level 3

Lineage to Christ from Genesis, 1 Chronicles, & Matthew

Reu	Serug	Nahor	Terah
Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Judah
Perez	Hezron	Ram	Amminadab
Nahshon	Salmon	Boaz	Obed

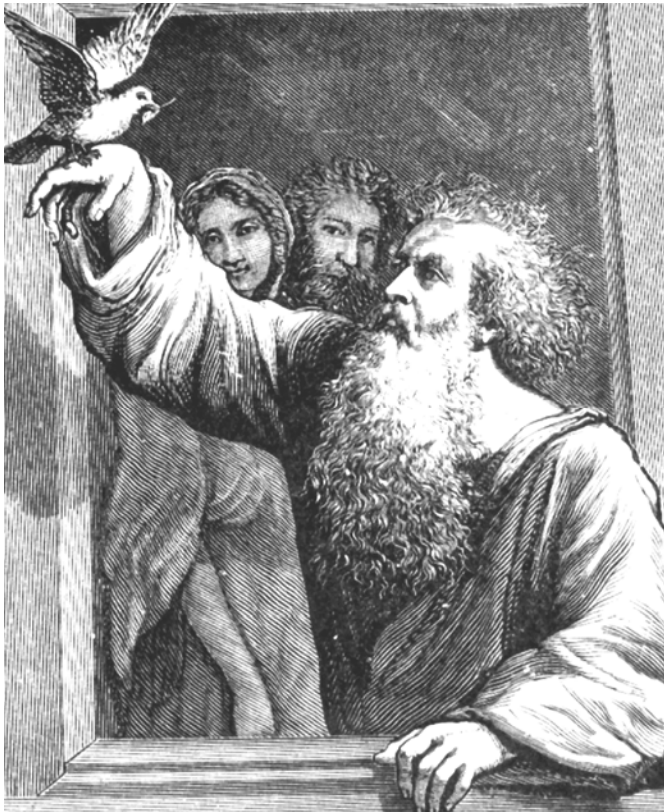
ANSWERS: 1. Enoch 2. Methuselah 3. Wicked 4. Noah 5. Ark 6. A place of safety
7. Two 8. Seven 9. Sight 10. Forty days and nights

THE FLOOD

Genesis 7:18-9:29

Noah built the ark and brought into it his wife, three sons, and their wives. He also brought in pairs of all species of animals to keep them alive. Seven days after Noah entered the ark, God opened the windows of heaven and the flood started.

The waters of the flood continued to rise until it was fifteen cubits (about twenty feet) above the tops of the mountains. Then God remembered Noah and the animals, and He sent a strong wind on the earth to dry it up. So the waters of the flood began to dry up. One hundred fifty days (about five months) after the rain started, the ark found ground and came to rest on Mount Ararat. About three months after the ark rested at Ararat, Noah looked out the window of the ark and saw the tops of the mountains around him. Noah waited forty more days, then he sent a raven out of the ark. The raven flew here and there until the earth dried up. So Noah sent a dove out to see if the water was dried up.



The dove returned to Noah because it could find no place to perch. Noah waited seven more days before sending the dove out the second time. This time the dove returned in the evening with an olive leaf in its mouth. Noah knew now that the water had gone down and things were beginning to grow again. After seven more days, Noah sent the dove out for the third time, and this time it did not come back to the ark. Now Noah knew the water was dried up, and he removed the top of the ark.

After spending a little over a year in the ark, God told Noah to take his family and the animals and leave the ark. God commanded them to reproduce and multiply and fill up the whole earth. When Noah and his family left the ark they built an altar

and offered sacrifices to God, giving thanks. They offered up one of every kind of clean animal and bird as burnt offerings to God. God smelled the sweet aroma of the sacrifices and He said, ***“I will never again destroy the earth and all living things because of man. While the earth remains there will be seedtime and harvest, winter and summer, day and night.”***

God blessed Noah and his sons and told them to multiply and fill the earth. He made them ruler over all the animals and birds and fish. God told Noah that men could now eat the meat of animals. Before this time they could eat only things which grew in the ground. Then God made a COVENANT with Noah. God said, ***“Now I will establish my covenant with you and with your descendants and with every living creature that lives on the earth. Never again shall I destroy all the earth with a flood of water. I am putting my bow in the clouds as a sign of this covenant I am making with you. When I bring clouds over the earth, I will see the bow and remember this covenant I have made with you and all living things, and never again will water destroy all living things on the earth.”***



Noah and his family were saved when God destroyed all living things on the earth. Noah was 600 years old when the flood came. He lived to be nine hundred fifty years old. Before his death, Noah blessed his sons.

Japheth, the oldest, was blessed, but it was Shem, the second son, who received the best blessing. Shem became the family leader, and it is through Shem's descendants that Jesus came. Ham, the youngest son of Noah, received a curse because he dishonored his father.

Noah was saved because he believed in God and obeyed Him. God has told us what we must do if we want to be saved when He destroys the earth with fire. If we are like Noah and obey God, then we will be saved. But if we change God's laws or disobey

Level 3B

His commandments we will be lost, just like all those people who would not listen to Noah.

Another way we should be like Noah is that we should not follow the crowd to do evil. Noah preached and preached for many years (probably about one hundred years), but he did not give up and start doing evil like everyone else. It is really hard sometimes to follow God, especially if most other people are doing evil. Remember Noah and NEVER GIVE UP!

STORY QUIZ

1. How high above the mountains did the flood water get?
2. How long was it before the ark came to ground?
3. Where did the ark come to ground?
4. What did Noah send from the ark to check the water level?
5. What did the dove bring Noah?
6. How long was Noah in the ark?
7. What did Noah do to thank God?
8. What did Noah sacrifice?
9. What did God give as a sign of His covenant with Noah?
10. Which of Noah's sons became the family leader?

Memory Verse Level Three

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:3

Memory Goal Level 3

Lineage to Christ from Genesis, 1 Chronicles, & Matthew

Reu	Serug	Nahor	Terah
Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Judah
Perez	Hezron	Ram	Amminadab
Nahshon	Salmon	Boaz	Obed

ANSWERS 1. Fifteen cubits 2. 150 days 3. Mount Ararat 4. A raven & a dove
5. Olive leaf 6. About a year 7. Made sacrifices 8. One of all clean animals 9. Rainbow
10. Shem

THE TOWER OF BABEL

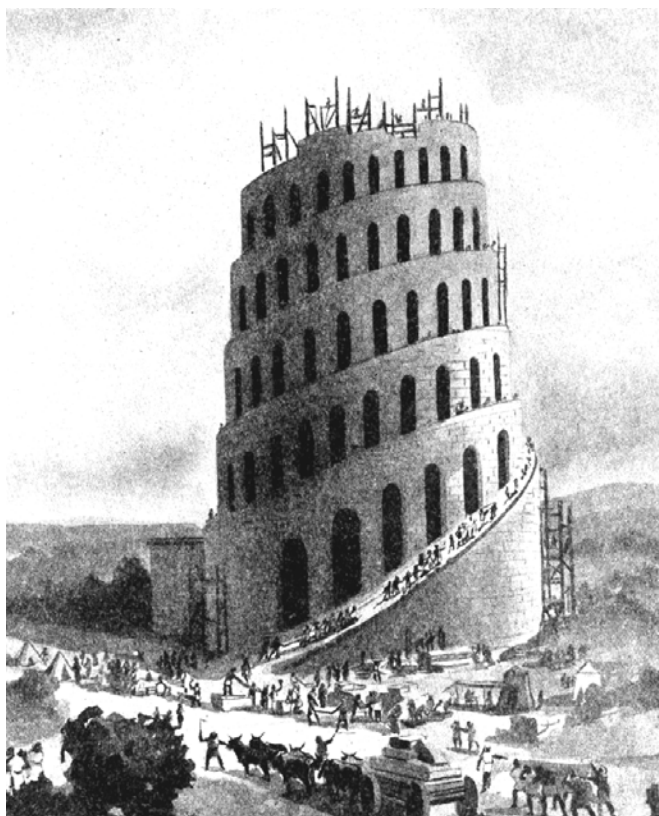
Genesis 10-11

In our last lesson we learned about Noah and his family. He saw how their faith and trust and obedience to God saved them when God destroyed the earth with the waters of the flood.

Noah's sons, Shem Japheth, and Ham and their wives were commanded to multiply and refill the earth. The Bible lists many names of these men's descendants. The particular family we will be following in our study is the family of Shem. Shem begat Arphaxad, Arphaxad begat Shelah, Shelah begat Eber, and Eber begat Peleg. Many Bible scholars believe that Peleg was born about the time God divided the earth by languages.

Now the earth was of the same language and the people had journeyed together eastward to the plains of Shinar and settled there. They said to one another, "Come, let

us make bricks and use pitch for mortar and let us build for ourselves a city and a tower whose top will reach into heaven. We will make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over all the earth."



Then God came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building. God said, ***“Look at the people. They are like one person since they have just one language. See what they are doing! There is nothing that will be impossible for them since they are like one. I will go down and confuse their language and they will not understand one another!”***

So God confused the language of the people at Shinar and they all spoke different languages. Since they could not understand one another, they stopped building the city and tower. They began to form groups with people of same languages moving off together, each forming a new nation. The name of the place where God confused the languages is called Babel (which means confusion). So the people of the earth were scattered about over all the earth.

Level 3C

Sometimes today we start thinking like these people in Babel. They thought they were great and there was nothing they could not do. We must remember to always include God in our plans.

STORY QUIZ

1. Which son of Noah will we be following in our study?
2. How many languages were spoken for several generations after the flood?
3. Where did the people settle following the flood?
4. What did the people decide to build?
5. What did they use for building the city and tower?
8. How tall did the people plan to build the tower?
7. What did God decide to do to stop the work on the city?
8. What is the name of the place where God confused the languages?
9. What does BABEL mean?
10. Who must we remember when we make plans?

Memory Verse Level Three

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. Hebrews 11:3

Memory Goal Level 3

Lineage to Christ from Genesis, 1 Chronicles, & Matthew

Reu	Serug	Nahor	Terah
Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Judah
Perez	Hezron	Ram	Amminadab
Nahshon	Salmon	Boaz	Obed

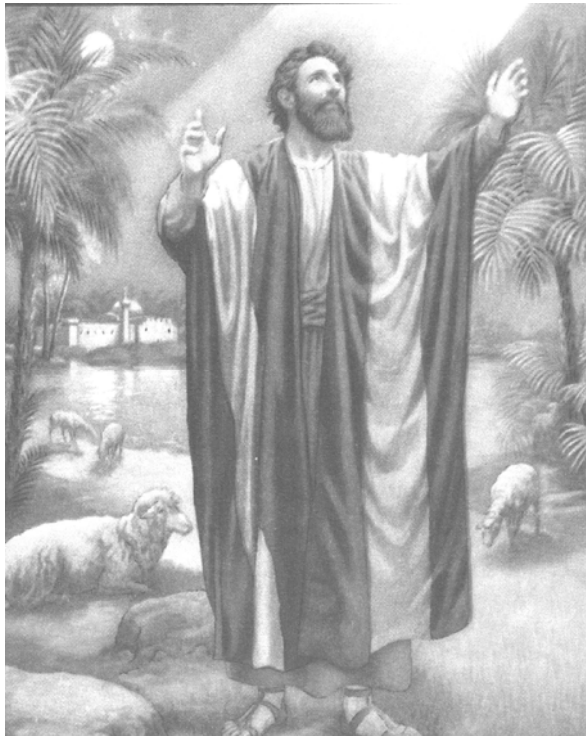
ANSWERS: 1. Seth 2. One 3. Shinar 4. a city and tower 5. Bricks and pitch 6. To reach heaven. 7. Confuse the language. 8. Babel 9. Confusion 10. God

THE CALL OF ABRAM

Genesis 11:27 - 13:1 & Acts 7:2-8

Noah blessed his sons, and Shem (the second son of Noah) received the best blessing. It would be through the family of Shem that the Savior would come. The Bible gives us a list of the descendants of Shem, and in the eighth generation we come to a man called Terah.

Terah and his family lived in Ur of the Chaldees (south of Babel). The city of Ur was named for the idol god which the people worshiped. Terah also worshiped idols



(see Joshua 24:2). Terah had three sons, Haran, Nahor, and Abram. Haran had a son named Lot and Haran died in Ur of the Chaldees. Abram was married to his own half-sister named Sarai.

God spoke to Abram while he lived in Ur and told him to leave that land, his home country and his father's house and go to a place that God would show him. (See Acts 7:2-8) God said to Abram. ***"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."***

Abram had faith in God and believed that God would keep His promises. So Abram left Ur as God had commanded, but Abram did not leave his father's house. When he left Ur he took also his father Terah, his nephew Lot, and their wives and families and of course his own wife, Sarai. (Nahor moved with them or came later to the region of Haran.) Abram showed his faith in God by leaving his homeland and going to a new place, but he did not obey God completely. God told him to leave his father's house, but he took them with him.

Abram and all his family traveled north, beside the Euphrates River and came to

Level 4A

the city of Haran in Paddan-aram and settled there. After Terah died in Haran, Abram left to go to the place God would show him. He was seventy-five years old when he took his wife and his nephew, Lot, and all their servants and belongings and left Haran.

Abram and Lot traveled south into the land of Canaan. When he came to the city of Shechem, God spoke to Abram saying, ***“This is the land I will give to your descendants.”*** (Descendants are members of your family who come after you.) Abram built an altar in Shechem and worshiped God. He then traveled on southward into Canaan until he came to a mountain between Bethel and Ai. Abram built another altar



on the mountain and worshiped there. Abram again moved southward in this land God had promised to give him. Because of a famine in the land, Abram moved into the land of Egypt. (A famine is when there is no food because something has caused the crops not to grow.)

Before they entered Egypt, Abram asked Sarai, his wife, to tell the Egyptians that she was his sister and not his wife. Sarai was a beautiful woman, and Abram was afraid some man of Egypt might kill him and take Sarai. (Here again, we see Abram’s lack of faith and trust in God. God had promised to bless him and protect him, but now Abram is lying because he is afraid!)

The Egyptians saw that Sarai was very beautiful, and they told the Pharaoh (king of Egypt). Pharaoh brought Sarai into his harem (household of wives), and he gave Abram many donkeys, oxen, sheep and servants as payment for his sister. God was not pleased with this. Sarai was Abram’s wife! God sent plagues (sickness and trouble) on the Pharaoh’s house because of Sarai. Pharaoh called for Abram and said, “Why did you do this to me? Why did you tell me Sarai is your sister when she is your wife? Now, take your wife and all your belongings and get out of Egypt!” Pharaoh even sent

some men to escort Abram out of his land.

So Abram returned to the land of Canaan, the land to which God had led him. He went back to the mountain between Bethel and Ai and worshiped God at the altar he had built there.

We know that Abram believed in God and had great faith in God, but Abram's faith was not always complete. His faith was (like our faith) a growing thing. As God led him and protected him and kept His promises, Abram's faith grew. Our faith is like that too. Our faith grows as we study God's word and learn more about Him. When we pray and God answers our prayers, our faith grows. We should always remember Abram and let our faith in God grow and grow.



Level 4A

STORY QUIZ

1. Who was the father of Abram?
2. Where did Abram live when God first called him?
3. Who was the wife of Abram?
4. What brother of Abram went with him when he left Ur?
5. Who was Abram's nephew?
6. To what city did Abram go when he left Ur?
7. What is the land God showed Abram and gave to his descendants?
8. What did Abram build at several places in Canaan?
9. Where did Abram go when famine came to Canaan?
10. Who forced Abram to leave Egypt?

Memory Verse Level Four

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

Memory Goal Level 4

Lineage from God to Christ

Jesse	David	Solomon	Rehoboam
Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Joram
Ahaziah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah
Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

ANSWERS: 1. Torah 2. Ur 3. Sarai 4. Nahor 5. Lot 6. Haran 7. Canaan 8. Altars 9. Egypt 10. Pharaoh

ABRAM AND LOT

Genesis 13-14

Now Abram was a very rich man with many herds of livestock and flocks of sheep and goats. He had many servants and much silver and gold. Lot, Abram's nephew, traveled with Abram, and he also was very rich, with many herds and servants.

After returning from Egypt to the mountain near Bethel, Abram and Lot lived



there together, but the land did not have enough grass and water for all their animals. The herdsmen of Lot quarreled with Abram's herdsmen over the land and water for their animals. So Abram said to Lot, "It is wrong for us to fight, for we are close kinsmen. There is surely enough land for both of us. Pick the land that you would like to have as your own. If you choose to go east, then I will go west. If you choose the west, then I will go east." Lot looked out

at the land and saw that the Jordan valley (near the river) was very green and there was plenty of water for his flocks. So Lot picked the land in the Jordan valley, and he took all his possessions and moved with his family into the Jordan valley to the city of Sodom. Now Sodom was a very wicked city.

Finally, Abram had obeyed God's command to separate from his father's household. God was pleased with Abram, and He spoke to Abram saying, "**Look out**

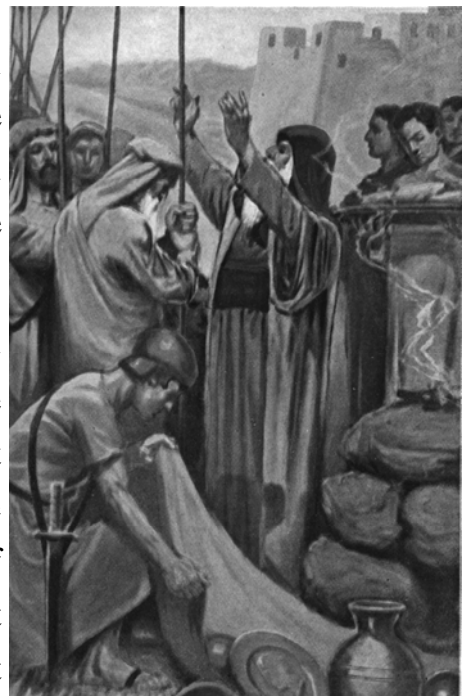


over the land from where you stand on this mountain. Look to the north, the south, the east, and the west. All the land you see, I will give to you and your descendants forever. And I will give you many descendants, so many they will be like the dust of the earth and no one will be able to count them. Now walk over this land, for I am giving it to you!!”

So Abram moved his tent and his herds and traveled about in the land. He finally settled at the oaks of Mamre near the city of Hebron.

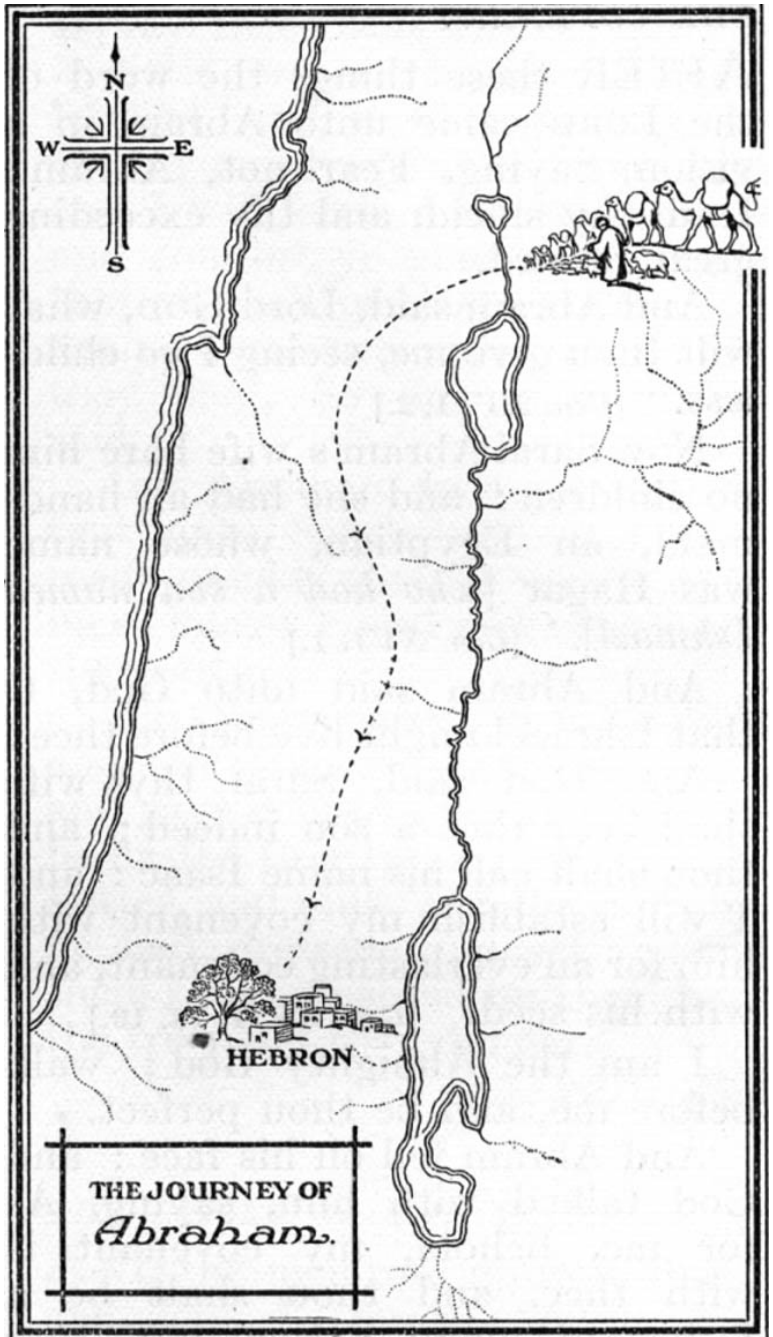
Sometime later, four kings from the east came to make war against five kings in the Jordan valley. The four kings of the east won the battle and took all the riches of Sodom and Gomorrah and all the food and supplies, and started back to their homeland in the east. They also took with them many captives from the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. One man escaped and came to Abram at Mamre to tell him what had happened. When Abram heard that his nephew, Lot, was among those taken captive, he gathered three hundred eighteen of his servants, who were trained as soldiers, and they went to rescue the captives. Abram and his men caught up with the eastern kings and attacked at night and defeated the armies of the kings. Abram rescued all the captives and all the goods which had been taken from the cities in the Jordan valley.

The king of Sodom went out to meet Abram as he came returning the people and goods. Melchizedek, the king of Salem and priest of the Most High God, brought out bread and wine and blessed Abram. Abram gave one tenth of all the rescued goods to Melchizedek. The king of Sodom wanted to give Abram all the rescued goods, but Abram refused them saying, “I will take nothing except



some food for my men who have fought the battle.” He said he had promised God that he would take no reward, for he did not want the king of Sodom to say, “I have made Abram rich.” So with God’s help, Abram rescued Lot and all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, then he returned to his home near Hebron.

In this lesson we see how Abram finally obeys God completely, and God blesses him and gives him the land of Canaan. We also see how God kept His promise to protect Abram when he went to rescue Lot and the others from the eastern kings. God always keeps His promises, and He blesses us when we do the things He commands. We must study the Bible so we can know what God expects from us, then we can be like Abram and obey God completely.



THE HOME OF ABRAHAM

STORY QUIZ

1. Abram and Lot lived on a mountain near what city?
2. Abram and Lot had much gold, silver, servants and what?
3. Who quarreled and caused problems for Abram & Lot?
4. Near what city did Lot move his family?
5. Near what city did Abram and his family settle?
6. Where was Sodom located?
7. Who was pleased when Abram separated from Lot?
8. How many eastern kings attacked the Jordan valley?
9. How many soldiers did Abram take to rescue Lot?
10. Who was King of Salem and priest of the Most High God?

Memory Verse Level Four

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Hebrews 11:6

Memory Goal Level 4 Lineage from God to Christ

Jesse	David	Solomon	Rehoboam
Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Joram
Ahaziah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah
Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

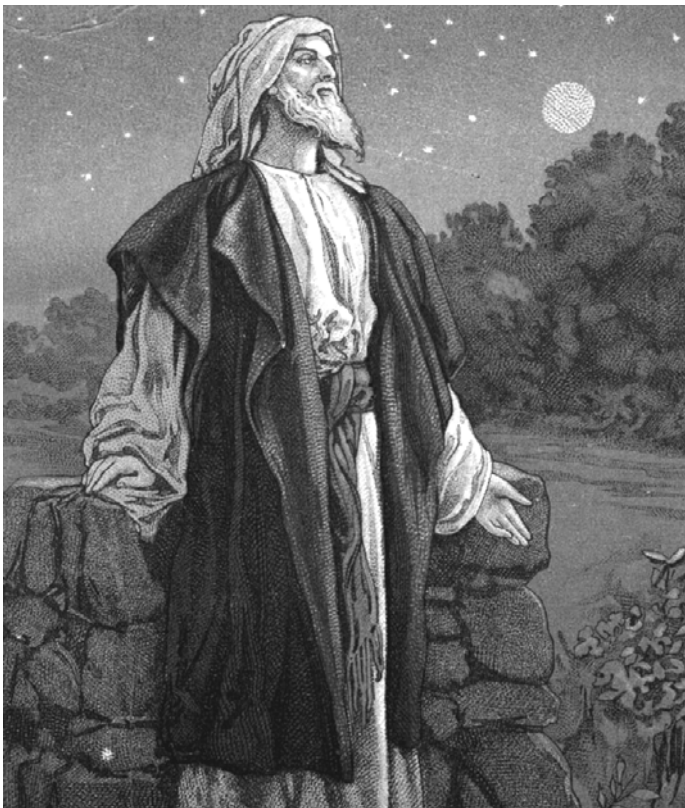
ANSWERS: 1. Bethel 2. Animals 3. Herdsmen 4. Sodom 5. Hebron 6. Jordan valley 7. God 8. Four 9. 318 10. Melchizedek

GOD'S PROMISES TO ABRAM

Genesis 15

So far in our study of Abram we have learned about God calling him to leave his homeland and his father's household to journey to a place God would show him. We followed Abram on his journey from Ur to Haran and on into Canaan. Our lesson continues now as we learn more about the promises God made to Abram.

When God spoke to Abram while he was still in Ur, God said, ***“Leave your homeland and your father’s house and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation.”*** This is God’s first promise to Abram. Then God made more promises, ***“I will bless you and make your name great. I will guard and protect you. Because of you all the people of the earth will be blessed.”*** We know that God led Abram to the land of Canaan and told him, “This is the land I will give your descendants.” We know also that Abram’s faith in God grew as God cared for Abram and blessed him.



Sometime after Abram rescued Lot from the four kings of the east, God again spoke to Abram ... this time in a vision. God said, ***“Do not be afraid, Abram. For I am with you and I will protect you and your reward shall be very great.”*** Abram spoke to God, “Lord, what will you give me? I am an old man (he was over 80 years old) and I have no children. Eliezer, my servant, will inherit all my possessions.” God had promised to make Abram into a great nation of people, yet at eighty years old he had no children ... not even one!! According to the customs of

Abram’s day, a man had to leave his possessions to an heir. The heir was usually the oldest son or one of the other sons. If a man had no son, he adopted someone to be his

Level 4C

heir. Abram had adopted Eliezer, a servant, to be his heir. Eliezer would inherit all the possessions of Abram when Abram died, unless Abram had a son of his own blood.

God told Abram that Eliezer would not be the heir but Abram would have a son



of his own blood to be the heir. God told Abram, ***“Look at the stars. Your descendants will be like the stars. They will be so many no one will be able to count them.”*** And Abram believed God's promise. God said to Abram, ***“I am the Lord God who brought you out of Ur to give you this land of Canaan.”*** Abram said, “Lord, how can I know for certain that the land will really be mine?” God told Abram to bring certain animals to offer in a special ceremony of covenant.

Abram brought a three-year-old cow, a female goat, a male sheep, a turtledove, and a young pigeon. He cut these animals in half down the spine and laid them upon the altar with the two pieces lying across from one another. Then Abram waited. As the sun was going down Abram fell into a deep sleep and a terrible, deep darkness came upon him. God spoke saying, ***“Abram, you will live a life of peace and will die at an old age. Know for sure that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs and they will be slaves for four hundred years. Then I will judge that nation and your descendants will come out with many possessions. After the four hundred years of slavery, your descendants will return here to the land of Canaan which I have given to them.”*** Then a flaming torch appeared and passed between the two halves of the sacrifices on the altar. It was in this way that God made His COVENANT with Abram saying, ***“To your descendants I will give the land of Canaan.”***

The ceremonial cutting in half and burning of animals was a part of a special ceremony for making a covenant. Remember a covenant is a sacred agreement between two men or between man and God. Abram brought the animals as God said and laid them on the altar, as he would have done for any covenant ceremony. God then spoke to

Abram and told him the terms of the covenant in this case He told Abram about the future of his descendants. This was a very special ceremony, and we can be sure Abram understood the seriousness of it. Now he could KNOW FOR SURE that God would keep all His promises concerning Abram's descendants.

As we continue in our study you will learn how and when God kept all the promises He made to Abram. I hope you will remember these promises and the things God said concerning Abram's descendants, then as we study together, you will be able to see for yourself that God always keeps His promises.



Level 4C

STORY QUIZ

1. Where did Abram live when God first spoke to him?
2. According to God's promise who would be blessed because of Abram?
3. To what land did God lead Abram?
4. God spoke to Abram in a vision. What is a vision?
5. What is an heir?
6. Who was Abram's heir?
7. When Abram was eighty years old what did God promise to give him?
8. Who was Eliezer?
9. God said Abram's descendants would be countless as the what?
10. The special agreement God made with Abraham is called what?

Memory Verse Level Four

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.
Hebrews 11:6

Memory Goal Level 4

Lineage from God to Christ

Jesse	David	Solomon	Rehoboam
Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Joram
Ahaziah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah
Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

ANSWERS: 1. Ur 2. All people 3. Canaan 4. A revelation from God
5. One who inherits 6. Eliezer 7. A son of his own blood 8. A servant
9. The stars 10. Covenant

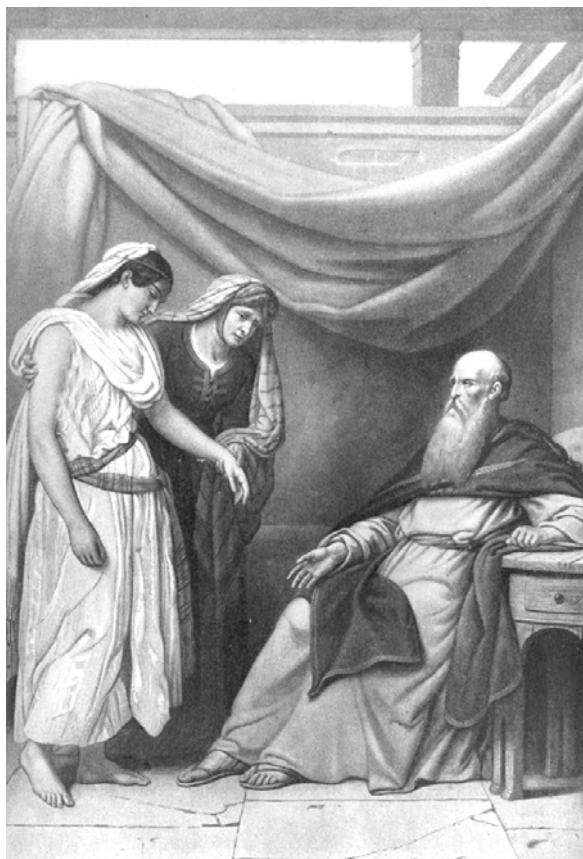
SARAI AND HAGAR

Genesis 16-17

God made many wonderful promises to Abram, and He sealed those promises with a special agreement or covenant ceremony. God promised that Abram would have a son of his own blood, but Abram was getting old and his wife, Sarai, was, not able to have children.

According to the customs of Abram's day the wife who had no son could give her personal handmaid to her husband so she could have a child. The child or children who came from this union of husband and handmaid was then raised by the wife as her own child. This custom was practiced because it was very important for a man to have a son to be his heir. Sarai surely knew that God had promised Abram a son of his own blood. Since she could not have children she decided to use this method of getting an heir for her husband.

Sarai said to her husband, "God has given me no child, so please take Hagar, my handmaid, and have a child with her." Abram took Hagar, but when Hagar knew she would have a child, she hated Sarai. Sarai went to Abram and told him she had made a big mistake, and she was sorry she had given Hagar to him. Abram told Sarai to do whatever she wanted to do about Hagar, so Sarai began to mistreat the handmaid.

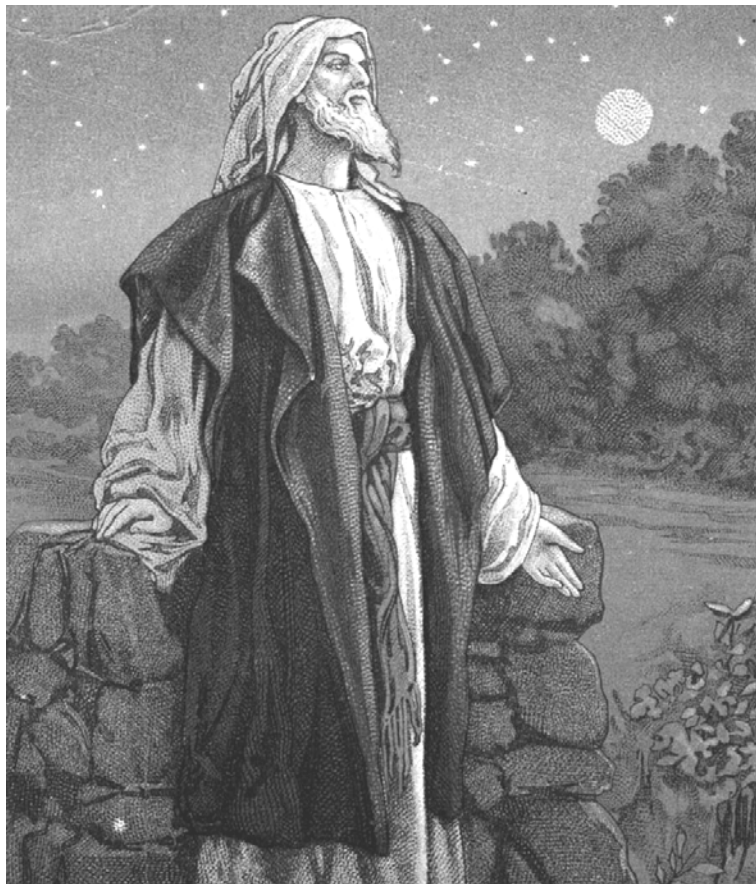


Hagar did not like to be mistreated, so she ran away. Out in the desert, an angel of God spoke to Hagar and told her to return home and do whatever Sarai told her to do. The angel then said, ***“I will greatly multiply your descendants. You will have a son and shall call his name Ishmael. He will be a wild, strong man, and will fight against everyone.”*** So Hagar did as the angel said and went back home to Sarai. Hagar had a

Level 4D

baby son, and they called him Ishmael. Abram was eighty-six years old when his son, Ishmael, was born.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, God spoke to him saying, ***"I am the Lord God Almighty! Walk before me and do not sin. I have a covenant with you and I will multiply your descendants and you will be the father of many nations. You shall***



no longer be called Abram, but you shall be Abraham, for you are the father of many nations. And Sarai, your wife, shall be called Sarah, for she will be the mother of nations, and kings shall come from her. I will give you a son by your wife Sarah. You shall call him Isaac."

When Abram heard this, he fell down and laughed! He said, "I am an old man of ninety-nine years, and Sarai is eighty-nine! Shall we have a son now?" Abram continued, "What about Ishmael? Surely he is my son. Is he not the one You promised to give me? Is he not the heir You promised." God said, ***"No. Sarai shall have a son***

and you will call him Isaac. I will make My covenant with Isaac and with his descendants. As for Ishmael, I know he is your son. I will bless him and make his descendants into great nations, but my covenant shall be with Isaac."

God is working to keep His promises to Abram. He promised to give Abram a son by his wife, Sarai. God even changed Abram and Sarai's names, showing that He would keep those promises.

Let's remember that God keeps His promises to us today just like He kept His promises to Abraham. He has promised many wonderful things if we will only obey

Him. God will keep His promises!!

STORY QUIZ

1. What kind of agreement did God make with Abram?
2. God had promised Abram that he would have what?
3. Who was Sarai's handmaid?
4. For what purpose did Sarai give Hagar to Abram?
5. A person who inherits from another is called a what?
6. Why did Hagar run away?
7. Who told Hagar to go back to Sarai and obey her?
8. What did the angel tell Hagar to name her baby son?
9. What does the name Abraham mean?
10. What did God tell Abraham to name his and Sarah's son?

Memory Verse Level 4

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him.
Hebrews 11:6

Memory Goal Level 4

Lineage from God to Christ

Jesse	David	Solomon	Rehoboam
Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Joram
Ahaziah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah
Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

ANSWERS: 1. Covenant 2. A son 3. Hagar 4. To have a child
5. Her 6. Sarai mistreated her 7. An angel 8. Ishmael
9. Father of many nations 10. Isaac

VISITORS and SODOM DESTROYED

Genesis 18-19

One day as Abraham was sitting at the door of his tent, he saw three men coming along the way. He ran out to meet them and said, "Come, let me get water so you can wash your feet, and you sit under my tree and rest while I prepare food for



you to eat." (In those days there were no cars and airplanes for traveling, and the people became very tired and dirty from walking on the dusty roads. There were no motels or cafes so the people who traveled had to depend on the kindness of those who lived in the places they traveled through.) These three men were travelers, passing by Abraham's home. He showed great kindness and hospitality when he invited them to stop to wash, eat, and rest.

The three men agreed to stop, so Abraham ran into his tent and told Sarah to prepare bread for the visitors. Then he ran to the field and picked a good, tender calf, gave it to his servants and told them to prepare it for the travelers to eat. When the food was ready Abraham took the food out and served the men.

When they finished eating the men said, "***Where is Sarah?***" Abraham said, "She is there in the tent." One of the men said, "***At this time next year Sarah will give birth to a child.***" Sarah was listening at the door of the tent, and when she heard this she laughed saying, "I am much too old to have a child!" The man said, "***Why did Sarah laugh? Is anything too hard for God? I tell you Sarah will have a son next year.***" When Sarah heard what the man said, she became afraid because he knew she had laughed. She said, "I did not laugh." The man said, "***Yes, you laughed!***" Then the men got up to leave, and Abraham walked with them for a while.

These three men were not just ordinary men! They were special messengers or

angels sent from God. Abraham did not know who they were when he invited them to stop and rest. He was kind because he was a good and righteous man. Abraham did not know these men were special until they gave their message. They brought a very special message from God. We should be like Abraham and show kindness and love toward other people.

As Abraham walked with the three messengers, God decided that He must tell Abraham about something important that was going to happen. Two messengers went on toward the city of Sodom, but one stayed to talk with Abraham. (Many times in the Bible we have stories of God speaking to people through angels. Angels are special messengers sent by God for a very specific purpose. When an angel spoke it was the words God gave him to speak, therefore, when an angel spoke, God was speaking.)

God said to Abraham, ***“Sodom and Gomorrah are very wicked. I am going down to see if they are really as evil as they appear to be. If they are so filled with evil then I will destroy them.”***

Abraham said, “Will you kill the righteous men along with the wicked? What if there are just fifty righteous men living in the cities? Will you save the cities for those fifty? Surely You, the Just and Righteous One, will not destroy the righteous along with the wicked!” God told Abraham that He would not destroy the cities if there were fifty righteous men living there.



Then Abraham spoke again saying, “Oh Lord, who am I to speak like this to You, but now that I have started What if there are five less than fifty? Will You destroy the cities if there are forty-five righteous? God told Abraham that He would save the cities if there were forty-five righteous men living there. Abraham still was not satisfied. He said, “What if there are only forty?” God promised that He would save the cities for

Level 4E

forty righteous men. Abraham said, “Lord, please don’t be angry with me for speaking, but what if there are only thirty?” God again promised to save the cities for just thirty righteous men. Abraham said, “What if there are just twenty?”, and God promised to save the cities for twenty! Abraham then said, “Please don’t be angry with me, but I must speak just one more time. What if there are ten righteous men living in the cities? Will you save the cities for those ten?” God agreed to save the cities of the Jordan valley if ten righteous men could be found there. Now Abraham was satisfied and he went back home.

As two angels of God went into the city of Sodom, Lot (Abraham’s nephew) was sitting at the gates of the city. When he saw the two men he ran out to meet them and invited them to come to his house to wash, eat, and sleep. The two men said they would spend the night in the streets of the city, but when Lot begged them to come to his home they finally agreed.

That night all the men of Sodom came to Lot’s house and called out, “Where are the men who are staying at your house? Send them out here so we can have our way with them!” Lot went outside and talked to the men saying, “Please do not be so wicked! Please leave these men alone, for they are guests in my house.” The men of Sodom said,



“Get out of our way! Who do you think you are to judge us? You are not one of us! You are just a stranger in our city!” They began to close in around Lot, to harm him and break down the door to his house. The two angels reached out and pulled Lot back inside the house. They then caused the men of Sodom to become blind. The Sodomites stumbled around outside trying to find the door. Finally they gave it up and went away.

By now Lot must have realized that his visitors were not just ordinary men. The

angels told Lot to get his wife, his sons and daughters, and his sons-in-law and leave the city because God had sent them to destroy the wicked, evil place. Lot told his sons-in-law that God was about to destroy the city, but they only laughed at him! (The Bible does not tell us that Lot even talked to his own sons. Maybe Lot knew they had become so sinful that they would not listen to him.)

When morning came the angels told Lot to take his wife and his two daughters who were at home and get out of the city quickly. When Lot hesitated, the angels took him, his wife, and his two daughters by the hand and led them out of the city. The angels said, ***“Run for your lives!! Do not look back!! Do not stay anywhere in the valley or you will be destroyed along with these sinful men. Go into the mountains and stay there.”*** Lot said, “It is a long way to the mountains and I will not be able to travel fast enough to reach them. Can we go to the little town of Zoar? It is near enough for us to get there safely.” The angels said, ***“Go to Zoar. We will not destroy that little town because of you.”*** So Lot entered into Zoar as the sun was coming up.



God rained fire and brimstone from heaven on the cities of the Jordan valley and all the people and everything in the cities were destroyed. Lot's wife was lagging behind him, and she looked back at Sodom and was turned into a pillar of salt.

Abraham went out and as he looked toward Sodom, he saw the smoke rising up from the place God had destroyed. But God kept His promise to Abraham when He destroyed the cities of the valley. He sent Lot and his family out of the city so they would not be destroyed, because there were not even ten righteous people living in Sodom!!

Lot and his two daughters left Zoar and went into the mountains, where they lived



in a cave. Each of Lot's daughters had a son. One son was called Moab, and the other was called Ben-Ammon. These two sons became the fathers of two nations the Moabites and the Ammonites. We will learn more about these nations as we continue in our study together.

God saw that the wickedness of Sodom was very great so He destroyed the evil. God hates sin and evil. He always punishes people who refuse to repent of their sinfulness. God saved Lot because he had remained righteous even though he lived in a most sinful place. Sometimes it is hard to be faithful to God when so many people around us are sinful, but God has promised to give us a wonderful reward if we

will only be faithful to Him.

No one knows for sure where the cities of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim were located before God destroyed them. Many scholars believe the Dead Sea was formed when God sent destruction on the wicked Jordan valley. This sea is called the Dead Sea or Salt Sea. It is very salty four times saltier than the oceans.

STORY QUIZ

1. Who were the three men who came to visit Abraham?
2. What did Abraham offer the three men who came to visit?
3. What was Sarah's reaction when she heard that she would have a child?
4. Why did God want to destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah?
5. Who did God tell about His plans to destroy the Jordan valley cities?
6. Who went into Sodom to see if it really was a wicked place?
7. Who did the angels meet when they went into Sodom?
8. Where did the angels tell Lot to take his family?
9. What happened to Lot's wife?
10. How did God destroy the evil cities of the Jordan valley?

Memory Verse Level 4

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him.
Hebrews 11:6

Memory Goal Level 4

Lineage from God to Christ

Jesse	David	Solomon	Rehoboam
Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Joram
Ahaziah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah
Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

ANSWERS: 1. Angels 2. Food and rest 3. She laughed 4. Wickedness 5. Abraham 6. 2
Angels 7. Lot 8. To Zoar 9. She became a pillar of salt.
10. Fire and brimstone from heaven.

ABRAHAM AND ISAAC

Genesis 21-22

So far in our study of Abraham, we have learned about many wonderful promises God made to him. We know God made a very special covenant with Abraham when he was ninety-nine years old, promising that Abraham and Sarah would have a son of their own blood. When Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah was ninety years old, Sarah had a baby son and they called him Isaac, as God had commanded them. Abraham and Sarah loved their little son, Isaac. Finally they had the son they had wanted for so long.

When Isaac was weaned (at about two or three years old) Abraham had a great feast to celebrate. Sarah saw Ishmael (the son of Abraham and Hagar) mocking and making fun of Isaac. She was very upset and told Abraham to send Hagar and her son away because she did not want Ishmael to share the inheritance with Isaac. Abraham was unhappy about this but God told him to do as Sarah asked because it was through Isaac that God would keep His promises. God told Abraham that He would take care of Ishmael and make him into a great nation since he was the son of Abraham.



The next morning Abraham took bread and water, gave them to Hagar, and told her to take Ishmael and go. Hagar left Abraham's household and went into the desert near Beersheba. When the water was gone, Hagar left Ishmael under the shade of a bush and walked a short distance away. Her young son was dying of thirst, and she could not bear to watch him die. Hagar was crying when an angel of God spoke to her saying, "*Hagar, what is the matter? God has heard your crying. Now take the boy by the hand for God will make him into a great nation.*" Then God caused Hagar's eyes to be clear and

she saw a well of water. Hagar took her son and they drank the water and lived. God was with Ishmael as he grew up in the desert and became a great man. He married an Egyptian woman and became the father of twelve sons. This was the beginning of that “great nation” God had promised to Abraham. (This is generally agreed to be the beginning of the Arab nations.)

Now some years later God decided to test Abraham. God told him to take his only son Isaac, go to one of the mountains of Moriah, and offer Isaac there as a burnt offering. Can you imagine how Abraham must have felt? God had promised to give Abraham a son and to make that son into a great nation of people. Now God tells him to take that son and give him as a sacrifice!! We don't know what Abraham thought but we know what Abraham did! Abraham's faith in God had grown and grown over the years, so he trusted in God to keep His promises. Even if Abraham could not understand why or how, he knew God would keep His promises! Abraham did not question God, but he went directly to obey Him.



The next morning Abraham took Isaac and two young servants, and they traveled three days to the mountains of Moriah. When they came to the place God chose, Abraham told the two servants to remain at the foot of the mountain with the donkey while he and Isaac went up on the mountain to worship. Abraham had Isaac carry the wood they brought from home, and he carried the knife and the fire as they walked up the mountainside. As they walked Isaac said, “Father, we have the fire and the wood for the offering, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?” Abraham answered, “My son, God will provide a sacrifice for Himself.” (We can see from this conversation that Abraham had full trust and faith that God would keep His promises.)

On the mountain, Abraham built the altar and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied Isaac and laid him on the altar. As Abraham drew back his knife to kill his son, an



angel spoke, ***“Abraham!! Do not harm your son! God now knows for sure that you love and fear him completely. Your faith is very great since you were willing to give your only son to God as He commanded.”***

Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram (a male sheep) caught in the bushes by his horns. Abraham took the ram and they offered it, instead of Isaac, as a sacrifice. Abraham called the place “Jehovah-jirah” which means “God will provide,” for God provided a sacrifice on the mountain.

An angel spoke again, ***“The Lord God has said, ‘Because you have done this thing and you were willing to give Me your only son, I will bless you greatly and multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and the sand on the seashore. Through your seed all people of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.’”***

Abraham and Isaac went down the mountain, joined the two servants, and they all went home. Abraham moved to Beersheba and lived there for a while. What great faith we can see in Abraham! His faith had grown so much that he trusted God to keep His promises even though he could not know how God could keep them. We can have a faith like Abraham’s if we will only learn to love and trust in God. God is ready, willing, and able to be with us, protect us, and care for us, if we will just let Him!

STORY QUIZ

1. What did Abraham and Sarah name their son?
2. Who did Sarah want Abraham to send away?
3. Why did God tell Abraham to give Isaac as a burnt offering?
4. Where did Abraham take Isaac to offer him as a burnt offering?
5. Who went with Abraham and Isaac to the mountains of Moriah?
6. From where did Abraham say they would get a sacrifice to offer?
7. What did Abraham build on Mount Moriah?
8. What did Abraham tie and place on the altar at Moriah?
9. Who called out to Abraham as he was about to kill Isaac?
10. What did Abraham and Isaac offer to God as a sacrifice?

Memory Verse Level 4

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Memory Goal Level 4

Lineage from God to Christ

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Abijah	Asa	Jehoshaphat	Joram
Ahaziah	Joash	Amaziah	Uzziah
Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

ANSWERS: 1. Isaac 2. Hagar 3. To test his faith 4. Mount Moriah 5. Two servants
6. God will provide 7. Altar 8. Isaac 9. Angel 10. A ram

A WIFE FOR ISAAC

Genesis 23-25

Sarah, the wife of Abraham and mother of Isaac, died when she was one hundred twenty-seven years old. Abraham bought a field and the cave of Machpelah from the sons of Heth, and he buried Sarah in this cave near Hebron.

When Abraham was one hundred forty years old (Isaac was forty), he called his oldest servant (maybe it was Eliezer) and asked him to make a vow. Abraham asked the servant to promise that he would not allow Isaac to leave the land of Canaan, which God had given to them. He also had to promise that he would not allow Isaac to marry one of the Canaanite women. The servant had to promise to go to the city of Nahor, in Mesopotamia, (the city of Nahor is Haran) to find a wife for Isaac from among Abraham's relatives. The servant said, "What if the woman will not come with me to Canaan? Shall I take your son there?" Abraham said, "No, do not take Isaac out of this land which God has given us. God will send His angel to Haran before you, and He will help you choose the wife for my son, Isaac. If the woman will not come to Canaan with you, then you shall be released from your vow, but do not take Isaac out of this land." The servant made the vow as Abraham asked. He took ten camels and some other servants and started the long journey to Haran. He took along many fine gifts from Abraham to the woman and her family.



The servant arrived at the well outside Haran in the late afternoon, at the time when the women of the city came to draw water. He stopped at the well and bowed to pray to God. He said, "O Lord God of Abraham, please help me today. I am here by the well where the women come to get water. Now please choose the woman You

want to be the wife for Isaac. Let me know which woman You have chosen in this way: I will say, "Please give me a drink of water from your jar." The woman You have chosen

will say, "Drink, and I will draw water for your camels also."

As the servant was finishing his prayer, a beautiful woman named Rebekah came to the well to draw water. After she finished filling her jar, the servant ran to her and said, "Please give me a drink from your jar." Rebekah said, "Drink and I will draw water for your camels also." As she quickly drew water for all the camels, the servant stood watching her, wondering if God would make his journey a success. Then the servant gave Rebekah a gold ring (either a nose ring or an earring) and two gold bracelets. He asked, "Whose daughter are you? And tell me, is there room at your house for us to spend the night?" She answered, "I am the



daughter of Bethuel, the son of Nahor. There is plenty of straw and food and room for you to stay with us." The servant bowed down and thanked God for guiding him to the house of Abraham's relatives (Bethuel was Abraham's nephew).

Rebekah ran home and told her family all that had happened. When Laban, her brother, heard the story and saw the gold ring and bracelets, he ran to the servant and said, "Come to our house. We have plenty of feed for your camels and room for you and your men." Laban helped unload the camels and fed them, then he gave the men water to wash their feet. They set out food for the men to eat, but the servant said, "I can not eat until I have told you why I am here." Laban told him to speak on, so the servant said, "I am the servant of your relative, Abraham. God has blessed Abraham, and he is a very rich man. God gave him a son when he was an old man. That son, Isaac, will inherit all that belongs to Abraham." The servant went





on to explain to Rebekah's family about his vow to find a suitable wife for Isaac from among Abraham's relatives. He explained how he had asked God to help him find the woman God wanted for Isaac's wife, and how Rebekah was the answer to that prayer. The servant said, "Now tell me whether or not you will let Rebekah be the wife of Isaac."

Laban and Bethuel said, "This thing is from God and who are we to go against the will of God. Here is Rebekah, she will go with you and be the wife of our relative, Isaac."

When the servant heard this he bowed down and worshiped God. Then he gave gifts of gold, silver, and fine clothing to Rebekah, and he gave gifts to her mother and her brother also. The next morning the servant said, "I must leave now and go home to my master." Rebekah's mother and Laban said, "Let Rebekah stay with us a few more days maybe ten days then she can go with you." The servant said, "No, I must go home for I have been gone long enough. Tell me now whether I may take Rebekah or not." They called Rebekah and asked her if she wanted to go with the servant and she said, "I will go." Rebekah took her maids and traveled on the camels from Haran to the

south country of Canaan (near Beersheba) where Isaac was living. Before she left home, Rebekah's family blessed her and wished many good things for her in her new home.

Isaac was in the field walking and meditating when he saw the caravan of camels coming toward him. Rebekah saw Isaac and asked, "Who is the man coming out to meet us?" The servant told her that the man was Isaac. Rebekah got off the camel and covered her face with her veil. (It was a custom in those days for unmarried women to keep their faces covered in public.) The servant told Isaac all



that had happened and how God had chosen this woman to be a wife to Isaac. Isaac took Rebekah into Sarah's tent and she became his wife and he loved her.

Abraham lived to be one hundred seventy-five years old. After Sarah died Abraham married Keturah, and they had six sons but none of these sons received an inheritance from Abraham. He gave Keturah's sons many gifts and sent them to live away from Isaac. Isaac inherited all the wealth and all God's promises from Abraham.

Abraham is called the "father of the faithful" because he loved and served God all the days of his life. His faith grew as he saw God keep His promises. Even though our faith may not be as great as Abraham's it should be a faith that grows every day. God promised many things to Abraham, and He kept all those promises. God has promised us even better, greater things and we can be sure He will keep His promises.

STORY QUIZ

1. Who did Abraham tell to find a wife for Isaac?
2. Where did the servant go to find Isaac a wife?
3. Where did Abraham's servant first meet Isaac's wife?
4. What young woman came to the well of Haran?
5. Who picked Rebekah to be Isaac's wife?
6. Who was the father of Rebekah?
7. What did Abraham's servant ask Rebekah to give him?
8. Who was Rebekah's brother?
9. Who made the final decision whether Rebekah would go with the servant?
10. How old was Abraham when he died?

Memory Verse Level Four

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Memory Goal Level 4

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Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah	Manasseh

ANSWERS: 1. His servant 2. Haran 3. At the well in Haran 4. Rebekah 5. God 6. Bethuel 7. A drink of water 8. Laban 9. Rebekah 10. 175