

# **THE PATRIARCHS OF ISRAEL**



**as taught by**

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"By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

Hebrews 11:8-10

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## Lesson 1

### ABRAHAM: GEN. 11:10-13:18

#### A. Abram's family tree (Gen. 11:10-30).

1. Descendant of Shem, Noah's son.  
(See Family Tree at end of this lesson.)
2. Terah, Abram's father was an idolator  
(Joshua 24:2)
3. Lot was Abram's nephew---his dead  
brother Haran's son (11:27-28, 12:5)
4. Abram's wife Sarah was his half-  
sister (11:29, 20:12)
5. Abram was born in Ur of the Chaldees  
in the middle of idolatry and pagon  
worship (11:26-28).
6. See Family Tree for his descendants.

#### B. God's call on Abram's life (Gen. 11:31-12:5)

1. Original call while Abram was still  
in Ur.
  - a. Lord had said (12:1).
  - b. Before he dwelt in Haran (Acts  
7:1-5).
  - c. God's initiative - His Word broke  
through the darkness in Abram's life.
2. Command was to leave family and home  
behind and go to an unknown place.
3. His father Terah, wife Sarah, and  
nephew Lot accompanied him and they



traveled north and dwelt in Haran  
- for 25 years - until Terah died.  
(11:31-32)

- a. Terah is a type of the flesh
- b. Can't fully respond to God's call until the flesh is dead.

- 4. The call is renewed (12:1).
- 5. A promise now accompanies the call-- now that Abram is ready to fully respond and obey (12:2-3).
  - a. Become a great nation
  - b. God will bless him
  - c. And make his name great
  - d. Abram would be a blessing to the whole earth
  - e. Honor and protect him
- 6. Abram believes God and puts action to his faith by obeying (12:4-5)
  - a. Went by faith without knowing (Heb. 11:8ff)
- 7. God's purpose in calling Abram
  - a. He and his descendants (a great nation) would become God's representatives in the earth.
  - b. They would demonstrate to those who served idols and false gods what serving the living God would be like---physically, spiritually and financially.
  - c. They were to leave family and go to a strange land where they could be sanctified (separated) unto God.



C. Early wanderings (Gen. 12:6-9)

1. Canaan occupied by the ungodly (6)
2. Abram didn't start buying up land but waited for God's Word of instruction.
  - a. He walked in the light he had.
  - b. Not presumptuous
3. God makes another promise to give the land to Abram's offspring (7).
4. Abram worships at an altar in thanksgiving for the promise (7).
5. Continued to explore the land of promise, moving south (8-9)

D. His first failure---an immature faith (Gen. 12:10-20)

1. The testing comes thru famine in the land (10).
2. Abram chooses to go into Egypt rather than to trust God. His decision, not God's (10).
3. For protection and prosperity he resorts to lying (11-13).
4. He puts his wife in jeopardy to cover himself and his lack of faith (14-15).
5. Strategy seems to pay off temporarily (16).
6. Instead of being a blessing, he is a curse on the people (17).



7. He is thrown out of Egypt (18-20).
8. Egypt is a type of this present world and Abram is a type of the Christian believer.
  - a. When you begin to walk by faith (go into Canaan) testing always comes to try your faith (famine).
  - b. The believer must choose to:
    1. Trust God and continue to walk by faith (stay in Canaan).
    2. Or, go into the world (Egypt) and seek help there. The world is always very alluring and seems to have what you need in abundance (food).
  - c. To get along in the world, the believer must compromise his faith and tell half-truths (lie).
  - d. Often, playing the world's game brings a temporary relief and prosperity (many sheep and oxen).
  - e. Instead of blessing the unbeliever and leading him to life, the compromising, back-slidden, worldly, carnal believer brings more curse upon him (pharaoh).
  - f. Ultimately, God must cause the world to turn on the believer and reject him.

E. Return to faith and trust in God (Gen. 13: 1-18)

1. Rejected by the world (Egypt), Abram returned to God's house (Bethel), worships the Lord and renews his fellowship and commitment (1-4).



## Lesson 1, p. 5

- a. Tent indicative of attitude toward this world - no root here, ready to move at God's will, a stranger and foreigner.
  - b. Altar conveys his attitude toward the next world - ready for any sacrifice, offer anything up that the Lord required of him.
2. Dealing with conflict (5-9)
- a. Competition over personal rights between two brethren (5-6)
  - b. Strife between their followers and families (7)
  - c. Abram (the spiritual one) takes the initiative (8)
    - 1. We are brethren
    - 2. Let's not strive
  - d. Abram sacrifices his rights as elder, stronger and heir.
    - 1. These temporal things are not important enough for us to fight over them.
    - 2. Choose whatever you want; I'll take what's left.
    - 3. He willingly took the lesser place to walk in love.
    - 4. The spiritual man must always go the extra mile for the carnal brother. He will be restrained. (Gal. 6:1)
3. Lot (the carnal one) chooses the best from a worldly viewpoint but the worst from God's viewpoint. (10-13)
- a. The plain looked prosperous
  - b. His greed prevented him from seeking God's wisdom.
  - c. Only God knew what lie ahead for Sodom.

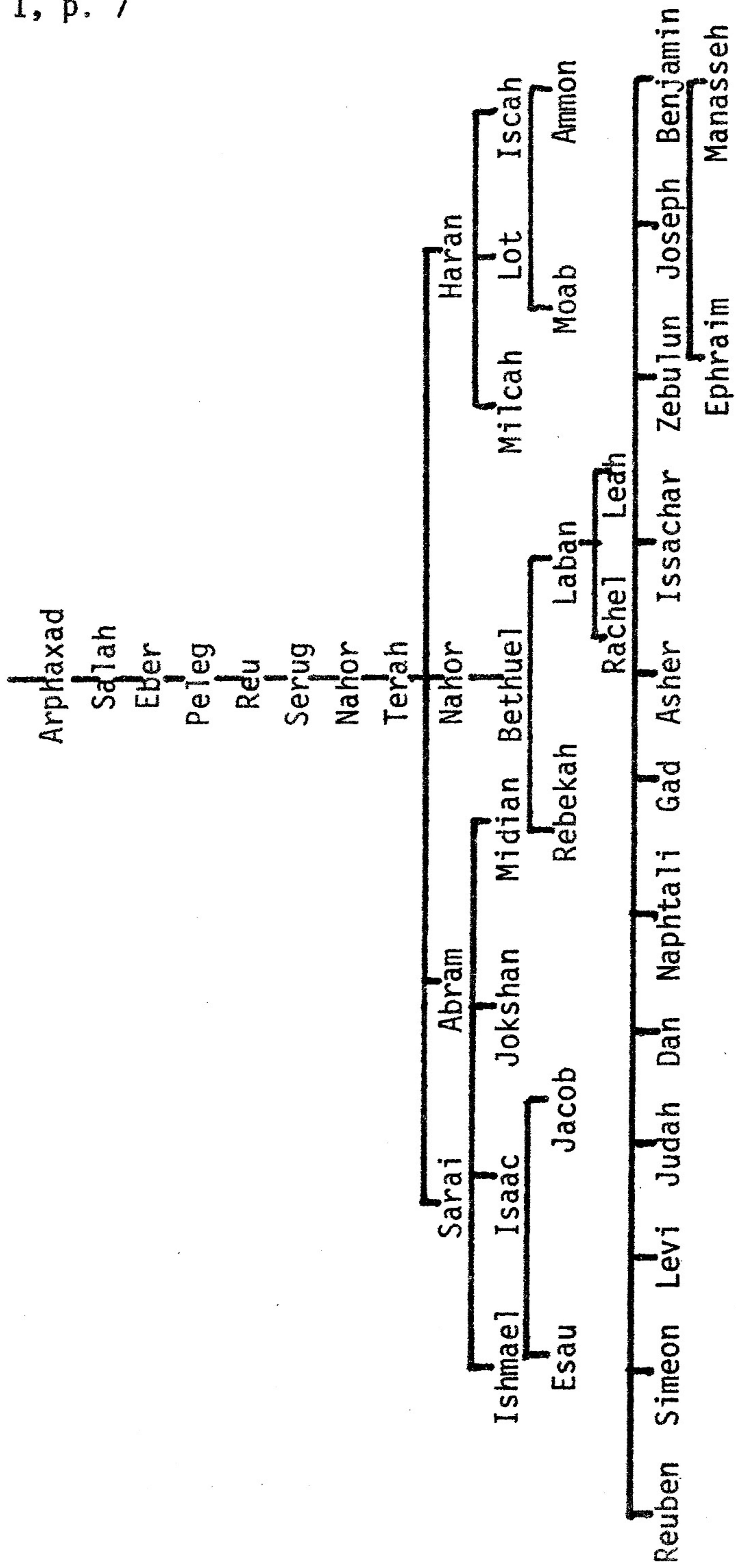


## Lesson 1, p. 6

4. God restored to Abram what he willingly gave up (14-18).
  - a. God's arithmetic is one minus one equals something; not nothing. (Matt. 19:29)
  - b. Abram's spirituality would accrue blessing to his seed. (15-16)
  - c. Abram again built an altar to thank God for his as yet unfulfilled promise.



# SHEM





## Lesson 2

### ABRAHAM: GEN. 14:1-16:16

- A. Abraham, the fighter (Gen. 14:1-16)
  - 1. Lot taken captive (12-13)
  - 2. Abram, with 318 men, attacked the enemy, 4 kings. (14-15)
  - 3. Lot and his family recovered. (16)
  - 4. Abram was not passive in defending his own.
- B. Tested by two kings after victory (14:17-24)
  - 1. King of Sodom - type of Satan
    - a. "Give me the souls: you keep the goods" (21)
    - b. Abram's answer: "I don't want anything connected with you. I serve God." (22-24)
  - 2. King of Salem - type of Christ
    - a. Melchizedek - king of peace and priest of God (18)
    - b. He blessed Abram & God (19-20), rather than tempt him.
    - c. Bible not specific as who this Melchizedek is. See Heb. 7:1-4, esp. vs. 3.
    - d. Abram had law of tithe in his heart. First example of tithing (20).
- C. The promises of God (Gen. 15:1-21)
  - 1. God speaks encouragement (1)
  - 2. Abram cries out of desperation (2-3)



## Lesson 2, p. 2

3. The promise is now specific.
    - a. Thine own son (4)
    - b. Many seed - like stars (5)
    - c. A foretelling of Christ (Gal. 3:16)
  4. Abram's faith in this specific promise made him right with God (6). See Rom. 4, esp. vs. 3, 5 & 16.
  5. The promise is confirmed by a sacrifice (7-17).
  6. The second promise specified concerning the inheritance of the land. (18-21)
- D. Abram's faith fails again (Gen. 16:1-16)
1. Sarah leads him to trust in the flesh rather than God (1-4).
    - a. A worldly solution - Hagar
    - b. Ten years of waiting (3)
    - c. Strife and hate develop in the home (4).
  2. Abram gets the blame (5).
  3. Then he shirks his responsibility (6).
  4. God remains silent as they operate in the natural.
  5. The prophecy about Ishmael (10-12)
    - a. He shall live near Abram's other descendants
    - b. He'll be a thorn to them.
  6. Hagar returns to Sarah (9).



## Lesson 3

### ABRAHAM: GEN. 17:1-17:27

- A. The Abrahamic Covenant (Gen. 17:1-27)
  - 1. After 13 years of God's silence (1)
    - a. God will not be hurried.
    - b. Try to make his promise come to pass and you just have to wait that much longer.
  - 2. The appearance of God
    - a. As "El Shaddai" (The Almighty God) the all-sufficient one (1)
    - b. The covenant is at his invitation (2, 7)
    - c. Abram fell on his face (3).
    - d. God's Word spoken has sufficient power in itself to bring it to pass.
    - e. This covenant is unconditional and irrevocable. No "if's" in it; just "I will" and "shall".
  - 3. The covenant (4-8)
    - a. Abram's name changed to Abraham (Sarai to Sarah - 15)
    - b. Abraham a father of many nations
    - c. To be eternal
    - d. To include the land of Canaan
  - 4. Circumcision to seal the promise (9-14)
    - a. Death in the flesh to produce life in the spirit.
    - b. Can't produce real fruit for God without Him.
    - c. Essential element (14)
  - 5. Struggling with doubt (15-22)



## Lesson 3, p. 2

- a. Too much for Abraham to believe (17-18)
  - b. God restates the promise (19-21)
- 6. Faith overwhelms the doubt (23-27)
  - a. Gave glory to God (Rom. 4:17-22)
  - b. Obedient action in circumcision (James 2:17)



## Lesson 4

### ABRAHAM: GEN. 18:1-21:34

- A. Confirmation to Sarah (Gen. 18:1-15)
  - 1. Abraham is aware of Jehovah's presence.
    - a. "Three men" (2)
    - b. Abraham bows reverently (2)
  - 2. Attitude of service (3-8)
  - 3. Promise of seed is restated in Sarah's hearing (9-10).
  - 4. She wrestles doubt (11-12).
  - 5. God defends his ability (13-15)
- B. Friend of God (Gen. 18:16-19)
  - 1. Abraham, God's covenant man in the earth, has a right to know what God's plan is. (17-18) See also Amos 3:7.
  - 2. Promises to him will come to pass because of his faithful obedience (19).
- C. The intercessor (Gen. 18:20-33)
  - 1. Abraham stood before God, then drew near (22-23).
  - 2. Bold intercessory prayer is made for Sodom
    - a. Remind God of his righteousness (25)
    - b. Also of his mercy (25)
  - 3. At ten, Abraham stops, but it is too soon. (32)



Lesson 4, p. 2

D. Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed (Gen. 19:1-38)

1. Lot delivered because of Abraham (29).
2. Evidence of God's mercy (16)
3. A type of the rapture of the church (22) See Luke 17:28-36)

E. Satan's plan to spoil the promise (Gen. 20:1-18)

1. Abraham's faith attacked thru threat of Abimelech (1-2)
2. God intervened to protect his Word (3-7).
3. Satan's purpose was to cloud the parentage of Sarah's child and/or prevent Abraham from fathering the promised seed.
4. Therefore, God closed the wombs of Abimelech's women (18) so there could be no doubt who was Isaac's father.

F. His faith receives its answer (Gen. 21:1-8)

1. God performs his Word
  - a. "As he had said" and "as he has spoken" (1)
  - b. See Numbers 11:23
2. Isaac is born in the time God had promised (2-3)
3. He is circumcised (4) and weaned (8).



## Lesson 4, p. 3

4. Much joy attends the realization of the promise (6-7).

### G. The problem of Ishmael (Gen. 21:9-34)

1. Just because he was Abraham's son didn't make him spiritual.
  - a. Circumcision did not change his rebellious heart.
  - b. In mocking Isaac, he mocked the promised Christ. (9)
  - c. He turned his back on his father's faith and his father's God.
2. Sarah's advice was make a clean break. (10)
  - a. The old nature of flesh (Ishmael) hates the new nature of spirit (Isaac). Gal. 5:17
  - b. Abraham had to make a hard decision - to reject everything not of God; and Ishmael was not. (11)
  - c. Hagar represents works while Sarah represents faith. Works has to go too.
3. Abraham sends Hagar & Ishmael off (14-21)
  - a. Sent with no provision (Rom. 13:14)
  - b. Ishmael confirms his destiny by marriage. (21)
4. Now free from the flesh, Abraham has a new spiritual power. (22-34)
  - a. Abimelech makes a covenant with him. (See Proverbs 16:7)
  - b. He returns Abraham's possession (25-30)



## Lesson 5

### ABRAHAM: GEN. 22:1-22:24

#### A. The ultimate test (Gen. 22:1-2)

1. Test was from God (1)
2. Isaac is the only son of promise (2)
3. Moriah--same place Solomon's temple was built (II Chron. 3:1, II Sam.24:18ff)
4. This last great surrender and sacrifice was many years in preparation in Abraham's life.
  - a. Leave father and family and go (Gen. 12:1)
  - b. Give up the good land of the plains to Lot (Gen. 13:9-12)
  - c. Forgo the gifts of king of Sodom (Gen. 14:22-23)
  - d. Send Ishmael away (Gen. 21:14)

#### B. A preview of Calvary (Gen. 22:3-10)

1. With determination father and son went to the place (vs. 3 and Luke 9:51).
2. Reached a point beyond which no one else could go (vs. 5 and Mark 14:26ff).
3. Looked beyond death to life (vs. 5 and Heb. 11:19 and Matt. 20:18-19).
4. The son carried the wood (vs. 6 and John 19:17).
5. The son questions the sacrifice (vs. 7 and Matt. 26:36ff). Consider what



Gethsemane meant to the Father.

6. They went together, the son going willingly (vs. 6, 8 and John 10:18, 18:11).
  7. The son is bound to the altar (vs. 9 and Matt. 27:35).
- C. The test of obedience is over. (Gen. 22:11-19)
1. Abraham's hand stayed (12)
  2. God provided a sacrifice (13)
  3. Jehovah-jireh (the Lord will provide) (14)
  4. The promise is then confirmed once more (15-18)
    - a. Based on the highest certainty (Heb. 6:13) See also Ex. 32:13.
    - b. Obedience brings the fulfillment.



## Lesson 6

### ABRAHAM: GEN. 23:1-25:11

#### A. Sarah's death (Gen. 23:1-20)

1. At age 127 Sarah died in Hebron in Canaan (1-2)
2. Abraham recognized himself a stranger and a sojourner even though God had promised him all the land. (4)
3. He looked for God's city. (Heb. 11: 9-10, 14-16)
4. A grave is purchased - the only part of Canaan Abraham ever owned and had deed for. (7-18)

#### B. A bride for Isaac (Gen. 24:1-67)

1. Abraham well-blessed in his old age (1)
2. Son's wife could not be from the heathen but from his own family. (3-4) An unequal yoke was out of the question.
3. Keep son away from influences that might draw him away from Canaan. (5-6) Abraham had learned to stay out of the world.
4. Son doesn't need to see the woman. God will select her (7-8). Abraham knew not to trust arm of flesh.
5. God leads the servant to Rebekah (10-28).



Lesson 6, p. 2

6. Arrangements are made with her family (29-53).
7. Rebekah agrees (58).
8. A prophetic blessing (60).
9. Isaac working and loving God when Rebekah comes (61-63).
10. Rebekah becomes his wife (67).
11. This story is a preview of the church.
  - a. Abraham - the Father God
  - b. Isaac - the Son Jesus
  - c. Rebekah - the church (bride)
  - d. Servant - the Holy Spirit
  - e. Laban - the insincere
12. A few insights
  - a. After the sacrifice of the son, the Father sent the servant looking for a bride for him.
  - b. The bride would have to be of the Father's family.
  - c. The servant's delight is to do the Father's will and draw attention to the Son.
  - d. The servant knows the mind of the Father as he prays.
  - e. He tests the bride's heart at the well before making the offer.
  - f. He uses normal events to carry out his mission.
  - g. Father gave all he had to the son (36).
  - h. Laban was a grasping worldly man interested only in the gifts and personal profit (30).



- i. The individual had to make her own choice (58).
- j. The son would not appear again to convince (7-8).
- k. After she heard the story, she agreed to go without coercion.
- l. The servant accompanied her on her journey to meet her husband, no doubt explaining things more fully as they went and telling her more about her husband.
- m. She would grow to love him more and more as she heard more about him. He would become more real to her.
- n. As they near home, she would begin to long for him (64).
- o. She would be chaste when they met (65).
- p. The son had waited patiently.
- q. Now he escorts his bride home and she becomes his wife.

- 13. The first and second mentions of love in the Bible
  - a. Gen. 22:2 Father's love for the Son
  - b. Gen. 24:67 Son's love for the Bride

C. The death of Abraham (Gen. 25:1-11)

- 1. His other children
  - a. Sons to his concubines
  - b. Keturah, concubine probably made wife after Sarah's death (Gen. 25:1,6 and I Chron. 1:32)



## Lesson 6, p. 4

2. Before death he set his affairs in order.
  - a. Established Isaac alone as heir of everything (5).
  - b. Gave gifts to the others and sent them away (6).
  - c. Isaac was clearly the recipient of the promises of God.
3. Abraham died at 175 years old (7).
4. Inference is that Abraham died when he was ready (8).
  - a. "Gave up the ghost." Not taken from him. See also Luke 23:46
  - b. "Good old age"
  - c. "An old man"
  - d. "And full". See Deut. 30:19-20, Ps. 91:16.
5. Buried next to Sarah (9-11).

### D. The promises God made Abraham

1. Three specific promises
  - a. Father of many nations, fruitful, many seed (Gen. 17:2-7)
  - b. To be a God to him and his seed (Gen. 17:7-8)
  - c. Give land of Canaan to him and his seed forever (Gen. 17:8)
2. He received the earnest or down payment on the promises but did not see their complete fulfillment except by faith. (Heb. 11:13 & 39-40)
  - a. They had to wait for us before



it could be completely fulfilled. (Heb. 11:39-40)

- b. Jesus makes all the promises ours under the new covenant.
  - 1. Better covenant (Heb. 8:6)
  - 2. Promises are yea, not nay. (II Cor. 1:20)
  - 3. We are complete in Jesus. (Col. 2:8-10)



## Lesson 7

### ISAAC: GEN. 25:19-26:35

#### A. Isaac's sons (25:19-21)

1. Rebekah's lineage was pure flesh--  
--no spirit as Isaac's was (19-20).
2. Her only "claim to fame" was her  
relationship to the heir (Jn. 3:6).
3. The problem of barrenness (unfruit-  
fulness) was with Rebekah.
  - a. Her womb (flesh) was dead, unable  
to bear fruit.
  - b. No lack in Isaac.
  - c. See the type here of we and Jesus  
and spiritual barrenness.
4. Isaac interceded for her and she was  
fruitful (21). See Jn. 15:5, Heb.  
7:25, Rom. 8:34

#### B. The battle within (25:22-27)

1. When fruitfulness began she was  
aware of a battle (22).
  - a. A struggle inside her
  - b. She inquired of the Lord.
2. His answer (23)
  - a. Two manner of people (two natures)
  - b. One will be stronger.
  - c. Elder will serve the younger.
3. Type of the battle between flesh and  
spirit in the believer. See Gal. 5:17  
& Rom. 7.



## Lesson 7, p. 2

4. Twins born (24-26)
  - a. Esau was red and hairy and animal like.
  - b. Jacob was smooth and fair (Gen. 27:11).
5. As they grew their different natures began to show (27).

### C. Isaac's testimony (Gen. 26:1-34)

1. In famine, Isaac turns to the world---Egypt, then Philistines (1-3).
2. God renews the Abrahamic covenant.
  - a. Same promises as to Abraham
  - b. Because of Abraham's obedience (5)
3. "Like father, like son". Isaac lies about his wife (7). See Gen. 12:11-13 and 20:2.
4. God blessed Isaac abundantly (12-14).
5. Enemies envied him and rejected him because of it (14-16).
  - a. They stopped up the wells of life-giving water.
  - b. Then drove him away
  - c. Deliberately violated the agreement made with Abraham (Gen. 21:22-32).
6. Isaac dug more wells (17-22).
  - a. Resisted not evil
  - b. God made room for him.
7. A worshipper (23-25)



## Lesson 7, p. 3

8. Strengthened by God, he sees his enemies come making peace (26-33). See Proverbs 16:7.
9. His oldest son grieves him in his choice of wives (34-35).



## Lesson 8

### JACOB: GEN. 27:1-41

- A. Jacob replaces his brother (Gen. 25: 27-34)
1. Two different natures exposed (27)
    - a. Esau - hunter, cunning, lifestyle of killing, maiming and destroying
    - b. Jacob - pastoral, shepherd, protective, lifestyle of productivity
    - c. Compare Cain & Abel (Gen. 4:3-5)
    - d. See also John 10:10
  2. Division between the parents (28)
  3. Day of reckoning - the confrontation of values (29-32)
    - a. Esau - ruled by appetite, carnally minded, totally consumed by earthly things, living for the here and now.
      1. "I am faint" (30)
      2. "...what profit...this birthright" (32)
    - b. Jacob - ruled by eternal things, wanted what God wanted, spiritually minded living for the eternal
      1. "Sell me...thy birthright" (31)
      2. "...this day" (31)
  4. The birthright is transferred (33-34).
    - a. Esau had the right to give it up or hold on to it.
    - b. By the words of his mouth he showed what was in his heart (Matt. 12:34).
    - c. He "despised" the things of God (34).



B. The patriarchal blessing (Gen. 27:1-29)

1. Isaac had become an almost totally carnal man (1-4)
  - a. Anticipated death (vs. 1-2) although he lived forty more years (Gen. 35:28).
  - b. "Loved" venison and wanted to eat before he gave the blessing (3-4).
  - c. Planned to give Esau the blessing against God's will (25:23).
2. Rebekah shows her strong-willed, unsundered nature (5-17).
  - a. "Let's help God out."
  - b. Not at all like Sarah (I Pet. 3: 5-6).
  - c. She must protect her Jacob's interest.
  - d. Any means was okay to her, even lying and deceit.
3. Jacob goes along (11-17).
  - a. Didn't mind being a deceiver, only being caught (12).
  - b. He masquerades as Esau.
4. Isaac deceived by his senses (18-27)
  - a. Jacob tells 5 lies in 2 breaths (19-20).
  - b. Isaac's senses
    1. His sight failed him.
    2. His touch was deceived (21-23).
    3. His taste failed him (25).
    4. His smell was deceived (26-27).
    5. His ears were true but he couldn't believe it (22).



Lesson 8, p. 3

5. Jacob gets the blessing (28-29).
  - a. Unlimited prosperity
  - b. Power over the nations and his brother
  - c. God's divine protection

C. Esau's remorse (Gen. 27:30-41)

1. Isaac shaken by the truth (30-33)
2. Esau's bitter sorrow (34-40)
  - a. He was broken-hearted but not repentant (Heb. 12:15-17).
  - b. Anger against Jacob (36)
  - c. Man reaps what he sows (Gal. 6:7).
  - d. Wanted material blessing (38-40)
3. Vengeance in his heart (41)
4. Type of the cry of the lost sinner at God's final judgement.



## Lesson 9

### JACOB: GEN. 27:42-29:30

- A. Jacob forced to flee (Gen. 27:42-28:5)
  - 1. The payoff for Rebekah
    - a. Sends Jacob away for a "few days" (42-45)
    - b. Never sees him again or her grandchildren
  - 2. She feigns a reason for Jacob to go (46).
  - 3. Isaac confirms the blessing (28:1-4).
  - 4. Jacob is sent to Haran (5).
  - 5. He is 77 years old(?) and unmarried.
- B. Esau blunders in the flesh again (Gen. 28:6-9).
  - 1. Tries to ingratiate himself thru the flesh (8).
  - 2. Fails once more (9)
- C. Encounter with God (Gen. 28:10-22)
  - 1. Jacob's ladder (12), a preview of Christ (John 1:51)
  - 2. God confirms and renews his covenant personally with Jacob (13-15).
  - 3. His (Jacob's) action then proves his faith.
    - a. Made a pillar - public testimony (18)



Lesson 9, p. 2

- b. Renamed the place Bethel or House of God (19)
  - c. Confession with his mouth (20-21)
  - d. Vow to honor God with a tithe (22)
- 4. Jacob's prior knowledge of God was from others; now he had personal experience. (Job 42:5, John 4:42)
- D. Jacob's wives (Gen. 29:1-30)
  - 1. He meets Rachel at the well (1-12).
  - 2. Laban (Rachel's father & Jacob's uncle) receives him gladly (13-14).
  - 3. The two sisters (15-17)
    - a. Leah, the eldest, was "tender-eyed".
    - b. Rachel, the youngest, was "beautiful and well favored" and Jacob loved her very much.
  - 4. The bargain was arranged (18-20).
    - a. Seven years labor with Rachel to wife as his wages
    - b. True love doesn't notice time.
  - 5. Laban's trickery (21-26)
    - a. Leah becomes Jacob's wife by Laban's deceit.
    - b. Jacob is angry but reaped what he sowed with Esau (Gen. 27). See also Matt. 7:2, Gal. 6:7.
  - 6. He marries Rachel (27-30).



## JACOB: 29:31-31:55

### A. Jacob's children (Gen. 29:31-30:24)

1. Rachel was barren so Jacob was forced to Leah to produce sons (31).
2. The names of his children
  - a. To Leah, his wife (29:32-35)
    1. Reuben (see, a son)
    2. Simeon (hearing)
    3. Levi (a joining)
    4. Judah (God be praised)
  - b. To Bilhah, Rachel's maid (30:1-8)
    1. Dan (judge, vindicator)
    2. Naphtali (my wrestling)
  - c. To Zilpah, Leah's maid (30:9-13)
    1. Gad (fortune, troop)
    2. Asher (happiness)
  - d. To Leah again (30:14-21)
    1. Issachar (he will bring reward)
    2. Zebulun (dwelling, habitation)
    3. Dinah (justice), a daughter
  - e. To Rachel, his wife (30:22-24 and 35:16-19)
    1. Joseph (add)
    2. Benjamin (son of my right hand)

### B. Jacob's wages (Gen. 30:25-43)

1. God puts into Jacob's heart to return home (25-26).
2. An agreement is made (27-36).
  - a. "Don't give me anything; let the Lord bless me" (31).
  - b. "Let me have all the off-colored animals born from this day on."



c. "We'll separate the off-colored ones now---I don't want to take those from you---and start with a herd of pure one-colored stock."

3. The Lord blesses Jacob's portion (37-43).

- a. He started with nothing.
- b. God gave him a dream (31:10-13).
- c. Jacob obeyed the seemingly silly instructions (30:37-38).
- d. God's plan worked as Jacob acted in faith (39-42).
- e. His herd increased in quantity and quality (43).

C. Jacob flees in secret (Gen. 31:1-55)

- 1. Fear of Laban's sons sets the stage and produces pressure (1-2).
- 2. Then comes definite instruction from God (3).
- 3. Family conference (4-16)
- 4. Hurried departure (17-21)
  - a. Took all his possessions (17-18)
  - b. Rachel stole her father's "gods" (19).
- 5. Laban pursues him (21-24).
- 6. God protects Jacob by warning Laban (24-29).
- 7. Jacob defends his actions (36-42).
- 8. A treaty is made between Laban and Jacob (43-55).



# Lesson 11

## JACOB: GEN. 32:1-34:31

### A. The struggle between faith and fear (Gen. 32:1-23)

1. God's host of protective angels appear to Jacob (1-2).
2. He sends envoys to notify Esau of his coming (3-5).
3. The report of the messengers produces fear (6-12).
  - a. "Esau's coming to meet you with 400 men" (6).
  - b. Escape plans are made (7-8).
  - c. Jacob prayed, reminding God of his promises (9-12).
4. A large present is prepared and sent (13-23).

### B. Jacob is finally broken (Gen. 32:24-32)

1. First of all, he was alone (24).  
Left alone with God.
2. His fighting flesh was very much alive and very strong (25).
3. He was confronted with a call to complete, unconditional surrender.
4. His flesh is broken and "out of joint" (25).
5. Now all he can do is cling. He can't wrestle or fight any more (26).



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6. Jacob's spirit will not let go without a blessing. His inner man is prevailing.
7. His confession of who he has been (27).  
"I am Jacob, supplanter, cheat. You know me, Lord." The breaking is now complete.
8. Now comes the blessing. A new name, Israel, meaning prince or chief (28).
9. God himself had broken Jacob (30).
10. He was broken forever. He would never walk the same again (31).

### C. The meeting with Esau (Gen. 33:1-16)

1. Jacob humbled himself (1-3).
2. The past is forgiven as Esau greets him (4).
3. Both brothers are prosperous (5-9).
  - a. Jacob acknowledged God as his supplier (5).
  - b. Esau acknowledges "I" (9).
4. To insure Esau's friendship Jacob urges him to accept his reparation gift (10-11).
5. Jacob declines an entanglement and unequal yoking with Esau (12-16).  
See II Cor. 6:14.

### D. Trouble with the kids (Gen. 33:17-34:31)



1. Jacob's mistakes
  - a. He settled down, built a house and barns (17). See Heb. 11:9-10.
  - b. When he moved again, he "pitched his tent before the city" in which dwelled the heathen (18). See Gen. 13:12.
  - c. He began to have interchange and business with the world (19).
2. Dinah's folly (34:1-2)
  - a. She was drawn by the allure of the world and worldly people (1).
  - b. She was seen by those who were governed by their own lusts (2).
  - c. She caved in to Shechem's persuasive advances (2).
3. Reaction (34:3-12)
  - a. Shechem wanted to marry Dinah (3-4).
  - b. Jacob held his peace (5).
  - c. Dinah's brothers enraged (6-7).
  - d. Hamor offers a deal (8-12).
4. The scheme for revenge (34:13-24)
  - a. Jacob's sons lie (13-14).
  - b. The condition to be circumcision (15-19).
  - c. Hamor has his own deceitful plan (20-23).
  - d. Agreement reached (24).
5. The result (34:25-31)
  - a. Simeon & Levi destroy the males when they are weak (25-26).
  - b. They take all the spoil (27-29).
  - c. Jacob distressed (30-31)



## Lesson 12

### JACOB: GEN. 35:1-50:14

#### A. On the move again (Gen. 35:1-5)

1. In danger over his sons' deed, Jacob needed a word from God.
2. The word came (1-2)
  - a. "Go back to your roots and dwell there."
  - b. "Return to the place where we first met."
  - c. "Do the first works again. Build an altar and worship." (See Rev. 2:4-5.)
  - d. "Clean up your life."
  - e. "Rid yourself of all your other gods."
3. Jacob obeyed (3-4).
4. The hand of God's protection was on them (5). See also Prov. 16:7.

#### B. The Lord appeared to Jacob (Gen. 35:6-15).

1. The altar is built and Jacob worshipped God (6-7).
2. In worship, God appears and blessed him (9).
3. The promise confirmed (10-12)
  - a. Name not Jacob, but Israel (10)
  - b. Nations and kings shall be your posterity (11).
  - c. The land is yours (12).



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d. In spite of Jacob's stumbling because it was based on God's Word.

4. Jacob staked a claim by faith (13-15).
  - a. He set up a pillar of remembrance so as not to forget the promise.
  - b. He poured out an offering of thanksgiving.

### C. Disobedience and tragedy (Gen. 35:16-26)

1. God said to dwell at Bethel (35:1) but Jacob moved away (16).
2. Rachel was ready to give birth when they moved (16-20).
  - a. She died birthing Benjamin (17-18).
  - b. Jacob changed his name (18-19).
3. Reuben sins (21-22).
  - a. See I Chron. 5:1 for result.
  - b. Note how Israel (not Jacob) responds.

### D. The death of Isaac (Gen. 35:27-29)

1. Jacob and Esau together at their father's death (29)
2. Isaac was 180 years old (28).

### E. Jacob separated from worldly connections to focus his attention on heavenly (Gen. 35).

1. All idols and strange gods put away (2&4).



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2. Deborah, his boyhood nurse, died (8).
3. Rachel, his beloved, died (19).
4. Isaac, his father, died (29).
5. The firstborn, Reuben, is separated by sin (22).

F. Move to Egypt (Gen. 37:1-47:27)

1. Joseph, Jacob's best loved son, sold into Egyptian slavery by his brothers (Gen. 37:1-4, 23-28).
2. Because of famine, Jacob sent his sons to Egypt to buy food (Gen. 42-45).
3. Jacob (Israel) moved his entire family and possessions to Egypt at Joseph's invitation (46).
  - a. Specific direction from God (1-4)
  - b. Seventy persons total (26-27)
4. Jacob blessed Pharaoh (47:7-10).
  - a. The greater blesses the lesser (Heb. 7:7).
  - b. Pharaoh prospered exceedingly (47:20).
5. Children of Israel grew and multiplied in Egypt (47:27).
  - a. Six hundred thousand men over 20 years old plus women and children and Levites came out of Egypt in the exodus. (Ex. 12:37, Num. 1:1-3, 45-49)



- b. In the first 215 years, from Abraham's call (1921 BC) to Jacob's going into Egypt, (1706 BC), Israel was 70 persons.
- c. In the next 215 years, from the going into Egypt (1706 BC) to the exodus (1491 BC) they had become well over two million.

G. Israel's death (Gen. 47:28-50:14)

1. At age 147, after 17 years in Egypt (47:28)
2. His heart was still in the land of promise (47:29-31). He was in the world but not of it.
3. Sick (48:1) Hebrew word means weak or worn. See II Sam. 13:2 & Song 2:5 for same word.
4. The blessing of Joseph's sons (48:2-22)
  - a. Ephraim and Manasseh are "adopted" and given son's rights (5-6).
  - b. Israel laid hands on the boys prophetically setting Ephraim, the younger above his brother (13-20).
  - c. Joseph thereby receives a double portion (22).
5. The blessing of Jacob's sons (49:1-28)
  - a. The spirit of prophecy flows.
  - b. Several examples
    1. Judah (8-10) - Shiloh or rest shall come thru Judah, a messianic promise. Jesus did so.



2. Joseph (22-26) - fruitful and strong. Ephraim became the strongest of the northern ten tribes. (See Is. 11:13.)
6. After all his final arrangements were made and he was ready, he died (33).
7. A grand funeral (50:1-14)
  - a. Joseph and a large entourage of Israelites and Egyptians alike return to Canaan for the burial (7).
  - b. Afterward, they returned again to Egypt (14).