



Genesis - Beginnings and Foundations

Chapter 12 – Abram
Mar 16, 2025

Module 5, Room 1

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ **Mar 2, 2025** - **Gen Ch 10**
- ✓ **Mar 4, 2025.** - **Manor Lake- Daniel Ch 9**
- ✓ **Mar 9, 2025** - **Gen Ch 11**
- ✓ **Mar 16, 2025** - **Gen Ch 12**
- ✓ **Mar 18, 2025** - **Manor Lake Dan Ch 10**
- **Mar 23, 2023** - **TBD**
- **Mar 30, 2023** - **TBD**
- **April 6, 2025** - **Wade Williams to teach**
- **April 13, 2025.** - **Palm Sunday**
- **April 20, 2025** - **Resurrection Sunday**

Quick Update ...ICYMI

Middle East

- *Syrian forces are murdering Alawites, Christians, and Orthodox priests in revenge for former Syrian atrocities. Thousands murdered and little world response. The world does not seem to care.*
- *Israel is cleaning up Samaria and Judah to remove terrorists. A long job with the “Palestinian” Israel citizens mixed in.*
- *Possible hostage deal for American Hostages but still remote (my opinion)*

US/World

- *The Russia/ Ukraine war is still on pause...still waiting for a Russian response*
- *Fraud, waste, and abuse in Government are shocking, and the detail and neck-deep involvement is almost unbelievable.*
- *Inflation, Energy prices, and Egg prices are reducing*
- *Tariff war continues with EU, China, Mexico, and Canada*

Table of Nations

<u>Ancient Name</u>	<u>Modern Name</u>
Rosh (Rashu, Rasapu, Ros, and Rus)	Russia
Magog (Scythians)	Central Asia / "Stans"
Meshech (Muschki and Musku)	Turkey
Tubal (Tubalu)	Turkey
Persia	Iran / Pakistan / Afghanistan
Ethiopia (Cush)	Ethiopia / Sudan
Libya (Put or Phut)	Libya
Gomer (Cimmerians)	Turkey
Sheba / Dedan / Tarshish	Yemin / Arab tribes / West traders
Mizrai	Egypt
Beth-togarmah (Til-garimmu or Tegarma)	Turkey

Map of Nations



Genesis 11:26-30 The 3 sons of Abram

*²⁶ After Terah had lived 70 years, he became the father of **Abram, Nahor, and Haran**.*

Abram's (exalted Father/ Shield) Family

²⁷ This is the account of Terah's family line.

*Terah became the father of **Abram, Nahor** (hot/scorched), **and Haran** (mountaineer). And Haran became the father of **Lot** (cover/envelop).*

²⁸ While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth.

*²⁹ **Abram** and **Nahor** both married. The name of Abram's wife was **Sarai** (princess), and the name of Nahor's wife was **Milkah** (queen/counsel); she was the daughter of Haran, the father of both Milkah and Iskah (weave a cover, watch).*

*³⁰ Now **Sarai** was **childless** because she was not able to conceive.*

This is where we left off...

Before we move to Chapter 12

Before we get to Ch 12, there is a dramatic change in the flow of Genesis we need to discuss. In the first 11 chapters, God deals with mankind in general, and pivotal events.

These were:

- *The Creation*
- *The Fall of Mankind*
- *The Flood, and finally*
- *The Tower of Babel*

What comes next?

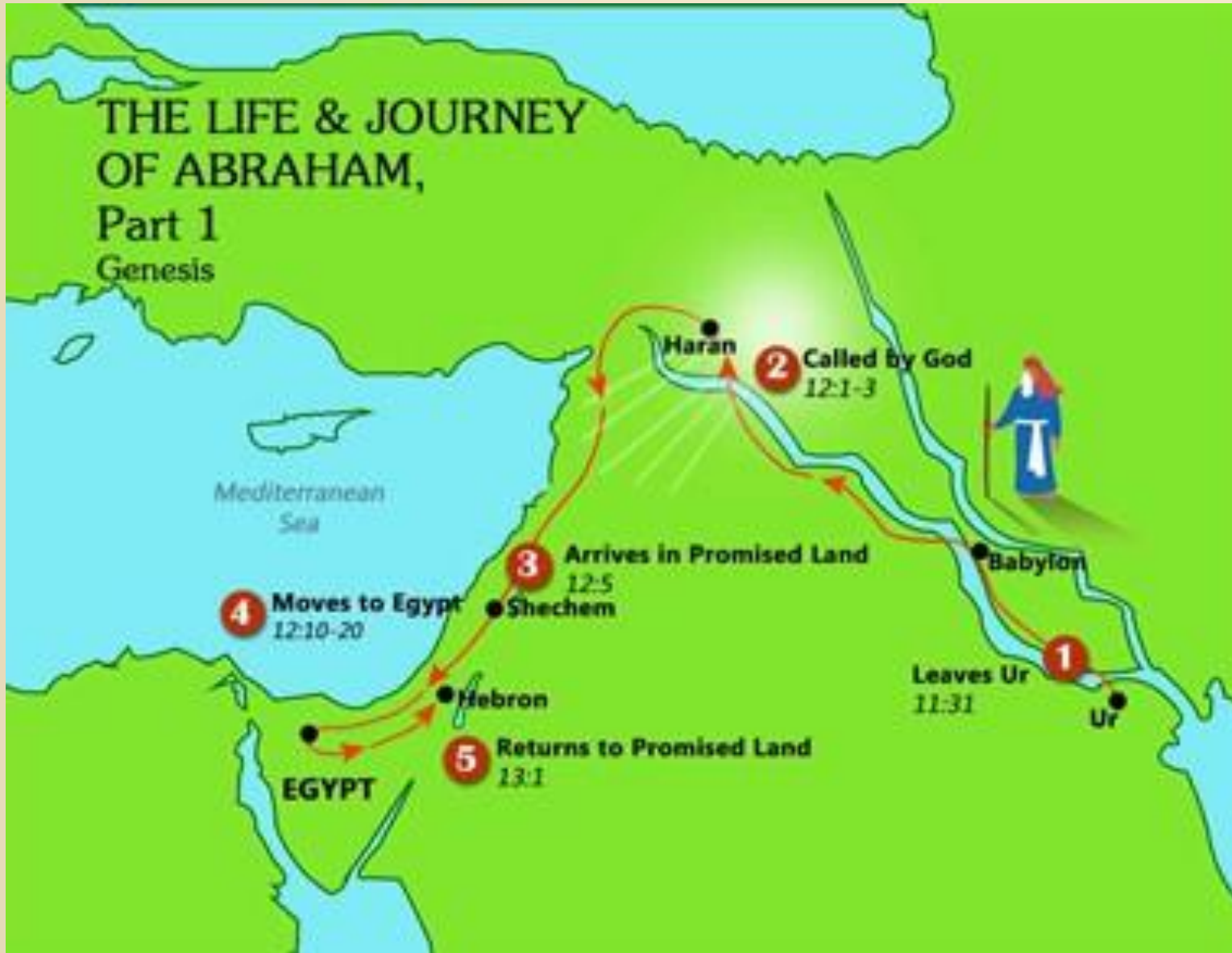
In Chapter 12 and beyond, Genesis deals with 4 individuals, and we see them in their full character, flaws and all. So far, God has only dealt with Adam and Eve, now, HE deals directly with Abram. The individuals God deals with now are:

The Patriarchs

- *Abram – The man of Faith (Gen 12-23)*
- *Isaac – the Beloved Son (Gen 24-26)*
- *Jacob – the Chosen and Chastened Son (Gen 27-36)*
- *Joseph – the man of Suffering and Glory (Gen 28-50)*

*These four patriarchs are extremely important to the understanding of the Word of God. We will get barely into Abram in this study, and perhaps we will come back and do a **Patriarch Study** to finish the Book of Genesis*

Genesis 12:1 The Call of Abram



12 The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

- *Could/would we do it?*

Genesis 12:2-3 Blessings to follow Obedience

² ***“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.***

³ ***I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you, I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.”***

Genesis 12:4-7

Abram's Response

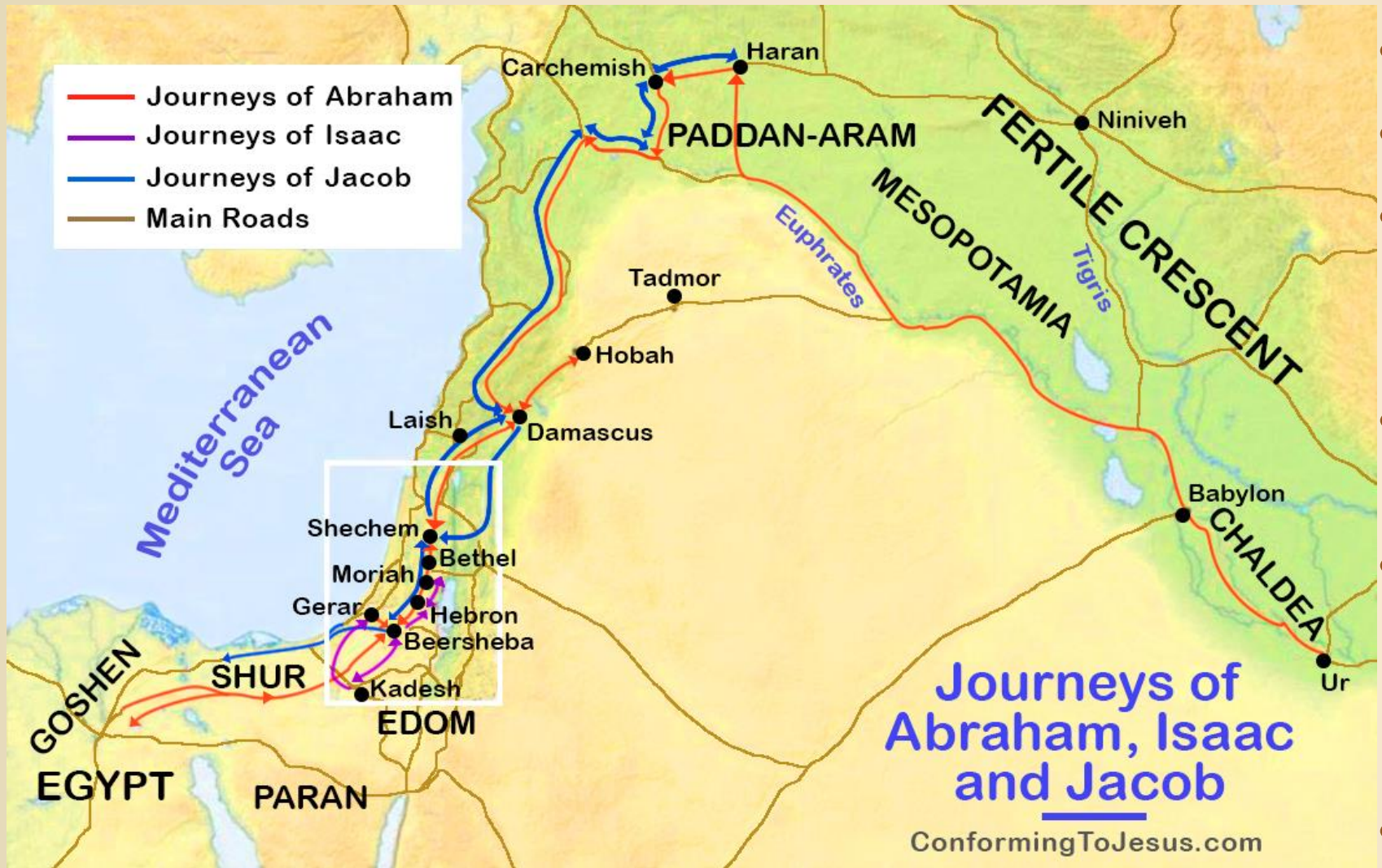
⁴ **So Abram went**, as the Lord had told him; **and Lot went with him.** Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

⁵ He took his **wife Sarai**, his **nephew Lot**, all the possessions they had accumulated, and the people they had acquired in Harran, and **they set out for the land of Canaan**, and they arrived there.

⁶ Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at **Shechem**. At that time, the Canaanites were in the land.

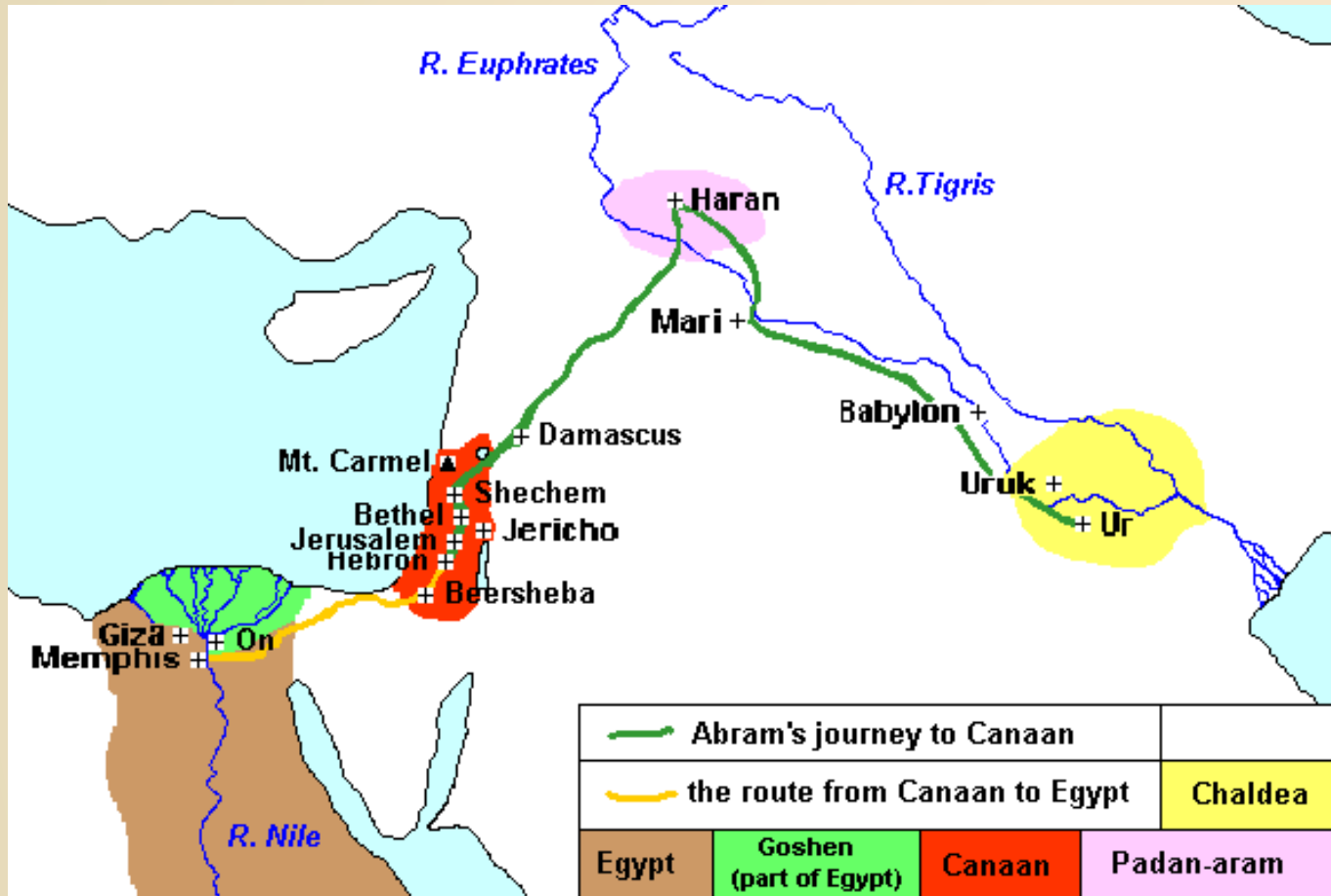
⁷ The Lord appeared to Abram and said, **“To your offspring/seed, I will give this land.”** So, he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

Abram receives Gods Blessings and Promises



- *The Fertile Crescent*
- *God appears to Abram*
- *Abram just received a promise that he would have children*
- *The Children will possess the Land*
- *Abram, Sarai, Lot, and all his animals, slaves, and possessions traveled to Shechem*
- *Canaanites in the land*

Genesis Ch 12:9-10 Abram is restless and moves



From Shechem to Bethel, he traveled

9 Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

10 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe.

Genesis Ch 12:11-13 Man of Faith – *not always*

.¹¹ As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are.

¹² When the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife.’ Then they will kill me but will let you live.

¹³ Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you.”

But there are several things to remember about both the culture, the power of Kings, and something else...

Genesis Ch 12 Context of the trip to Egypt

- *God did not call Abram to go to Egypt*
- *Most likely on the way, and at Shechem, he heard about a famine, and without God's instructions, decided to go there.*
- *Kings, even David, could take a woman to be his wife whenever he wanted to, and if she was married, they would kill the husband.*
- *Sarai was a beautiful woman. Despite Abraham being 75 years old, she was 65 years old when they were in Egypt.*
- *We know that Abram passed Sarai off as his sister and not his wife for selfish reasons, but what was their relationship if any, other than marriage?*

Abram and Sarai – What's the story?

*There are disputable facts about where Sarai came from in the narrative. In Genesis **20:11-12**, where Abraham is defending his actions to the King of Gerar, he says (this is the 2nd deception)*

Gen 20:11-12

*¹¹ Abraham replied, "I said to myself, 'There is surely no fear of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.'¹² **Besides, she really is my sister, the daughter of my father (grandfather) though not of my mother; and she became my wife.***

Is she his half-sister? Same father, different mother? Term for father could be grandfather/ancestor

Location of Gerar



Sarai – more background

The wording here seems to indicate that Sarai was Abram's step-sister, but the commentators also think that there is a strong possibility that she is his **niece** and wife.

After the death of Abram's brother Haran, the grandfather may have placed the Haran daughters in the care of his sons Abram and Nahor, so that the daughters were both nieces and wives. This was a common practice with wives and daughters of dead husbands/fathers in that culture. They needed protection and position. There is also some thought that in **Gen 11:28-29**

*Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot. ²⁸ While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth. ²⁹ Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milkah; she was the daughter of Haran, the **father of both Milkah and Iskah.***

*There is a possibility of **mistranslation** here since **Iskah** also means "to watch". Some believe that because of the repetitive verses, the proper translation could be indicating that Sarai was to be taken as a wife to be "watched" by Abram. The word translated father can also be translated ancestor (or in this case grandfather). So, Abram might have said "¹² Besides, she really is my sister, the daughter of my **father (grandfather)** though not of my mother; and she became my wife.*

Just more information for context in understanding

Genesis Ch 12:14-20 Calamity follows Disobedience

14 When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman.

15 And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace.

16 He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels.

*17 But **the Lord inflicted serious diseases (plagues) on Pharaoh and his household because of Abram's wife, Sarai.***

*18 **So** Pharaoh summoned Abram. "What have you done to me?" he said. "Why didn't you tell me she was your wife?"*

19 Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her to be my wife? Now then, here is your wife. Take her and go!"

20 Then Pharaoh gave orders about Abram to his men, and they sent him on his way, with his wife and everything he had.

Genesis Ch 12 Abram's failure of Faith

*This is the **first of two instances** where this deception is written about in Genesis. It is not clear how Pharaoh connected the diseases to Sarai, but probably sensing her reluctance and under questioning, she admitted Abram was her husband.*

Interestingly, the Pharaoh did not kill Abram because of it but was just glad to rid himself of them. He confronts Abram with the facts.

*We mentioned the 2nd time before, in Gen Ch 20 with **Abimelek**, King of Gerar*

In a dream, God told Abimelek that Sarai was Abram's wife. He never touched her because the Lord protected both of them.

I want to finish this discussion with another set of verses from Chapter 20.

Genesis Ch 20:16-18 *Amends to Sarai ?*

¹⁶ *To Sarah he said, “I am giving your brother (LOT) a thousand shekels (about 25 lbs) of silver. This is to cover the offense against you before all who are with you; you are completely vindicated.”*

¹⁷ *Then Abraham prayed to God, and **God healed Abimelek, his wife, and his female slaves so they could have children again,***

¹⁸ *for the Lord had kept all the women in Abimelek’s household from conceiving because of Abraham’s wife Sarah.*

This brings us to the end of this first part of

Genesis – Beginnings and Foundations

Genesis Ch 12 – What do we take away?

Even Abram/Abraham, who was a strong example of Faith, had moments when his Faith was overcome by fear, and he plotted ways to protect himself as he went against God's commands.

*Lesson: Even today, when we do not do what God wants us to do, there are consequences, but God is a compassionate God and will give us the Grace and Mercy to come back to Him. We must ask for forgiveness and come back to **Faith->Trust -> Obedience***

Also, when we are in God's will, there is no safer place to be, and God will protect us, even in our valley of despair.

Finally, Genesis -Beginnings and Foundations

- *We studied the beginnings of Earth, the universe, Time, and Space, and it was good*
- *We studied the beginnings of Man and Woman, and it was Very Good*
- *We learned that Mankind is made in the Image of God; no other creation has this trait. We are His loving creation*
- *We learned that God was self-existent with no beginning, and all was created by Him (them)*
- *We saw the Fall of Mankind when Adam and Eve disobeyed God and followed the deceiving Spirit, and God's punishment*
- *We saw evil rise until God flooded the earth, and Noah's family and the animals he took aboard the Ark were all that was left (except fish)*
- *We saw the rise of Babylon against God, and God confused languages.*
- *We saw the Nations of the world spread out to populate Earth, as instructed*
- *We saw the Chosen line identified, and we followed it to Abram, who is the first of the Patriarchs in Genesis*
- *We know that "In the Beginning God"...if we believe this...the rest follows*

Next time, we will start a new lesson series

- *Pray for the US, Israel, and the Peace of Jerusalem*
- *Pray for peace in Ukraine*
- *Pray for First Redeemer Pastors, staff, teachers, and all who lead*
- *Praise God for his healing and successful surgeries/procedures in the class*
- *Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to fill the land*