

**IS ABRAHAM YOUR SPIRITUAL FATHER?****Genesis 11:26-13:18 (Review)**

11:26, 31 Abraham was born in the kingdom of Babylon [in about 2,000 B.C.] 12:1 Creator God said to Abraham, “Leave your country. Go to another land that I will show you.”

2 God also said, “I will make you into a great nation of people. 3 Through you, I will bless all the peoples in the world.”

4 So Abraham left his country – he obeyed God. ... *But Abraham did not know where he should go – because God had not told Abraham yet (Hebrews 11:8). So Abraham went to the town of Haran – and he lived in Haran (Acts 7:4A). Then God moved Abraham to Canaan (Acts 7:4B). ...*

4 Abraham was 75 years old 5 when he went to Canaan.

6 The Canaanite people groups were living in Canaan. Abraham traveled through Canaan – 8 and Abraham lived in a tent. 13:14 God said to Abraham, “Look north – look south – look east – look west. 15 I will give all this land to you and to your descendants forever. 17 I am giving Canaan to you, so go – walk through the land from north to south and from east to west. 18 So Abraham moved his tent. And Abraham built an altar to Creator God.

**Why did Abraham leave his country?****Hebrews 11:8-10**

Abraham followed Option #2.

Option #2 = Believe God & Live Forever

8 [In Babylon] Abraham had faith – he believed Creator God. God said: Go. So Abraham obeyed God and went – but he didn’t know where he was going! But he came to Canaan – and Canaan became Abraham’s inheritance!

9 Then, Abraham had (more) faith. He lived in Canaan – but he lived in tents like a foreigner – so Abraham had no permanent home. Why? 10 Because Abraham was expecting to receive a real city with foundations – the eternal city made by God on the New Earth.

## CONTENT QUESTIONS

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What did God tell Abraham to do? (Genesis 12:1)
  - Did Abraham know where he was going? (Genesis 12:4 & Hebrews 11:8)

Could Abraham see the future?

How would you feel about obeying God, if you could not see the future?

- God's 1st promise:  
What great promise did God make to Abraham? (12:2)

Abraham became the father of what nation? [Israel]

But Abraham is not the father of Israel only.

- God's 2nd promise:  
What great promise did God make for the whole world? (verse 3)

- And through whom would God bless all the peoples in the world? (verse 3)

How do you think God will bless all peoples through Abraham?

In A.D. 1 – about 2000 years after Abraham...

***God loved the world very, very much – so God gave his only Son, Jesus Christ.***

John 3:16

But who was Jesus?

***Jesus Christ was the descendant...of Abraham.***

Luke 3:23, 34

So God blessed all the peoples in the world through Abraham's descendant Jesus.

***God loved the world very, very much – so God gave his only Son, Jesus Christ. So everyone who believes in Jesus will not be destroyed – but they will have eternal life.***

John 3:16

This is Option #2 –  
Believe in God & Live Forever!

So Abraham is the father of Israel.

But Abraham is also the father of all people who believe in Jesus.

**11 Abraham is the father of all Gentiles [non-Jews] who believe in Creator God. 12 And Abraham is the father of all Jews [Israelites] who believe in Creator God. 16 Abraham is the father of us all – he is the father of all who believe. 17 Because God said to Abraham, “I have made you the father of many nations.” In God’s eyes, Abraham is our father – Abraham believed Creator God, so he is our father.**

Romans 4:11-12, 16-17

Who are Abraham’s children?

What must we do to become Abraham’s children?

So how long has Creator God been thinking about your people?

- How old was Abraham when he left Babylon? (Genesis 12:4)

Sarah was 10 years younger than Abraham.

[Genesis 17:17 & 21:5]

- God’s 3rd promise:

What did Creator God promise Abraham? (Genesis 13:14-15)

- So how did Abraham show that he believed God’s promise? (verse 17)
- And what did Abraham live in? (Genesis 12:8 & 13:18)
- Why did Abraham leave Babylon? (Hebrews 11:8)  
Did he know where he was going? (verse 8)
- Why did Abraham travel back and forth in Canaan? Why did he live in a tent? (verses 9-10)  
What was Abraham looking forward to?

**Many people only think about things on this earth. But our citizenship is in heaven.**

Philippians 3:18-20

**Here on earth we do not have a permanent city. But we strongly look forward to the city that will come from God.**

Hebrews 13:14

What will happen at the end of the world?

**I saw a New Heaven and a New Earth. I saw the Holy City coming down out of heaven from God. A loud voice said, “Now God’s home is with people – God will live with them. They will be God’s people – and God will be their God. God will wipe every tear from his people’s eyes. There will be no more death or sadness or crying or pain – because all the old things are gone.” Then God said, “I am making everything new.”**

Revelation 21:1-5

Who will be with God forever?

***9There were many, many, many people – so no one could count them. The people were from every country, group, and language. The people were standing in front of God’s throne – and they were standing in front of Jesus Christ.10And the people shouted very loudly: “Salvation belongs to our God and to Jesus Christ.”***

Revelation 7:9-10

What was more important to Abraham:

His home on this earth?

Or a permanent home with God forever?