

Christ in Genesis

One of the most beautiful allusions to Christ in all of the Old Testament is found in Genesis 22. Many parallels can be found between Isaac and Jesus: Isaac was Abraham's beloved and only son; Jesus was God's only and beloved Son. Abraham and Isaac travelled three days; Jesus spent three days in the grave. The mountain Isaac was "offered" on would later be the location of Solomon's temple (2 Chr. 3:1), and in the proximity of where Jesus would one day be crucified. Most important is Abraham's statement to Isaac in verse 8, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." God did provide a ram that day which took Isaac's place, but Abraham's words foreshadowed something far greater—the time when God would provide His Son Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God, in order to take away our sins!



Questions

Try to find the answers to these questions as you read through Genesis 12-26 this week. If you have children, go over these questions with them and have them try to answer the questions also!

- 1) How old was Abram when God called him to leave his homeland? _____
- 2) What was Lot's relationship to Abram?
 - a. Son
 - b. Friend
 - c. Nephew
 - d. Servant
- 3) Who was the priest of God Most High? _____
- 4) What is the name of Abraham's son by Hagar? _____.
- 5) What did God expect from Abraham as a part of His covenant? (Gen. 17:1)

- 6) God promised He would not destroy Sodom and Gomorrah if He found _____ righteous people in the city.
- 7) What two nations came from Lot and his daughters? _____ & _____
- 8) How old was Abraham when Isaac was born? _____
- 9) What was the name of Isaac's wife?
 - a. Leah
 - b. Rachel
 - c. Sarah
 - d. Rebekah
- 10) Of his two sons, which one did Isaac favor more? _____

Extra: Abraham is featured quite frequently in the New Testament. In fact he's specifically mentioned in over 70 verses! A few key passages that discuss Abraham are listed below. If you want some further study material, study these passages thoroughly, and see what you can learn from them about Abraham, faith and obedience. How do these things help us today?

Romans 4:1-25 ♦ Galatians 3:1-29 ♦ Hebrews 11:8-19 ♦ James 2:14-23

“That You May Grow Thereby...”

A weekly Bible reading plan

Genesis 12-26

Abraham: A Friend of God

Overview

In Genesis 12, the Biblical focus shifts from telling the story of the world to the story of a single man. This was no ordinary man however, and the shift doesn't mean God was done with the world. On the contrary, by shifting focus to Abraham, the story of God's redemptive plan narrows in on the man through whom the whole world would be blessed! God called Abram out of his homeland and to the land of Canaan, and God promised to make Abram into a great nation. One apparent problem existed: Abram and his wife Sarai were already pretty old, and childless. As we follow the story of Abram we follow a man growing in his walk with God. We see mistakes, but we see incredible faith. We also see God make His covenant with Abram, and we see God's power to fulfill amazing promises. In their old age (and 25 years after God's original call) Abraham and Sarah were blessed with the birth of Isaac, the child God had promised them. Abraham's life is a wonderful example of what it means to trust in God and obey Him. James 2:23 even says of this great man, "...and he was called the friend of God." What a wonderful compliment! Let us learn from this man, and seek to be more like him so that we too can be the friends of God!

Suggested Reading Schedule

Monday: Gen. 12-14
 Tuesday: Gen. 15-17
 Wednesday: Gen. 18-20
 Thursday: Gen. 21-23
 Friday: Gen. 24-26

A major theme in Abraham's life is his covenant relationship with God. We learn that:

- ◇ Covenants are founded on God's promises (Gen. 12:1-3)
- ◇ We have a role in fulfilling God's Covenant (Gen. 17:1)
- ◇ There is typically a sign or symbol that represents the covenant. (Gen. 17:9-14)

In a Bible Dictionary or Bible Encyclopedia, look up "covenant" and see what else you can learn. Can you think of other covenants found in the Bible? These chapters speak of God's covenant with Abraham:

Genesis 12, 15, 17, 22

Eliezer: Profile of a True Servant

Genesis 24

Eliezer was a servant tasked by Abraham to find a wife for Isaac. The manner in which he performed his duty leaves a great example for us! Consider the following, and ask if this is how you approach your responsibilities.

Accepted the Challenge.....	24:3,9
Examined alternatives.....	24:5
Promised to follow instruction.....	24:9
Made a plan.....	24:12-14
Submitted the plan to God.....	24:12-14
Prayed for guidance.....	24:12-14
Was patient.....	24:21
Watched closely.....	24:21
Accepted the answer thankfully.....	24:26
Refused unnecessary delay.....	24:56
Followed through the entire plan.....	24:66

*Adapted from Tyndale Handbook of Bible Charts and Maps