

# Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

## Part 2 – From Abram to Isaac (Genesis 12-20).

1. What was the first instruction given from God to Abram?
  - *“Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee” (Genesis 12:1).*
2. What promise was made to Abram if he followed that first instruction?
  - *“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: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed” (Genesis 12:2-3; cf. Genesis 22:16-18).*
3. How much thinking did Abram have to do before following this instruction?
  - **None, (Genesis 12:4; cf. Hebrews 11:8-16).**
4. What huge error did Abram make when they came to Egypt (wasn't Sarai his sister)?
  - **Abraham told a half truth and hid Sarai his wife for he thought he'd be killed so they could take Sarai. He didn't have enough faith to know that God would not allow Him to be killed, thus making His promise to Abram null and void (Genesis 12:11-13; cf. Hebrews 6:13-18).**
  - **She is his half sister (Genesis 20:11-12).**
5. What did the Lord step in and do?
  - **Since Sarai was taken into Pharaoh's house great plagues were sent upon them (Genesis 12:15-17).**
6. Why would the Lord step in at this point to “fix” Abram's error?
  - **God had a plan that He would see through (Galatians 3:16, Hebrews 2:16, and II Timothy 1:9).**
  - **Some would think this justifies lying, they need to think again (Revelation 21:8; cf. Acts 16:30). God did not approve of Abraham telling half truths (Proverbs 6:16-19, Proverbs 13:5, and Colossians 3:9).**
7. Who was Lot?
  - **Abraham's nephew who would go only so far with Abram (Genesis 11:26-27; 31; 12:4).**
8. Where did Abram and Lot go after departing from Egypt?
  - *“To Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai” (Genesis 13:3).*
9. What strife began and what was the solution?
  - *“And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents. And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. And there was a strife between the herdmen of*

*Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land. And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.” (Genesis 13:5-9).*

10. Why did Lot make his decision?

- He looked at how “good” things looked from a strictly carnal approach (**Genesis 13:10-12**).

11. Did Lot make a good decision?

- No, (**Genesis 13:13**).

12. What did Abram first do when he came to the plain of Mamre?

- He built there an altar unto the Lord (**Genesis 13:18**).

13. What happened to Lot when the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled?

- Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of nations (**Genesis 14:1**) took Lot, Abram's brother's son, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed (**Genesis 14:12**).

14. What did Abram do to help Lot?

- *“And when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his trained servants, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued them unto Dan. And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and smote them, and pursued them unto Hobah, which is on the left hand of Damascus. And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again his brother Lot, and his goods, and the women also, and the people” (Genesis 14:14-16).*

15. Who was Melchizedek?

- He was the king of Salem and he was the priest of the most high God (**Genesis 14:18**). He is also the forerunner of priest to which Christ is named (**Hebrews 5:8-10**).

16. What was Abram’s answer to the king of Sodom who offered Abram to take the goods?

- *“And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the Lord, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich: Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion” (Genesis 14:22-24).*

17. What was God’s answer to this question “what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless”?

- *“This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir” (Genesis 15:4).*

18. What did Abram see would happen to his people?

- *“And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be ... And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full. And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.” (Genesis 15:5; 13-21).*

19. What was Sarai’s solution to not being able to bear children?

- Sarai wanted Abram to have a child with her handmaid Hagar (Genesis 16:1-2).

20. How much did Sarai like the result of her suggestion?

- She did not like her decision. Hagar ended up despising Sarai and Sarai dealt hardly with her (Genesis 16:4-6).

21. What did the angel of the Lord say to Hagar?

- *“And the angel of the Lord found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai. And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands. And the angel of the Lord said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Behold, thou art with child and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the Lord hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren” (Genesis 16:7-12).*

22. Who was Ishmael?

- Abram’s son with Hagar (Genesis 16:11; 15).

23. When does God change the names of Abram and Sarai?

- (Genesis 17:5; 15).

24. Why did He decide to change their names?

- Their names were changed as they would be the father and mother of many nations (Genesis 17:5; 16).

25. What was Abraham’s reaction when he found out Sarah would have a child?

- He fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear (**Genesis 17:17**)?
26. How old was Abraham and Sarah at the time God said they would have a child?
- Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90 (**Genesis 17:17**). Or one could say 99 and 89 (**Genesis 17:1**).
27. Who chose the name of Abraham and Sarah's son?
- God did (**Genesis 17:19**).
28. When and why did circumcision begin?
- It was a reminder of the covenant between God and Abraham (**Genesis 17:8-11**; cf. **Galatians 6:15**).
29. Who did Sarah hear talking to Abraham about her bearing a child and what was her reaction?
- She heard three men (**Genesis 18:2**), which the text implies to be angels (cf. **18:10**; **22:19:1**).
  - Sarah laughed within herself (**Genesis 18:12**).
30. Did Sarah admit what she did when hearing that she would bear a child at an old age?
- No, (**Genesis 18:15**).
31. Why did God share with Abraham what He was going to do to Sodom and Gomorrah?
- He shared with Abraham because Abraham would become a great nation of obedience (**Genesis 18:18-19**).
32. What was Abraham's reaction to hearing about Sodom and Gomorrah's destruction?
- Abraham did not want to see the righteous perish with the wicked so he asked the Lord to spare the cities if there were 50 down to even just ten righteous (**Genesis 18:23-32**).
33. What did the men of Sodom try to do to the angels that came there?
- They wanted to have sexual relations with them (**Genesis 19:4-5**).
34. What did the angels do to protect themselves, Lot, and his household?
- They were blinded (**Genesis 19:11**).
35. What did the angels tell Lot to do in leaving Sodom and Gomorrah?
- "Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.... Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed" (**Genesis 19:15; 17**).
36. What happened as the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire?
- He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. But Lot's wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt (**Genesis 19:25-26**; cf. **Luke 17:32**).

37. What did Lot's daughters do to him?

- They got him drunk and had them to have sexual intercourse with them making them both pregnant (**Genesis 19:30-36**).

38. What did Abraham tell Abimelech?

- That Sarah was his sister (**Genesis 20:2**).

39. Isn't it amazing that even with the faith of Abraham, he didn't learn from what happened in Egypt?

- Yes, it is amazing! This is a lesson for all of us. We must remember that God no longer winks at this ignorance (**Acts 17:30**). He expects much more of us (**I Peter 1:13-16**).

40. Why did Abraham lie?

- Again, he feared for his life (**Genesis 20:11**).

41. What did the Lord do because of Abraham and Sarah's lie? Again, why would he intervene here?

- God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife. And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her. Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine (**Genesis 20:3; 6-7**).
- Again, God intervened because of His plan of redemption for all of mankind (**Galatians 3:29**).

42. What did God do when Abraham prayed to God?

- God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants (**Genesis 20:17**).