



Genesis

#2

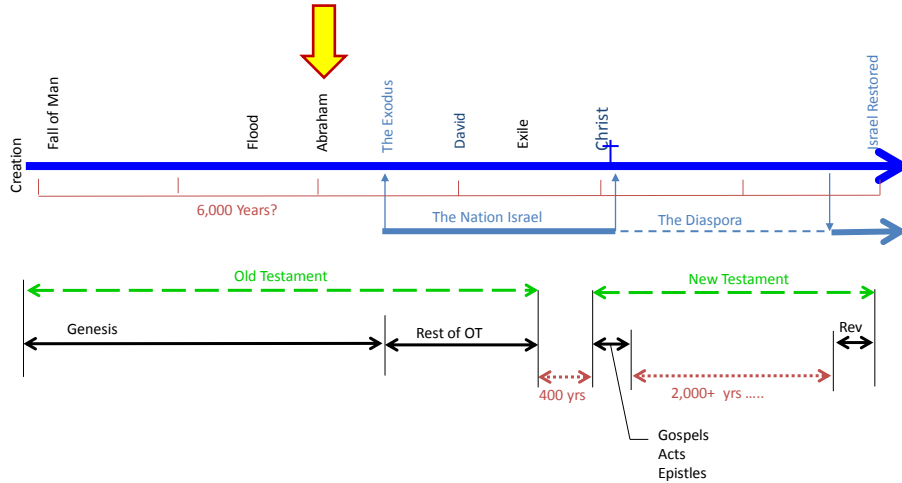
Part 1:

Genesis 1, 2	Creation
Genesis 3	Fall of Man
Genesis 4	Cain & Abel
Genesis 5	Genealogy of Noah
Genesis 6-9	Flood of Noah
Genesis 10-11	Tower of Babel

Part 2:

Genesis 12-20	Abraham
Genesis 21-26	Isaac
Genesis 27-36	Jacob
Genesis 37-50	Joseph

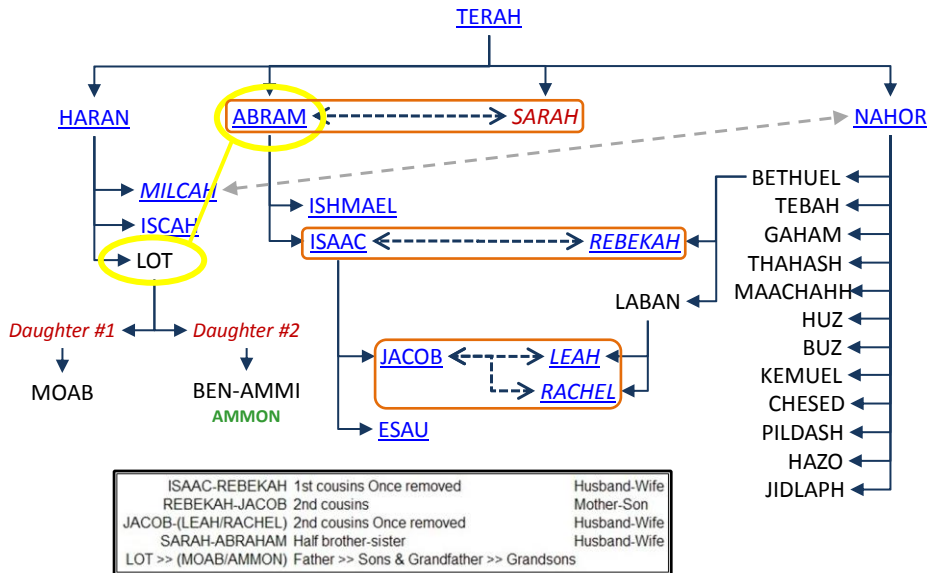
The Panorama of History



Genealogy of Genesis

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Adam | 11. Shem |
| 2. Seth | 12. Asshur |
| 3. Enosh | 13. Arphaxad |
| 4. Kenan | 14. Salah |
| 5. Mahalalel | 15. Eber |
| 6. Jared | 16. Peleg |
| 7. Enoch | 17. Reu |
| 8. Methuselah | 18. Serug |
| 9. Lamech | 19. Nahor |
| 10. Noah | 20. Terah |
| | 21. Abraham |

Terah's Family



Major Topics:

- Genesis 16 (Hagar the Egyptian);
- Genesis 17 (Names Changed);
- Genesis 18 (Oaks of Mamre);
- Genesis 19 (Sodom and Gomorrah);
- Genesis 20 (The Lapse at Gerar).

This cycle of narratives presents the struggle Abram the patriarch underwent while he was waiting for God's promises to be fulfilled.

At times he stumbled, but eventually his faith was proved.

As Abram's faith was developed and tested, delay was seen in the fulfilling of God's promise.

In moments of weakness there are suggestions of alternative plans — plans not characterized by faith.

Human efforts to assist in the fulfilling of divine promises complicated the matter.

Genesis 16:1-2 Hagar the Egyptian

1] Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar.

2] And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai.

Jehovah had been specific in his promise of an heir (*cf. 15:4*).

In the legal custom of that day a barren woman could give her maid to her husband as a wife, and the child born of that union was regarded as the first wife's child.

If the husband said to the slave-wife's son, "You are my son," then he was the adopted son and heir.

But God often repudiates social customs.

- God's people are expected to hold themselves to a higher standard.
- God expects his people to trust Him, His promises and carry out His plan, to the letter...

Genesis 16:3-4 Hagar the Egyptian

3] And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife.

4] And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her mistress was despised in her eyes.

Sarai still had a way to go in her faith.

Giving children to the barren is God's work (*Ps 113:9*).

Later, Leah also knew that God heard her affliction, for she named Reuben and Simeon to reflect that (*Gen. 29:32-33*).

Genesis 16:5-6 Hagar the Egyptian

5] And Sarai said unto Abram, My wrong be upon thee: I have given my maid into thy bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was despised in her eyes: the LORD judge between me and thee.

6] But Abram said unto Sarai, Behold, thy maid is in thy hand; do to her as it pleaseth thee. And when Sarai dealt hardly with her, she fled from her face.

Abram, who like Adam followed the wrong advice of his wife (3:17), was caught weakly in the middle.

22 July 2011

9

Genesis 16:7-8 Hagar the Egyptian

7] And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.

8] 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.

The Angel of the Lord found the maidservant in the desert at a spring beside the road to Shur (*cf.* 25:18) on the way to her homeland, Egypt.

When she reached Shur (the wall), she paused before crossing the border.

It was here that the Egyptians maintained a wall or strong line of forts to protect Egypt from invaders from the east.

It is mentioned in Egyptian records as early as 2000 B.C.

The first reference in the Old Testament to “the Angel of the Lord” (lit., “the Angel of Yahweh”)

22 July 2011

10

“Angel of YHWH”

- Identified with Yahweh
Gen 16:13; 22:11-12; 31:11, 13; 48:16; Judg 6:11, 16, 22; 13:22-23; Zech 3:1-2
- Yet distinct from YHWH
Gen 24:7; 2 Sam 24:16; Zech 1:12
- May refer to a theophany of the preincarnate Christ
Cf. Gen 18:1-2; 19:1; Num 22:22; Judg 2:1-4; 5:23; Zech 12:8

22 July 2011

11

Genesis 16:8-11 Hagar the Egyptian

9] And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

*10] And the angel of the LORD said unto her, **I** will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.*

11] 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.

“Multitude”:

Ishmael will, also, have 12 sons who will be highly prolific. Ishmael was also a descendant of Abraham and thus heir to many of the unconditional promises

22 July 2011

12

Gen 16:12-13 Hagar the Egyptian

12] *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.*

13] *And she called the **name of the LORD** that spake unto her, **Thou God** seest me: for she said, *Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?**

peh'-reh, wild ass: Wild man

The Arabs have never gotten along—even with themselves.

Prediction: Her son would become the father of a great tribe of wild, hostile people (cf. [25:18](#)), living in the Arabian desert ([25:12-18](#)).

But they would not be the promised seed;

They would only complicate matters.

Sarai's sin sowed a harvest that is still being reaped.

Joseph, Sarai's great-grandson, was later taken to Egypt and sold as a slave by the Ishmaelites ([37:28](#)).

Gen 16:14-16 Hagar the Egyptian

14] *Wherefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; behold, it is between Kadesh and Bered.*

15] *And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, Ishmael.*

16] *And Abram was fourscore and six years old, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.*

Abram was caught up in a chain of causes and effects that would trouble him for years to come.

Abraham was 86 when Ishmael was born.

Abraham will be 100 when Isaac is born.

Flesh vs. Spirit

- Abraham lived 430 years before the Law:
 - Promises preceded the Law:
 - cannot be disannulled (Galatians 3:17).
- Ishmael vs Isaac
 - Two sons of two principles: Flesh; Spirit.
 - Ishmael: of the flesh, in unbelief.
 - “The son of the bondwoman will not be heir...”
 - Isaac: of promise, in response to faith.
 - The Ultimate Triumph of Faith: the offering of Isaac (Galatians 4:21-32).

22 July 2011

15

Galatians 4:22-31

For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh; but he of the freewoman was by promise. Which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants; the one from the mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Hagar. For this Hagar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. For it is written, Rejoice, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband. Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.

22 JULY 2011

16

The lesson was/is clear

The lesson was clear for Sarai, Abram, Hagar, Israel, and for Christians:

God's servants are to trust His Word and to wait for its fulfillment, enduring patiently till the end.

It becomes increasingly clear in Genesis that any person or any nation that owes its existence to divine election should live by faith.

Human efforts will not help.

But the good news for God's people is that the living God sees and hears.

22 July 2011

17

Genesis 17:1-2

God is dominant in the first three sections:

God instituted the sign.

God promised Abram a son and named him Isaac, and

God renamed Abram and Sarai to reflect that promise.

1] And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

2] And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

22 July 2011

18

Genesis 17:3 The All-sufficient one

3] And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying,

First OT occurrence of the title “God Almighty” [’el shaddai], which is used several times in Gen (17:1; 28:3; 35:11; 43:14; 48:3; cf. 49:25).

Some scholars suggest that shaddai is related to the Assyrian word sadu that means breast or mountain or both.

Early Jewish scholars claimed that it was derived from sh-da, meaning, “He who is sufficient.”

The LXX gives us hikanos, “sufficient.”

Some words describing parts of the body were also used for geographical descriptions; e.g., “mouth” of a river, “foot” of a mountain.

So shaddai, when used of God, refers either to His ability to supply abundantly [“the Abundant One”] or to His majestic strength [“the Almighty One”].

22 July 2011

19

Genesis 17:4-6

4] As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations.

5] Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

6] And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee.

Imagine how Abram must have felt about the suppressed smiles on the faces of his men when he told them to call him Abraham, meaning the “father of a multitude of nations” — when he was 99 years old (vv. 1, 24).

22 July 2011

20

Genesis 17:7-13 Circumcision: a sign

- 7] *And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.*
- 8] *And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.*
- 9] *And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations.*
- 10] *This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.*
- 11] *And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you.*
- 12] *And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed.*
- 13] *He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.*

Circumcision: 8th Day

Vitamin K, a clotting element,

- not formed until the 5th to the 7th day.

Prothrombin is also necessary

- on the 3rd day: 30% of normal;
- on the 8th day: peaks at 110%,
- then levels off at 100% of normal.

How did Moses know ???

How did Moses know to circumcise on the 8th day? (*Gen 17:1*).

Moses was schooled in all of “The Wisdom of the Egyptians”...

The Papyrus Ebers, 1332 BC, provides the following remedies:

- Embedded splinter? Apply worm’s blood & ass’s dung.
- Losing Hair? Apply six fats (horse, hippopotamus, crocodile, cat, snake, ibex).
- Turning Gray? Anoint with blood of black calf which has been boiled in oil or fat of rattlesnake.

The well-stocked Egyptian medicine cabinet included:

lizard’s blood, swine’s teeth, putrid meat,
moisture from pig’s ears, milk, goose grease,
asses’ hooves, animal fats,
excreta (human, donkeys, antelopes, dogs, cats, and flies).

Circumcision of the Heart

Moses said that

- God would circumcise the hearts of His people so that they might be devoted to Him (*Deut 30:6*).

Unbelief is described as

- having an uncircumcised heart (*Jer 9:26; Ezek 44:7-9*).

Paul wrote that

- “circumcision of the heart” (i.e., being inwardly set apart “by the Spirit”) evidences salvation and fellowship with God (*Rom 2:28-29; cf. Rom 4:11*).

Genesis 17:14-16 Name Changes

14] And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

15] And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.

16] And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

Sarah, “Princess.”

It is the feminine form of sar, “prince”; and was fitting for one whose seed would produce kings (*v. 16; cf. v. 6*).

22 July 2011

25



Aleph



- “First”; “Strength”; or “Leader”



Bet



- “House”; “Family”
- Beth Lehem; Beth-El; etc.

22 July 2011

26


Ab


Aleph-Beth: "Leader of the house"
"Leader of the family"

- Father

22 July 2011

27

H Heh 

Hands lifted up; open window

- "Behold"; "Revealed"
- "Breeze"; "wind;" "Spirit"

22 July 2011

28

אהב Ahab אהב

Revealing the heart; the essence of the Father

- “Love”

22 July 2011

29

Genesis 17:14-16 Name Changes

אַבְרָם Abram שַׂרַי Sarai

אַבְרָהָם Abraham שָׂרָה Sarah

22 July 2011

30

Genesis 17:17 ‘LOL’

17] Then Abraham 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?

Abraham laughed !!!

Hebrew sòhahaq means “to laugh.”

It is the root verb from which the word Isaac is derived.

It seemed incredible that a barren 90-year-old woman could give birth to a son.

Abraham had assumed that his descendants would come through Ishmael.

22 July 2011

31

Genesis 17:18-22 and Ishmael ???

18] And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee!

19] And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

20] And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation.

21] But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year.

22] And he left off talking with him, and God went up from Abraham.

Ishmael was not forgotten.

God said he would have many descendants also.

Even the number of Ishmael's sons — 12 — was predicted.

22 July 2011

32

Genesis 17:23-27 No delay...this time

23] And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him.

24] And Abraham was ninety years old and nine, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

25] And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin.

26] In the selfsame day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son.

27] And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.

22 July 2011

33

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:

- 1) Make a great nation
- 2) Bless you and your name
- 3) Make you a blessing
- 4) Bless those who bless you, curse those who curse you
- 5) Give this land to your seed.

Genesis 15:

- 1) Covenant to Abraham's physical seed
- 2) Land defined: Euphrates to Nile.

Genesis 17:

- 1) Covenant with physical seed, forever
- 2) Land of Canaan everlasting possession.

22 July 2011

34

Genesis 18:1-2 The Three Visitors

1] *And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;*

2] *And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,*

3] *And said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:*

“Plains”: the Hebrew “*elon*” can be translated “oak” or “terebinth”
The Lord and two angels.

Abraham’s residence was in the immediate vicinity of Hebron.

22 July 2011

35

Genesis 18:1-2 Fellowship offer

4] *Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:*

5] *And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.*

6] *And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.*

7] *And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.*

8] *And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.*

A measure, *se’a*, was one-third of an *ephah*, or about 1 ½ pecks.



Two Hebrew words, *gemahò* and *solet*, are used to designate the exceptional character of the flour used in making the rolls.

Hòema, “curdled milk” mixed with fresh milk, a refreshing drink served to tired travelers while the more substantial food was being prepared.

A calf was a rare luxury provided for these distinguished visitors.

“Three measures of meal” becomes the traditional “fellowship offering” in both Jewish and Arabic traditions (Cf. *Mt 13:33*)

Abraham Recognized Them

- Abraham hurried to them v.2
 - He hurried back to the tent v.6
 - He ran to the herd v.7
 - His servant hurried v.7
- Abraham bowed low before them v.2
- He got water to wash their feet v.4
- He served them
 - freshly baked bread v.6
 - a choice calf  (dairy not kosher w/meat?) v.7
 - curds and milk  v.8
- He stood while they were eating v.8; cf. vv.1-2

22 July 2011

37

Genesis 18:9-16 Laughing again...

- 9] *And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.*
- 10] *And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.*
- 11] *Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.*
- 12] *Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?*
- 13] *And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?*
- 14] *Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.*
- 15] *Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.*
- 16] *And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.*

A call to believe that God can do the impossible:
Luke 1:37, "For with God nothing shall be impossible"

Genesis 18:17-19 Tell them first...

17] *And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;*

18] *Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?*

19] *For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.*

Amos 3:7, "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

22 July 2011

39

Genesis 18:20-24 Intercession

20] *And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;*

21] *I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.*

22] *And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.*

23] *And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?*

24] *Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?*

A very important principle is laid down here.

Abraham intercedes for the righteous—including Lot.

22 July 2011

40

Genesis 18:25-27 The bargaining begins...

25] That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

26] And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

27] And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which am but dust and ashes:

22 July 2011

41

Genesis 18:28-32 Even if there's one !!

28] Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

29] And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

30] And he said unto him, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

31] And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

32] And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

A very important principle:

The two angels will spend an entire chapter (19) getting Lot out of there before they can accomplish their assigned mission!

What does this imply regarding the church and the Tribulation?

Genesis 18:33

33] And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

22 July 2011

43

Genesis 19:1-2

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

1] And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

2] And he said, Behold now, my lords, turn in, I pray you, into your servant's house, and tarry all night, and wash your feet, and ye shall rise up early, and go on your ways. And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the street all night.

Lot is a leader of the community;

a judge, for he “was sitting in the gateway of the city” (v. 1; cf. v. 9).

Judges usually sat by the city gates, public places (cf. *Job 29:7, 12-17*) where legal and business transactions were finalized (cf. *Gen. 23:18*).

While his conduct shocks us, yet he was deemed “a righteous man” (*2 Peter 2:7-8*)

22 July 2011

44

Genesis 19:3-4

Why was of Sodom & Gomorrah destroyed?

3] And he pressed upon them greatly; and they turned in unto him, and entered into his house; and he made them a feast, and did bake unleavened bread, and they did eat.

4] But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter:

Note the extent of homosexuality:

“all the people from every quarter.”

It wasn't simply the sin itself:

it was the people accepting and condoning it
and the extent of it...

22 July 2011

45

Genesis 19:5-8 Lot's solution ...

5] And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

6] And Lot went out at the door unto them, and shut the door after him,

7] And said, I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly.

8] Behold now, I have two daughters which have not known man; let me, I pray you, bring them out unto you, and do ye to them as is good in your eyes: only unto these men do nothing; for therefore came they under the shadow of my roof.

Notice: the men of Sodom regarded the angels as “men.”

“know them”: engage in sexual intercourse with them

Lot was willing to sacrifice his daughters' virginity to fend off the vice of Sodomite men.

They apparently were betrothed, but not wed yet.

His daughters had no qualms against having sex with their drunk and naked father (*vv. 30-35*).

Genesis 19:9-14 The Angels Intervene

- 9] *And they said, Stand back. And they said again, This one fellow came in to sojourn, and he will needs be a judge: now will we deal worse with thee, than with them. And they pressed sore upon the man, even Lot, and came near to break the door.*
- 10] *But the men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.*
- 11] *And they smote the men that were at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.*
- 12] *And the men said unto Lot, Hast thou here any besides? son in law, and thy sons, and thy daughters, and whatsoever thou hast in the city, bring them out of this place:*
- 13] *For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.*
- 14] *And Lot went out, and spake unto his sons in law, which married his daughters, and said, Up, get you out of this place; for the LORD will destroy this city. But he seemed as one that mocked unto his sons in law.*

mocked (jested); and failed to escape.

The Angels virtually force the others to safety...

Lot did not win anybody for the Lord in this city.

Genesis 19:15-21 The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

- 15] *And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise, take thy wife, and thy two daughters, which are here; lest thou be consumed in the iniquity of the city.*
- 16] *And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand, and upon the hand of his wife, and upon the hand of his two daughters; the LORD being merciful unto him: and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.*
- 17] *And it came to pass, when they had brought them forth abroad, that he said, Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed.*
- 18] *And Lot said unto them, Oh, not so, my Lord:*
- 19] *Behold now, thy servant hath found grace in thy sight, and thou hast magnified thy mercy, which thou hast shewed unto me in saving my life; and I cannot escape to the mountain, lest some evil take me, and I die:*
- 20] *Behold now, this city is near to flee unto, and it is a little one: Oh, let me escape thither, (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live.*
- 21] *And he said unto him, See, I have accepted thee concerning this thing also, that I will not overthrow this city, for the which thou hast spoken.*

Genesis 19:22-26

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

22] Haste thee, escape thither; for I cannot do any thing till thou be come thither. Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar.

23] The sun was risen upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar.

Lot wrung a concession out of the angels.

He wanted to go to the small town of Zoar, which means “a little one” (vv. 18-22). Before that it was known as Bela, 14:2.

22 July 2011

49

Genesis 19:22-26

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

24] Then the LORD rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven;

25] And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.

26] But his wife looked back from behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.

With burning sulfur the Lord overthrew the wicked cities and the entire plain (vv. 24-25).

Some have suggested that deposits of sulfur erupted from the earth (cf. the “tar pits,” 14:10), and then showered down out of the heavens in flames of fire (cf. Lk 17:29).

Lot’s wife gazed back intently and was changed into a pillar of salt, a monument to her disobedience; covered and encrusted with deposits from the raining brimstone.

Genesis 19:22-26

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

Jesus admonishes us to “remember Lot’s wife”.

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. In that day, he which shall be upon the housetop, and his stuff in the house, let him not come down to take it away: and he that is in the field, let him likewise not return back. Remember Lot’s wife. Luke 17:29-32

22 July 2011

51

Genesis 19:22-26

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

Jesus refers to all of this regarding His Second Coming...

Babylon is destined to meet a similar fate: *Is 13:19 and Jer 50:40.*]

And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee. Matthew 11:23-24

Jesus said that if the miracles He did in Capernaum had been done in Sodom, the Sodomites would have repented.

As it is, “it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment” than for the cities of Galilee.

How much more culpable are we!

God judges according to knowledge,

“To whom much is given, much will be required.” Lk 12:48.

1 John 2:15-17

[15] Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

[16] For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

[17] And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

22 July 2011

53

Genesis 19:27-28

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

27] And Abraham gat up early in the morning to the place where he stood before the LORD:

28] And he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain, and beheld, and, lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.

The cities were about 18 miles from Abraham's home at Hebron.

It was possible for him to see the southern end of the Sea from the immediate vicinity of Hebron.

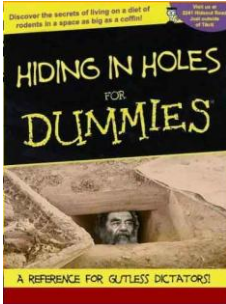
It must have been an awful sight, and is frequently alluded to in Scripture (*Deut 29:23; Isa 13:19; Judg 1:7*).

The plain which is now covered by the Salt or Dead Sea shows a great difference in depth between the bottoms of the northern and southern ends of the sea — the south being 13 feet and the north 1300 feet deep.

The southern end is of recent formation and submerged at the time of the fall of the cities.

Genesis 19:29-30

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah



29] *And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when he overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt.*

30] *And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters.*

Lot had been afraid to flee to the mountains (v. 19) so he went instead to Zoar (v. 22).

But now he left Zoar for the mountains and lived in a cave (v. 30).

Losers often hide in a caves:

Joshua's adversaries (*Josh 10:16f*);

Kings in (*Rev 6:15-17*)

Genesis 19:31-34

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

31] *And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father is old, and there is not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth:*

32] *Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.*

33] *And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.*

34] *And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yesternight with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, and lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father.*

Genesis 19:35-38

The Destruction of Sodom & Gomorrah

35] And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose.

36] Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father.

37] And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same is the father of the Moabites unto this day.

38] And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Benammi: the same is the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.

Perennial enemies of Israel:

“Moab” sounds like the words “from father”

“Ben-Ammi” means “son of my kinsman.”

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Gal 6:7).

Genesis 20:1-3 The Lapse at Gerar

1] And Abraham journeyed from thence toward the south country, and dwelled between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar.

2] And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, She is my sister: and Abimelech king of Gerar sent, and took Sarah.

3] But 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.

Gerar was near the coast about 12 miles south of Gaza and about 50 miles south of Hebron, in the land of the Philistines (21:34).

Later Isaac will do the same thing with another Abimelech

Abimelech is a tribal title, not a proper name (26:1-11).

God intervenes to preserve His promise for the line of the Redeemer... *Gen 3:15* et al.

Note: Chapter 20 may not be in chronological order...

Genesis 20:4-5 The Lapse at Gerar

4] But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, Lord, wilt thou slay also a righteous nation?

5] Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.

Abraham had prayed that the righteous would not be *destroyed with the wicked (18:23-32)*.

Now Abimelech's words echoed the same concern:

Lord, will You destroy an innocent nation?

The rebuke would have been quite forceful for Abraham.

22 July 2011

59

Genesis 20:6-7 The Lapse at Gerar

6] 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.

7] 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.

First mention of "prophet" in the OT.

Stern warning: God regards adultery as a capital offense.

22 July 2011

60

Gen 20:8-12 The Lapse at Gerar

8] *Therefore Abimelech rose early in the morning, and called all his servants, and told all these things in their ears: and the men were sore afraid.*

9] *Then Abimelech called Abraham, and said unto him, What hast thou done unto us? and what have I offended thee, that thou hast brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? thou hast done deeds unto me that ought not to be done.*

10] *And Abimelech said unto Abraham, What sawest thou, that thou hast done this thing?*

11] *And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will slay me for my wife's sake.*

12] *And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife.*

Gen 20:13-16 The Lapse at Gerar

13] *And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said unto her, This is thy kindness which thou shalt shew unto me; at every place whither we shall come, say of me, He is my brother.*

14] *And Abimelech took sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and womenservants, and gave them unto Abraham, and restored him Sarah his wife.*

15] *And Abimelech said, Behold, my land is before thee: dwell where it pleaseth thee.*

16] *And unto Sarah he said, Behold, I have given thy brother a thousand pieces of silver: behold, he is to thee a covering of the eyes, unto all that are with thee, and with all other: thus she was reproved.*

Gen 20:17-18 The Lapse at Gerar

17] So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.

18] For the LORD had fast closed up all the wombs of the house of Abimelech, because of Sarah Abraham's wife.

22 July 2011

63

Study Questions

- 1) List the reason that some identify the "Angel of the Lord" with:
 - a) YHWH
 - b) Distinct from YHWH
 - c) Jesus Christ
- 2) Highlight the specific commitments that God gave Abraham in:
 - a) Genesis 12
 - b) Genesis 15
 - c) Genesis 17
- 3) Why should a male infant be circumcised on the eighth day?
What are the medical implications?
- 4) What was the significance of adding a "*heh*" to the names of *Abram* and *Sarai*?
- 5) What was the sin of Sodom?
- 6) What was the prerequisite condition for the angels to levy judgment on Sodom?
What does this imply *prophetically*?

Discussion Questions

(“Where two people agree, one is redundant.”)

- 1) In what ways did Ishmael and Isaac reflect the analogy between the “flesh” and the “spirit”?
- 2) Give examples of a “circumcised” heart.
- 3) What are the *prophetic implications of the parable of the woman and the leaven* in Matthew 13:33?
How does this relate to the passage in Gen 18?
- 4) Discuss the implications if only *one “righteous” was left in Sodom*.
What does this imply *prophetically*?
- 5) If Jesus could have spared Capernaum (Mt 11:23), why didn’t He?

22 July 2011

65

Research Projects

- 1) Compare the seven kingdom parables (Mt 13) with the Letters to the Seven Churches (Rev 2 & 3).
- 2) Compile a list of commonly held superstitions and scientific errors that are not found in the Bible.
- 3) Compile a list of scientific discoveries that are anticipated in the Bible.

22 July 2011

66