

Series: Bible Survey

Lesson: 3. Genesis 12-26

## Review

- O Main themes:
  - Origins
  - Creation & re-creation
  - Israel as the vessel of humanity's redemption
- The first 11 chapters show the effects of sin and the need for the Seed,
   but they didn't reveal where the Seed was going to come from...

## Abraham (12–25)

- He receives God's commission with promises of great blessing and that humanity's hope will come from him.
  - The promise of reciprocal blessing/cursing is illustrated through the rest of the Pentateuch.
- <u>HP</u>: Knowing when a text is set (redemptively) is important for knowing how to interpret what is described.

0	<u>HP</u> : God is always the hero (not man), so we should never assume
	everything humans do in biblical narratives is an example for us.
0	The rescue of Lot shows Abraham's righteousness and highlights God as
	the source of his (cf. 14:18 – 24); don't
	forget about Melchizedek, though (cf. Ps. 110; Heb. 5, 7)
0	God's covenant with Abraham is in
	chapter 15, but it is elaborated across multiple passages in Genesis.
	<ul> <li>Circumcision was added as a sign of the Abrahamic covenant.</li> </ul>
0	The names of places and names given to God usually are related to
	what is happening when the name is given.
0	The Sodom & Gomorrah incident illustrates:
	<ul> <li>The lesser blessings for those related to Abraham but not</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>God's justice and wrath on sin because Abraham needed</li> </ul>
	represent God to the world through his ethical conduct (cf. 18:17-
	19).

<ul> <li>The sacrifice of Isaac:</li> </ul>
<ul><li>Demonstrates Abraham's faith that God would lie and that He is</li></ul>
(cf. Heb. 11:17–19).
<ul> <li>Shows that real faith is demonstrated by (cf.</li> </ul>
Jas. 2:21–23).
• Illustrates how God proves His desire to bless through sacrifice (cf. Rom. 8:32)?
<ul> <li>Makes Abraham a type of Christ by succeeding in 'listening to</li> </ul>
God's voice' (cf. 22:18).
<ul> <li>Finding a wife for Isaac shows the need for Israel to stay separate from</li> </ul>
the Canaanites—they were to be a people.
• Isaac (25–26)
<ul> <li>Jacob and Esau's relationship is foreshadowed in 25:23–34.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Isaac receives the same covenant blessing as Abraham (cf. 26:2–5, 23–</li> </ul>
25), which affirms him as the line of the
<ul> <li>Esau is firmly established as a, not merely a victim.</li> </ul>

## **Discussion:**

- 1. What do we as Christians today gain from tracing God's promises through the Patriarchs?
- 2. How do you answer the person who says that God's words to Abraham following the sacrifice of Isaac (22:15–18) demonstrate salvation by works?
- 3. How does studying the full history of Jacob and Esau in Genesis help us better answer people who aren't satisfied by Rom. 9's argument for election?

Blanks: blessings, ratified, elect, sovereign, works, holy, Seed, fool