

Genesis 12:1-20

Chapter 12 is extremely important. Verses 1, 2, and 3 establish a focal point to which the rest of the bible is anchored. They set the hub for the rest of the entire bible.

- 1 ¶ Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee:** Isn't it wonderful during this time how God communicates one-on-one with man? How wonderful that would be if it happened today.
- 2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:**
- 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curses thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.** The original call of Abraham is reiterated over and over in scripture. This means God thinks it is a very important point for us to get. Act 7:2-3, God reaffirms His call of Abraham over and over. It shows you how important Abraham is in the big scheme of God's plan for mankind. There are 4 points here: 1) God establishes a witness of the one true God, 2) He called out a man to bring God's word to man after the flood, 3) Abraham serves as an example of what happens when we serve God according to His will. This is not material things. A big house and lots of money doesn't mean a blessing from God. 4) The most important thing: God is going to call through Abraham a Messiah through his lineage to save mankind: Jesus Christ. The Abraham covenant consists of 7 things: 1) Abraham was to be a great nation. 2) He'll be personally blessed as an individual. 3) He will be famous – Abraham's name is still mentioned to this day in reverence after 4000 years. 4) Those who bless Abraham will be blessed. 5) Those who curse him will be cursed. Israel is more befriended than any other nation in history. Every nation who cursed the Jews was cursed: Italy, Germany, France, etc. The secular history books are full of facts of what happened after they cursed the Jews. 6) Jesus Christ came from the lineage of Abraham. 7) So mankind is now able to be saved.
- 4 ¶ So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.**
- 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.** "Substance" is all their possessions.
- 6 ¶ And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.** God continues to remind us that Abraham is walking into a land of total idolatry, very evil people. But God choose this land for Abraham and instructed him to go there.
- 7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there built he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.** Abraham immediately builds an altar where God appeared to him and told him he gets all the visible land from that spot. The Jews have 30,000 square miles that God promised to them. The actual promise is 300,000 square miles, which they'll get after the tribulation.
- 8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he built an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.** Abraham does the right thing by building an altar everywhere he goes to worship God.
- 9 And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.** Military is all over this area today.
- 10 ¶ And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land.** These famines came and went throughout these times. The pyramids were already built when Abraham came to visit.
- 11 And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon:** Hey Sarai, you're beautiful and we're getting ready to go into a foreign county. It was custom to kill the husband to get the beautiful wife.

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- 12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see the e, that they shall say, This *is* his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.** Abraham is telling his wife to lie and say she's his sister to spare his life. This will allow her to go into the Pharaoh's harem to save his life. God knows that Abraham is still just a man. But Abraham could've trusted God. It shows Abraham is still human, we all have our faults, and we all have shortcomings. But God uses us and them in spite of their shortcomings and faults.
- 13 Say, I pray thee, thou *art* my sister: that it may be well with me for thy sake; and my soul shall live because of thee.** Abraham says it doesn't matter what happens to Sarai, let her go into the harem and be with the Pharaoh. But Abraham would live. Sarai was about 65 years old at this time, so she must've been a real looker. In secular history, the Dead Sea scrolls have a great deal to say about the beauty of Sarai. They go on about how beautiful she was and how she stood out even at 65 years old.
- 14 ¶ And it came to pass, that, when Abram was come into Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she *was* very fair.** The Egyptians did notice how pretty she was.
- 15 The princes also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before Pharaoh: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house.** The Pharaoh took Sarai, and God could've prevented this is Abraham had trusted Him.
- 16 And he entreated Abram well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen, and he asses, and menservants, and maidservants, and she asses, and camels.** Abraham received great presents for letting Sarai join the Pharaoh.
- 17 And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife.** The Pharaoh discovers that Abraham lied and that Sarai is his wife and not his sister. We don't know how he found out.
- 18 And Pharaoh called Abram, and said, What *is* this *that* thou hast done unto me? Why didst thou not tell me that she *was* thy wife? Why did you lie to me? Why did you lie to me and bring all these plagues on me and my country? Why didn't you tell me she was your wife in the first place?**
- 19 Why do you say, She *is* my sister? So I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold thy wife, take *her*, and go thy way.** Take your wife and get out of town.
- 20 And Pharaoh commanded *his* men concerning him: and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had.** Pharaoh told his men to get Abraham and his wife and his entourage out of here to stop these plagues on us from God.
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