

## *GENESIS 11:10 – 32*

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### WHY ME, LORD?

We are now entering into the section of our study of Genesis that centers on the patriarch, Abram; soon to be known to us as Abraham. Abraham is the “father” of the three largest religions on earth: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. That is clear, historical fact. What is not necessarily so clear is why it was Abram that was chosen. Have you ever asked yourselves that question? It is a legitimate one. Do we believe in a God of order and providence or does God do random things? As I read the Bible, I see that God has His hand in virtually everything. As the scripture says, “He declares the end from the beginning.” Does He allow us to make our own decisions? Yes, He most certainly does, but our decisions don’t take Him by surprise. He has already accounted for all of our mistakes.

It is when we read the Bible in a cursory manner that we miss things and thereby deprive ourselves of some very valuable clues. We miss things that tie the OT and NT together.

The dispersion at the Tower of Babel occurred roughly 100 years after the flood. I think I said 300 last week, but its more likely to be somewhere around 100 or so.

At that time, the vast majority of people had rejected God and then sought to serve other gods. It was then that God scattered them over the earth. At that point they took their paganism and began to mold it to suit the cultures that evolved as they established their various societies. One of the harshest forms of judgment God can bring upon us is to give us what we desire. The vast majority of the people at Babel chose to worship other gods (elohim) and that is what God allowed them to do. It was at that point that God

“divorced” the nations and chose from the peoples of the earth, one man from one specific family tree running from Adam, through Noah, to build His own nation in His own Land. It was then that the rest of the globe was “given” to the false gods the people chose to worship. After that we see that God reached down and chose one man out of humanity to continue His plan.

The next toledoth:

**Gen. 11:**

***Shem's Descendants***

***10 This is the genealogy of Shem:Shem was one hundred years old, and begot Arphaxad two years after the flood. 11 After he begot Arphaxad, Shem lived five hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***12 Arphaxad lived thirty- five years, and begot Salah. 13 After he begot Salah, Arphaxad lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***14 Salah lived thirty years, and begot Eber. 15 After he begot Eber, Salah lived four hundred and three years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***16 Eber lived thirty- four years, and begot Peleg. 17 After he begot Peleg, Eber lived four hundred and thirty years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***18 Peleg lived thirty years, and begot Reu. 19 After he begot Reu, Peleg lived two hundred and nine years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***20 Reu lived thirty- two years, and begot Serug. 21 After he begot Serug, Reu lived two hundred and seven years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***22 Serug lived thirty years, and begot Nahor. 23 After he begot Nahor, Serug lived two hundred years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***24 Nahor lived twenty- nine years, and begot Terah. 25 After he begot Terah, Nahor lived one hundred and nineteen years, and begot sons and daughters.***

***26 Now Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran.***

***Terah's Descendants***

***27 This is the genealogy of Terah:Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran begot Lot. 28 And Haran died before his father Terah in his native land, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 29 Then Abram and Nahor took wives:the name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. 30 But Sarai was barren; she had no child.***

*31 And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter- in- law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there. 32 So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.*

And that brings us to a very curious verse in the book of Deuteronomy.

Dt. 32:7-9 NKJV

*7 "Remember the days of old,  
Consider the years of many generations.  
Ask your father, and he will show you;  
Your elders, and they will tell you:  
8 When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations,  
When He separated the sons of Adam,  
He set the boundaries of the peoples  
According to the number of the children of Israel.  
9 For the Lord's portion is His people;  
Jacob is the place of His inheritance.*

This portion of scripture is a segment of what is known as the Song of Moses. It refers us back to the dispersion of Babel in Genesis 10 and 11. He divided the inheritance to the various nations when He separated the sons of Adam (mankind) and set the boundaries of each of the 70 nations listed in the Table of Nations in Genesis chapter 10.

Gen. 10:32

*32 These were the families of the sons of Noah, according to their generations, in their nations; and from these the nations were divided on the earth after the flood.*

Going back to Dt. 32 we read that these boundaries were set according to the number of the “*children of Israel.*”

However, if we pay close attention to the context, and it’s always about context, then we have an issue we must address.

It is clear the context of Dt. 32 is the dispersion at Babel. We read in Gen. 10 that 70 nations are separated and thereby go their own ways, carrying their own pagan theology with them. But, we also read that the boundaries were set according to the number of the children of Israel. So what’s the problem? The problem is that there was no nation of Israel in Gen. 10. Israel doesn’t come about as a nation for several chapters and several centuries later. Furthermore, you won’t see the nation of Israel listed in the Table of Nations. So what do we do about this?

If you have an ESV Bible or other various translations, they read like this:

***Dt. 32:7-9 ESV***

***7 Remember the days of old;  
consider the years of many generations;  
ask your father, and he will show you,  
your elders, and they will tell you.***

***8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance,  
when he divided mankind,  
he fixed the borders of the peoples  
according to the number of the sons of God.***

***9 But the Lord's portion is his people,  
Jacob his allotted heritage.***

See the difference? The borders here aren’t fixed according to the number of the children of Israel, but according to the number of the *sons of God*. (bene ha elohim)

Does that phrase sound familiar? It should, considering we have talked so much about them in Gen. 6.

So now you may ask, “What in the word are you saying?” Great question.

The difference in the translation of that portion of the verse is due to the fact that a few other manuscripts were consulted in this particular verse because they make more sense. Israel doesn't fit there. They come along later and inherit the Promised Land for specific reasons tied to the bigger picture of what is actually happening.

We need to look at some other verses in our bibles.

***Eph. 6:12***

***12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.***

The Apostle Paul tells us here that there are rulers of darkness in in heavenly places - powers and principalities. The term principalities, speaks of domains or specific areas.

***Col. 1:16***

***16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.***

Principalities defined:

***Daemon***

*the Greek form, rendered "devil" in the Authorized Version of the New Testament. Daemons are spoken of as spiritual beings (Matt. 8:16; 10:1; 12:43- 45) at enmity with God, and as having a certain power over man (James 2:19; Rev. 16:14). They recognize our Lord as the Son of God (Matt. 8:20; Luke 4:41). They belong to the number of those angels that "kept not their first estate," "unclean spirits," "fallen angels," the angels of the devil (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:7- 9). They are the "principalities and powers" against which we must "wrestle" (Eph. 6:12)*

*Easton's Bible Dictionary*

So, the demons are fallen angels or more correctly the disembodied spirits of dead offspring of the fallen angels. They hold thrones and have power according to the Apostle Paul. WOW!!!

*Ps. 82*

*1 God stands in the congregation of the mighty;  
He judges among the gods.*

*2 How long will you judge unjustly,  
And show partiality to the wicked?*

*Selah*

*3 Defend the poor and fatherless;  
Do justice to the afflicted and needy.*

*4 Deliver the poor and needy;  
Free them from the hand of the wicked.*

*5 They do not know, nor do they understand;  
They walk about in darkness;*

*All the foundations of the earth are unstable.*

*6 I said, "You are gods,  
And all of you are children of the Most High.*

*7 But you shall die like men,  
And fall like one of the princes."*

*8 Arise, O God, judge the earth;*

***For You shall inherit all nations.***

Verse 1 states that God stands in the congregation of the mighty and judges *among the gods*.

Who are these gods? Verse 6 tells us that they are children of the Most High, (sons of God). They are being denounced here for mishandling and misjudging the people of the earth. However, in verse 7 they are told that they will die *like men*. All men die like men, but these gods, fallen angles will also die like men. And then finally we see in verse 8 that God will inherit the nations.

We saw in Gen, 10 and 11 that God separated and “divorced the nations.” Yet we are told here that one day God will (shall) inherit the nations. That’s a great deal to swallow, granted, but it makes things so much clearer. It goes back to the reason for God’s choice of Abram and why He had him move to the Promised Land.

**EXAMPLES OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE MIGHTY**

***Job 38:4,7***

***4 “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?”  
7 When the morning stars sang together,  
And all the sons of God shouted for joy?***

Morning stars, sons of God = angels at the creation, (not yet fallen)

***Job 1:6,7***

***6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. 7 And the Lord said to Satan, “From where do you come?” So Satan answered the Lord and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.”***

**Job 2:1,2**

*1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord. 2 And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?"*

*Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."*

**1 Kings 22:19-23**

*19 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left. 20 And the Lord said, 'Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. 21 Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord, and said, 'I will persuade him.' 22 The Lord said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the Lord said, 'You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.' 23 Therefore look! The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you."*

**Zech. 3:1,2**

*1 Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. 2 And the Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?"*

**2 Kings 6:17**

*17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

Satan and his minions are still in the heavenly arena fighting for dominion of this world as well as their lives. However, as these next verses tell us, they won't succeed.

***Rev.12: 9,10***

***9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.***

***10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.***

This is a yet future event. As we have seen, they still have access and dominion in the heavenly places according to Paul as well as the OT.

***Daniel 10: 12,13,20***

***12 Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. 13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty- one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia."***

***20 Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come.***

The Prince of Persia was a bad angel that ruled over the kingdom of Persia. That angel inherited that nation as his charge.

Read Isaiah 14 and look at the references to Lucifer (shining one) and the different rulers of various nations and how they will be judged. It is clear a supernatural being(s) is spoken of here. Once again we see a fallen angel ruling over a wicked empire.

Read Ezekiel 28 and look at the references to the king of Tyre. The context shows us that this is clearly a supernatural being spoken of and considering himself to be a god. (Little g)

So what is my point and what does all this have to do with Abram, Israel and eventually us?

When God scattered the nations He defined their borders according to the sons of god (fallen angels). God, in a sense divorced the nations and allowed them to serve the gods whom they freely chose. This is akin to what we read in Romans.

***Romans 1: 18 – 32***

***18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. 24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, 25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. 26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust***

*for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.*

God gave the nations over to their gods and the lusts that come from the worship of those gods (fallen angels).

However, as we have read, God's inheritance or portion is Israel. This is why God chose Abram. He was of a lineage that came from Adam through Noah. God then moved him from Ur to what would eventually be the land given to Israel. We will read about that covenant later in Genesis. God claims that land. Israel, as a nation will then serve God (YHWH) and keep as well as record His WORD.

The land is sacred. The Jews were exiled to Babylon for 70 years because they had polluted (spiritually) by not observing the Sabbath years of rest for the land as was commanded in the Law.

Once again, the land was sacred.

Example: Naman asked for dirt after he was healed in the Jordan River.

How does that tie into us?

A couple weeks ago Pastor Stu taught us about Pentecost. Jews would come from all over the known world to Jerusalem to worship God. It was there that the Holy Spirit fell on the apostles and they praised God in foreign tongues. Some 3,000 people believed and the church was born. What did all those converts do? Did they just hang around Jerusalem? No, they didn't. They returned to their homes in all those foreign nations and began to tell others about what they had seen. This paved the way for the Apostles to move out of Jerusalem in concentric circles as was commanded by Jesus in Acts chapter 2.

As the church grew, God reclaimed nation after nation. We, upon believing on Jesus as our Savior become children or sons of God.

***Rom. 8:14,19***

***14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.***

***19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.***

***Rom. 9:26***

***26 "And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them,***

***'You are not My people,'***

***There they shall be called sons of the living God."***

And how else does that tie in to us?

***1 Cor. 6:3***

***3 Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?***

We will judge those fallen angels, those that rebelled against God. We will be a part of that heavenly host, the great congregation.

- God doesn't do eenie, meenie, minie, moe. He chose Abram for a specific reason. It wasn't random.
- There is a much bigger picture than most realize.
- There is a spiritual battle, a seed war going on in the heavenly realm.
- We eliminate great portions of the Bible when we neglect the supernatural aspects of scripture.
- God, in a miraculous way has chosen you, as He did Abraham to work out part of His plan.
- Are you moving and growing as Abraham?
- Is your walk just a secular, intellectual, carnal one or is it one of supernatural means?
- Look at these great truths of scripture and see how God's Word makes more and more sense in a much larger way both in our personal lives as well as the geo-political one.
- What "prince" do we find ruling over our nation now?
- Is it God ruling over you, your house and your family or some other little "g" god?