

GENESIS – LESSON NINE

I. ABRAM AND GOD'S COVENANT (Gen. 14-17)

- A. Abram and his 318 men save Lot after four kings from the Northeast successfully war against five rebellious kings from the southern plains of the Jordan Valley (14:1-16).
- B. The King of Sodom and Melchizedek - king of Salem and priest of the Most High - meet Abraham after his victory (14:17-24).
 - 1. Melchizedek blesses Abram – Abram gives Melchizedek a tenth of all the spoils of war.
 - 2. Abram refuses to keep the retrieved goods belonging to Sodom, except the portion his men had eaten and earned.
- C. God makes a covenant with Abram regarding his seed and the land that they will inherit. (15:1-21).
 - 1. God promises Abram in a vision that Eliezer, born in Abram's house, will not be Abram's heir.
 - 2. God promises Abram that his seed will be numberless as the stars.
 - a. Abram believes God and it is reckoned unto him for righteousness.
 - 3. God promises Abram that his seed will inherit the land.
 - a. Abram asks for confirmation.
 - b. God commands Abram to prepare a specific sacrifice.
 - c. God promises Abram that his seed will be sojourners in a land not theirs for four hundred years – then will they come forth with great substance.
 - d. God confirms promise by sending flaming torch that passes through the sacrificial pieces.
 - e. The land given to Abram's seed to include land from the river of Egypt to the Euphrates River, occupied by the Kenite, Kenizzite, Hittite, Perizzite, Rephaim, Amorite, Canaanite, Girgashite and the Jebusite.
- D. Sarai gives her handmaid Hagar to Abram as wife because she remains childless after ten years in the land of Canaan (16:1-15)
 - 1. Conflict between Sarai and Hagar who has conceived a child by Abram- Hagar flees from Sarai.
 - 2. Through Angel, God tells Hagar at a fountain in the wilderness to return to Sarai – Hagar's seed will be greatly multiplied.
 - 3. Hagar gives birth to Ishmael when Abram is 86 years old.
- E. God renews covenant with Abram – commanding circumcision as a token of the covenant (17:1-27)
 - 1. Abram's name changed to Abraham – “father of a multitude”.
 - 2. Sarai's name changed to Sarah – “Princess”
 - 3. God promises Abraham that Sarah will bear him a son in their old age - named “Isaac” – “to laugh”
 - 4. Abraham circumcises himself and all the males of his household.

QUESTIONS:

1. From what lands in the Northeast did the four kings come to engage in war with the kings close to Abram?
2. Why did they come to war?
3. Where did they fight the five kings?
4. Why did Abram fight Chedorlaomer?
5. Why did Abram not keep the goods offered by the king of Sodom?
6. Melchizedek was king over what city?
7. Melchizedek was also priest of _____ .
8. Why is Melchizedek important in understanding the establishment of the New Covenant?
9. Why does Abram have trouble in understanding that God will reward him?
10. How does God describe the seed that will come from Abram?

11. What response did Abraham have to this promise regarding his seed?
Why should this response to God's promise be important to us?

12. God promised Abram's seed the land from the _____ of _____ to the Great river _____.

12. What all does God say would come first before Abram's seed would possess the promised land?

13. How did God confirm to Abram that his seed would receive the land of promise?

14. Why was there conflict between Sarai and her Egyptian handmaid, Hagar?

15. Describe the conflict:
 - (a). From Sarai's point of view:

 - (b). From Hagar's point of view:

16. How is "*the God who hears*" a reality in Hagar's life?

17. God comforted Hagar by endorsing her decision to flee from Sarai. (T) (F)

18. What religion today traces its leader's heritage back to Ishmael?

19. What two promises of God were part of the covenant of which circumcision was a token?

20. In what sense is the covenant with Abraham “everlasting”?

21. Why is Abram’s name changed to Abraham?
Why is Sarai’s name changed to Sarah?

22. Why did Abraham laugh before Jehovah?

23. What all does Abraham manifest that would make him a father of all?