

- I. When we began this series, we stated that our focus is the nation of Israel. However, we had to start our series right from Genesis 1:1 and if we can remember clearly, God began a restorative process after the fall of man working through the lineage of one of Noah's sons, Shem. This is why we have been laboring on the journey of Abraham from whom the nation of Israel came into being through Isaac, Jacob and then Jacob's 12 sons. We know that Isaac had two sons, Esau and Jacob and before we look at the spiritual truths that we can learn from Jacob's life, let us review some of the details that we saw during the study on the journey of Abraham.

Gen.15:13 Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them, four hundred years. 14 "And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.

Gen.22:15 Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, 16 and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son - 17 "blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. 18 "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

- ❖ We have seen in our past weeks of study how the Lord had ‘child trained’ Abraham to bring him to the place of spiritual maturity, resulting in unwavering faith in the promises of God, demonstrated through the sacrifice of Isaac – promises that we can see from Genesis Chapter 22, that include the heavenly and the earthly realm of the Kingdom, both physical and spiritual descendants, who will possess the gate of their enemy. Those then, who will rule at the head of the nations on the earth, Abraham’s physical descendants and over the nations from the heavens, Abraham’s spiritual descendants.

- But, we also see from Genesis Chapter 15 that these same physical descendants who will rule at the head of the nations on the earth would be ‘strangers in a land not theirs’, that they would serve the inhabitants of that land and suffer affliction at the hands of the land’s occupants before rulership could take place.
- Then, in line with the promise of rulership there is the promise that God will judge the nation ‘whom they serve’ and that after God’s judgment they will come out of that nation ‘with great possessions’.
- And so, according to the scripture, there must be affliction before rulership for Abraham’s physical descendants. And for the spiritual descendants we know that suffering must precede glory –

Rom 8:17 and if children, then heirs--heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Affliction ————— • Deliverance ————— Great Possessions

- Now, inevitably what we see in this detail will direct our minds to Israel in Egypt and the events recorded in the Book of Exodus and this of course is exactly what the Lord is referring to in Genesis Chapter 15.

- II. But, before we take ourselves to Egypt and the days of Moses, let’s not forget the context into which all that we have been studying must fit.

1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion.....

- The Man and the Woman were created in the image and likeness of God to rule over the earth in the place of Satan and his fallen angels, the original and still present rulers of this age (Ephe.6:12).
- Because of Satan's deception, sin entered the world and the Man, and the Woman were disqualified from ruling and so a process began to restore ruined Mankind to the position from which the Man and the Woman had fallen; a process that had already been established in the 6 days of work and the 7th day of rest set out in the first 34 verses of Genesis to restore the ruined material creation –

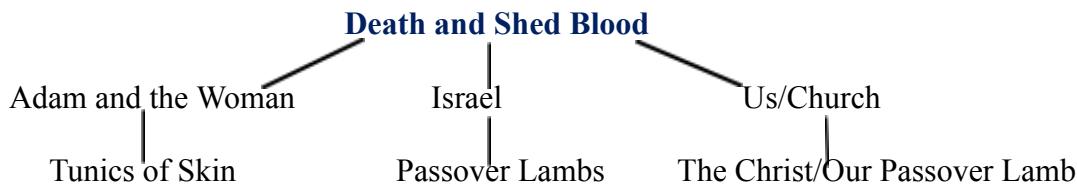
Gen 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

- This restorative process for Adam and Eve as individuals, began with the death and shed blood of animals to provide tunics of skin to cover their nakedness –

Gen 3:21 Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

- ❖ And the restorative process for Abraham who was born dead in trespasses and sins, as every human being has been from Adam onwards, would have begun in the same way, through the death and shed blood of an animal, although this event is not recorded for us in scripture.
 - ❖ The ‘child training’ we have witnessed with Abraham presents, with respect to each eternally saved individual, the restorative process we see at the beginning of Genesis – from a starting point when light shines in the darkness to a transformation to once again be in the image and likeness of God – Abram becomes Abraham.
 - ❖ This same restorative process for the descendants of Abraham through Isaac and Jacob, the nation of Israel, began on the night of Passover with the death and shed blood of the Passover Lambs.
 - ❖ The completion of Israel’s ‘child training’ still awaits them yet future through affliction as we have seen, but its completion is certain, and they will, in that Day, be transformed from Jacob to Israel – a prince with God.
 - ❖ And for ourselves, our process of restoration began when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and the Lord has been child training us since that time, providing we are willing to accept it, so that we can receive the adoption as sons in the Kingdom, becoming co-heirs with Christ – transformed into His image –
- 1Cor.15:49 And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.**
- ❖ And it was in the sacrifice of Isaac on Mount Moriah, through the substitutionary death of the ram caught in the thicket, that we find the type of the Passover lambs in Egypt and The Passover Lamb, the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, the substitutionary death that purchased our own eternal redemption.

Starting Point —————→ Child Training —————→ Transformation



- And let's not forget, that we have previously seen the events on Mount Moriah, both near and far, from a slightly different perspective, when Cain killed Abel while they were both in the field together –

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

- ❖ It is God the Father who gave His only begotten Son as a sacrifice, but at the same time it is the house of Jacob, Christ's brother who slayed the Passover Lamb.
- ❖ And so, to summarize for a moment, the account of Abraham and his descendants through Isaac and Jacob provide the detail for the outworking of God's stated purpose for creating Man. And through the events recorded in this account we have provided for us a seemingly endless foreshadowing of that which has already come to pass and that which is still awaiting fulfillment in the very near future. It is both history and prophecy at the same time, using types, metaphors and symbolism to reveal that which is still out ahead.
- ❖ And it is a treasure trove of truth and instruction for us as we continue in the race of the faith –

1Cor.10:11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

Rom.15:4 For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

III. Gen 6:13 And God said to Noah, "The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. 14 "Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch.

- ❖ In Genesis Chapter 6 we find the account of Noah and the world-wide flood.
 - The world-wide flood of Noah's day presents a picture, a type, of a time of world-wide destruction yet future through which the nation of Israel, pictured through Noah and his family, will safely pass.
 - When the flood had completed its work of judgment upon the wicked, Noah and his family emerged from the ark to a new beginning, picturing Israel entering a new beginning beyond the Tribulation.
 - The time of the Tribulation pictured through the flood is also seen in the time of affliction for the descendants of Abraham that was told to him in Genesis Chapter 15.

IN THE BEGINNING – PART 15

- Now the point of drawing our attention to this is a simple one. That which God told Abraham in Genesis Chapter 15 had already been set in a foundational type in Genesis Chapter 6.
- The affliction that Abraham's descendants would suffer in Egypt was real and terrible, but it also pictured a future affliction that Israel will yet suffer, which will be far, far worse than that suffered in Egypt, encompassing the entire world, the same event pictured through the flood of Noah's day.
- And contained in this foundational type in Genesis Chapter 6, is the certainty that Israel, as a nation, will be preserved – not the Jewish people as individuals as individually approximately 9 million will die during the Tribulation, but the nation will not be destroyed, rather they will find themselves beyond the Tribulation at the head of the nations –

Gen 8:4 *Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on [Lit. above or over] the mountains of Ararat.*

- Hence the promise to Abraham that following his descendants' affliction in a land not their own, they would 'come out with great possessions', pointing to the position that they will hold and what they will receive following the overthrow of Gentile world power.

Isa 60:1 *Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. 3 The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. 4 "Lift up your eyes all around, and see: They all gather together, they come to you; Your sons shall come from afar, And your daughters shall be nursed at your side. 5 Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.*

- As we prepare to look at the detail of the affliction of Abraham's descendants in Egypt we can go to the account of the life of the man through whom the nation of Israel would come, Jacob, and find there a broad panorama of events, which works after a similar fashion to that we have seen previously with Genesis Chapters 21-25.
- This panorama encompasses that already depicted in Genesis Chapter 6, confirms that promised to Abraham in Genesis Chapter 15 and foreshadows the experience of Abraham's descendants in Egypt and forms another facet of the type picturing Israel's future experience as prophesied at the beginning of Isaiah Chapter 60.

IV. **Gen 28:12** *Then he dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 And behold, the LORD stood above it and said: "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants. 14 "Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. 15 "Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."..... 29:1 So Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the East.*

- ❖ Following the events with Esau and the blessing of the birthright Jacob flees in fear of his life ‘to the land of the people of the East’. As he stopped for the night at ‘a certain place’, he had a dream in which the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac, spoke to him confirming the covenant He had made with Abraham and Isaac concerning the land, ***the land on which you lie I will give to you and your descendants, 14 "Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth.....and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.***
- ❖ And just as Abraham was told that his descendants would be 400 years in a land not their own, so Jacob is told that his descendants ‘shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south’, picturing a dispersion throughout the world.
- ❖ A dispersion that looks to both the diaspora of 70 AD and the future dispersion of the nation from the land at the midpoint in the Tribulation –
Luk.21:24 "And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.
- ❖ And the nation’s eventual return to the land - ***Isa 43:5 Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east, And gather you from the west; 6 I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' And to the south, 'Do not keep them back!' Bring My sons from afar, And My daughters from the ends of the earth-***
The promise to Jacob in Genesis Chapter 28, ***"Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you."*** is the same promise repeated in Isaiah, ***Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your descendants from the east.....***
- ❖ After the events at Bethel and Jacob making his journey to the people of the land of the East, God does not speak to Jacob again for some 20 years. During the time when Jacob is mistreated by Laban, God is silent – but the promise had been given, ‘behold I am with you and will keep you wherever you go’.
- ❖ Jacob’s journey to the land of the East forms a type for Israel’s dispersion following the nation being set aside, while God calls out of the Gentiles a people for His name during this dispensation.
- ❖ Then, Jacob’s mistreatment at the hand of Laban, pictures the affliction told Abraham in Genesis Chapter 15, looking to Israel’s affliction in Egypt by the Assyrian Pharaoh and their future affliction under the Assyrian Antichrist.
- ❖ And the 20 years of God’s silence experienced by Jacob forms a type for the 2000 years of God’s silence with respect to Israel during this dispensation.
- ❖ But as we have also seen from Isaiah Chapter 43, the day will come when God will speak again to His people – as in the type –

31:3 Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you.....**11** "Then the Angel of God spoke to me in a dream, saying, 'Jacob.' And I said, 'Here I am.' **12** "And He said, 'Lift your eyes now and see, all the rams which leap on the flocks are streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted; for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you. **13** 'I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar and where you made a vow to Me. Now arise, get out of this land, and return to the land of your family.'"

- ❖ And this anticipates God speaking to His people in – **Exod. 3:7** And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. **8** "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.
- ❖ And foreshadows that future day when God will again speak to His people as a result of the persecution of the Tribulation as prophesied in - **2Chron. 7:13** "When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, **14** "if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.
- ❖ Then the whole of this panoramic type seen in the account of Jacob's life, from dispersion to re-gathering, is presented again through Jacob in another somewhat succinct type in Genesis Chapter 32.

V. **Gen 32:24** Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. **25** Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. **26** And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" **27** So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." **28** And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." **29** Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. **30** And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

- ❖ It is throughout one night that Jacob wrestled with 'a Man', 'until the breaking of day' and it will be during the darkest night of Jewish history, the Great Tribulation, that the descendants of Jacob will wrestle 'with God and with men' and will prevail, just as we had seen pictured through Noah and his family in Genesis Chapter 6.
- ❖ And it will be following this night that the descendants of Jacob will experience that seen in - **Mal 4:1** "For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. **2** But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves.

- ❖ And following the day, ‘burning like an oven’, as the Sun of Righteousness arises following the darkness of night that Jacob, the man of flesh will be no more and in his place, will be Israel – a prince with God.
- ❖ We may cause ourselves a degree of confusion by thinking of ‘Israel’ going through the Tribulation, but the scripture says that this will be ‘the time of Jacob’s trouble’, not the time of Israel’s trouble- ***Jer.30:7 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob's trouble, But he shall be saved out of it.***
- ❖ It is Jacob, the man of the flesh, who is dealt with during the Tribulation, dispersed out among the nations and it is Jacob who will remain in the place of death – the nation in resurrection is Israel and Jacob will be seen no more.
- ❖ The purpose for the house of Jacob being sent out among the nations will have been completed and their child training will have been accomplished and that which we saw promised in Genesis Chapter 15 is pictured again in – ***Gen 31:1 Now Jacob heard the words of Laban's sons, saying, "Jacob has taken away all that was our father's, and from what was our father's he has acquired all this wealth." 2 And Jacob saw the countenance of Laban, and indeed it was not favorable toward him as before. 3 Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you."***
- ❖ And whereas the nations of the world had hated Jacob and sought his death, pictured through Esau - ***Gen 27:41 So Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him, and Esau said in his heart, "The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then I will kill my brother Jacob."***
- ❖ So, there will be a complete change when the Gentile nations encounter Israel during the Kingdom Age – ***Gen 33:4 But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.***
- ***Zec 8:23 Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'"***
- And then this whole incredible prophetic picture is repeated once again, with yet more detail added, in the Egypt of the Assyrian Pharaoh with Moses and the people of God. **This we will begin to see in the next lesson the Lord willing.**

QUESTIONS:

- 1). Read **Genesis 22:15-18** – What do we learn about the descendants of Abraham from these verses?
- 2). Read **Genesis 15:13-14** – What do we learn from these verses about Abraham’s descendants?
 - a) Which particular group of descendants do these verses specifically talk about and what descendants do they prophetically look to?

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- b) What does the time 400 years tell us?
 - c) What is the foundational context into which these events must be placed?
- 3).** What 2 restorative processes do we see in foundation and what do they have in common?
- a) When did the restorative process begin for Adam and the Woman? For Abraham? For the nation of Israel? For ourselves? And what is the end of this restorative process?
 - b) Read **1 Corinthians 10:11** – What does this verse tell us about Abraham and his descendants?
- 4).** What account did we begin to look at in **Genesis Chapter 6** and how did we see this connect with what we saw in **Genesis Chapter 15:13-14**?
- a) Read **Isaiah 60:1-5** – Who is being written about here and when?
 - b) How do these verses connect with what we saw in **Genesis Chapter 6** and **Genesis Chapter 15**?
- 5).** Read **Genesis 28:12 – 15 + 29:1** – What has taken place that led up to the events in these verses?
- a) What do you notice about that promised to Jacob in these verses compared to what was promised to Abraham?
 - b) What particularly can we learn from **v14 - 15**?
 - c) What does **Genesis Chapter 29:1** picture for us?
- 6)** Read **Genesis 31:3 + 11-13** – What happened to Jacob while he was with Laban? How many years was God silent to Jacob? When He does speak again, what is the subject?
- a) Which verses did we look at to see this same thing in Exodus?

7)

Genesis 32:24-30 – What is pictured in these verses and which scriptures did we look at connected to this?

- a) Read **Genesis 31:1-3** – what do we see in these verses and how do they connect with the promise made to Abraham in **Genesis Chapter 15**?
- b) What dramatic change in the relationship between Israel and the nations takes place when ‘Jacob’ is no longer seen? How is this pictured for us and which scriptures did we look at?