

Genesis 12:1-7 **God's Call to Abraham and Partial Obedience**

¹ "Now the LORD had said to Abram:

'Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

⁴ So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵ Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan. ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land. ⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, 'To your descendants I will give this land.' And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him." NKJV

Facts revealed:

☆ The six-fold blessing is interesting to consider;

1. **"I will make you a great nation."** Which began as God brought Israel out of Egypt, gave them His Laws which are still unequalled in any nation on earth.

Moses said, "And what great nation is there that has such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this Law which I set before you this day?"

[Deuteronomy 4:8]

And the nation will reach its greatest potential during the Kingdom Age when Christ Jesus is seated on the throne in Jerusalem and ruling the entire earth through the nation of Israel.

2. **"I will bless you and make your name great."** Abraham was blessed in everything he touched and his fame is, even today, renowned around the world among the Jews, the Arabs, and the Christians, as well as many secular peoples.
3. **"You shall be a blessing."** Abraham was a blessing to the people among whom he lived and traveled. To his own family, to Lot and his family, to his allies, and to all believers who have been touched by the faith of Abraham.
4. **"I will bless those who bless you."** This promise has followed the *descendants of promise* throughout time; and the world has been blessed by the influence of the descendants of Israel. All nations are blessed by the presence of the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, both in the past and the present.
5. **"And curse those who curse you."** Those who cursed Israel and attempted to destroy the Jewish people from the face of the earth have themselves all been destroyed and it will continue to be so for their many enemies to the very end.
6. **"And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."** This is a reference to the Messiah Who would come and provide salvation for anyone in every family in every nation who comes to God through Him.

☆ Yahowah **had** spoken to Abram when they were in Ur of the Chaldeans. [see Genesis 15:7]

☆ The command of Yahowah was to **"Get out of your country, from your family, and from your father's house."** When they departed from Ur of the Chaldeans, they were not in full obedience to God because Abram was not separated from his kindred or his father's house seeing as they all went with him.

- ✧ Since Terah took his whole family with him as he was going to Canaan with Abram, it appears as if he wanted to be a part of the blessing God had spoken to Abram.
- ✧ We do not know how old Abram was when God spoke to him or when they left Ur of the Chaldeans, but we do know that they came and dwelt in Haran, in Syria, which they named after the son who had died in Ur of the Chaldeans.
- ✧ God had begun to bless Abram in Haran when Abram had just *begun* to obey God's command as we see Abram taking, as he left Haran, **“all the possessions they had gathered and the people whom they had acquired in Haran.”**
- ✧ We also know that when Abram was 75 years old he departed from Haran taking Lot, the son of Haran, with them so they were still not fully in keeping with God's commandment with regards to leaving family even though they were heading toward the land of Canaan.
- ✧ They came into the land of Canaan and passed through it to the place of Shechem and came to the terebinth tree of Moreh.
- ✧ The land was populated by the Canaanites.
- ✧ They are now in the *land of promise* and Yahowah **appeared** to Abram and said; **“To your descendants I will give this land.”**
- ✧ There Abram built an altar to Yahowah, Who had **appeared** to him.
- ✧ This is the first time that it is recorded that God actually **appeared** to someone, since the Garden of Eden.