

## Panorama Bible Study

### *The Plan of the Ages, Study 5*

#### THE DISPENSATION OF PROMISE

#### FROM THE CALL OF ABRAHAM TO THE EGYPTIAN BONDAGE

God is establishing a **spiritual principle** in Abram's life that applies to **ALL BELIEVERS**. Just as Abram was **CALLED OUT** of the world's wicked system (Babylon, Ur of the Chaldees), the **Christian is CALLED OUT** of the world's way of life. It is recorded in 2 Corinthians 6:17-18:

“Wherefore **COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM**, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

Also, notice that **ABRAM** is his name. He is **NOT ABRAHAM** yet! As we study, notice when God changes his name.

1. Genesis 12:1-7 Abram's father had relocated the family to Haran. After the death of Abram's father, God told Abram to leave and go to a land He would show Abram. Some relatives were left behind. God promises to make **Abram's name great**, make of him a **GREAT NATION**, to bless those who bless him and curse those who curse him, and that in Abram **“SHALL ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH BE BLESSED.”**

Again, God is using the **PHYSICAL** illustrations to paint pictures for us to understand the **SPIRITUAL** principles of the **NEW TESTAMENT COVENANT** in **JESUS CHRIST**, who would be the **ULTIMATE, TRUE SEED of PROMISE** out of Abram's lineage. Abram's **PHYSICAL** descendants will become a **GREAT NATION, ISRAEL**; **however** the **ULTIMATE SPIRITUAL FULFILLMENT** of this **GREAT NATION** is the **GREAT “NATION” of the CHURCH**, (made up of many nations) which would be born on the Day of Pentecost when the **HOLY SPIRIT** was poured out upon **ALL FLESH**. God demonstrated that the **salvation Jesus Christ purchased** at Calvary's Cross was for **ALL THE FAMILIES of the EARTH** by having the 120 people in the upper room on the Feast Day of Pentecost **SPEAK THE LANGUAGES (TONGUES)** of all those from different nations who were present in Jerusalem that day!!!

Abram was **75 years old** when he began the journey, not even knowing where he was headed—just following God's direction.

**QUESTION:** In verse 7, what happened after Abram had traveled quite a distance in obedience to the command God gave him?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION:** What was Abram's response?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION:** What is the application to your journey with the Lord?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Genesis 13: Abram returns from going down into Egypt and is **VERY RICH** in cattle, in **SILVER**, and in **GOLD**. He returns to **BETHEL** in the Promised Land of Canaan where he had originally built an altar. He calls on the name of the Lord, **AGAIN**. There is strife between Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen of his deceased brother's (Haran's) son, **LOT**. Abram allows his **nephew, Lot**, to pick the land he would like to possess. **LOT** chooses what looks good on the outside, but it is rotten on the inside. Lot pitched his tent toward **SODOM**. **BIG MISTAKE!!!** The Lord then speaks to Abram again and tells him to **look NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, and WEST**—for all of it is to be Abram's possession. (This **physical** illustration has as **NEW TESTAMENT SPIRITUAL FULFILLMENT**—The **Gospel** of Redemption in Jesus Christ is to go out in **EVERY DIRECTION**. The New Testament Church is to go forth and **possess NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, and WEST for the GOSPEL!**) Abram moves on to **HEBRON** and builds **ANOTHER ALTAR** to God. Abram is a **WORSHIPPER!!!**

**QUESTION:** What is the New Testament counterpart of "building altars?" How do we "build altars" today?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

- Genesis 14: Abram demonstrates he has a warrior spirit when his nephew Lot is carried away captive by invading armies. He and his army of trained servants pursued and overtook the enemies, regaining all the goods and rescuing Lot.

**IMPORTANT:** In 14:18, upon returning from his military victory, Abram is greeted by an **INTERESTING CHARACTER** who is so significant in the unfolding of the plan of God in redemption, that **HE** is mentioned again in the **New Testament Book of Hebrews 7:1-4**.

He is **MELCHIZEDEK, KING of SALEM** (Salem would eventually become JeruSALEM). **Melchizekdek** is also a **PRIEST**. Abram **REVERED** Him and gave him a **TENTH or TITHE**. This is the **FIRST** mention of **TITHES** in the Bible. The Book of Hebrews tells us that this **MELCHIZEDEK** has **NO BEGINNING** and **NO ENDING!** He was **WORTHY** of having **TITHES** given to Him!

**QUESTION:** Who was Melchizedek?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

4. Genesis 15:1-8 God is our **SHIELD** and **EXCEEDING GREAT REWARD**, just as He was to Abram. God promised Abram **SEED** as the **STARS** (stars are heavenly bodies, which means Abram's seed would be **SPIRITUAL SEED** who would carry the **HEAVENLY plan of redemption** in the earth, producing the **MESSIAH** but, ultimately, the multitude of **SPIRITUAL SEED** would be the **CHURCH, the CHRISTIANS**). Verse 6 states that Abram **BELIEVED** in the **LORD**; and God counted it to him for **RIGHTEOUSNESS**. Abram had **FAITH** in the **PROMISED SEED** and the **multitude of the SEED (both physical seed, Israel, and spiritual seed, the church or believers)** that would be "**OFFSPRING**" of the **SPIRITUAL SEED, the MESSIAH**. Jesus said in the **NEW TESTAMENT** that Abraham rejoiced to see **HIS (JESUS') DAY** and that Abraham "**SAW**" it and was glad. Abraham "**SAW**" it with the eyes of **FAITH** approximately 2000 years prior!!!
  
5. Genesis 15:9-21 **IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT!!!** Here is the **COVENANT OF ABRAM!** NOTICE: God put Abram to **SLEEP** (just as He had done in the **MARRIAGE COVENANT** with Adam when He created Eve) and **God cut COVENANT WITH HIMSELF** on Abram's behalf!!! It is a foreshadowing of **God CUTTING COVENANT WITH HIMSELF** in the Person of His Son, Jesus Christ, at the **CROSS** on **OUR BEHALF!!!** This covenant of the **NEW TESTAMENT in JESUS CHRIST**, as **foreshadowed** in the **COVENANT of ABRAM** when **GOD DID IT ALL HIMSELE**, is referenced in Hebrews 6:13:

"For when **God** made promise to Abraham, because **He** could **swear by no greater**, He **SWARE BY HIMSELF...**"

**QUESTION:** What sin-stained mortal is worthy enough to **CUT COVENANT** with **HOLY ALMIGHTY GOD?**

**ANSWER:** **NO ONE!!** \_\_\_\_\_

That is why God robed Himself with human flesh in the womb of Mary and **CUT COVENANT with HIMSELF in the Person of His SINLESS, PERFECT SON—ALL FOR US!** We cannot boast about anything in salvation because **GOD DOES IT ALL—HE DRAWS US, HE CONVICTS US, HE GIVES US THE FAITH, HE ENTERS US INTO COVENANT WITH HIMSELF THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.** Jesus became HUMAN so that HUMANITY could enjoy **COVENANT RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES** with **Almighty God!!!** Jesus Christ was and is **THE ONLY HUMAN WORTHY TO ENTER COVENANT WITH GOD!!!** HALLELUJAH!!!

6. Genesis 15:11: Notice when Abram has presented the sacrifices, the **FOWLS OF THE AIR** try to steal the pieces. The enemy was trying to interfere with the covenant! Jesus explains the symbolism behind the **FOWLS** when He explained the parable of the **SOWER**. He said that in the **parable of the SOWER** the seed represents the **WORD of GOD** and that the **FOWLS** symbolize the **WICKED ONE** who tries to **steal the WORD** that was sown. Satan is called “**THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR.**” (Eph.2:2) Satan is a **THIEF** who comes to **STEAL, KILL, and DESTROY.** (John 10:10)
7. Genesis 15:13 A remarkable prophecy about a **nation that DOESN'T EVEN EXIST YET!** Only God, Who is outside of time, can make such a prediction. He tells Abram that his **PROMISED seed (Isaac, who has not even been born yet)** will grow into a **mighty nation** that will be **SLAVES in EGYPT for 400 YEARS!!!** **BUT,** God tells Abram that He, God, **WILL** bring them **out of Egypt to CANAAN,** the Promised Land.

Again, this applies to **PHYSICAL ISRAEL,** but also is demonstrating the **SPIRITUAL captivity** of **ALL of us** that we see explained in the **NEW TESTAMENT.** **ALL** of us are **SLAVES to SIN.** We can't help ourselves—**SIN IS OUR TASKMASTER.** But just as **God DELIVERED PHYSICAL ISRAEL** out of Egypt **after 400 years, 400 years passed** from the **ending of the OLD TESTAMENT** to the **beginning of the NEW TESTAMENT,** which would bring **JESUS, who would DELIVER US from the WORLD'S (EGYPT'S) sins!**

8. Genesis 15:17 When the sun went down, notice the **APPEARANCE of GOD** passing through the pieces of the sacrifices of **Abram's COVENANT:** A SMOKING FURNANCE and a BURNING LAMP!

**QUESTION:** Why does God look like that? (*Scripture interpreting scripture gives us the answer.*)

**ANSWER:** (See Rev. 1:15; 4:5; Isaiah 31:9) \_\_\_\_\_

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**QUESTION:** How much land did God promise Abram's descendants in this covenant?

**ANSWER:** (See verse 18) \_\_\_\_\_

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WOW!!! There are some SQUATTERS on that property today!

9. Genesis 16 Abram's wife, **Sarai**, suggests that Abram raise up seed through her **EGYPTIAN handmaid, HAGAR**. Remember that in scripture interpreting scripture, like Babylon, **Egypt is a symbol of SIN'S ENSLAVEMENT** and a **FALLEN WORLD SYSTEM**. Abram is raising up seed with someone symbolic of **BONDAGE!!!** Hagar is a descendant of **HAM**, whose lineage was **cursed** through his son **CANAAN**, which becomes the many nations occupying the **PROMISED LAND** where Abram's descendants will eventually engage in war to overtake them. The New Testament Book of Galatians (4:24) tells us that this story happened in order to **teach us an ALLEGORY**. **HAGAR** will symbolize **THE WORKS OF THE LAW** and **THE FLESH NATURE—NO FREEDOM, JUST BONDAGE BECAUSE WE CANNOT KEEP THE LAW**. **HAGAR** is a symbol of the **OLD COVENANT OF LAW, THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL** which would later be given at **Mt. Sinai**. The **OLD COVENANT** illustrates that our **FLESH NATURE CANNOT KEEP THE LAW**, so the **LAW CONDEMNS US** and becomes a **CURSE** to us. We remain **ENSLAVED to sin** like the **BONDWOMAN (slave) HAGAR** was. There is **nothing** we can do in the **STRENGTH of OUR FLESH to KEEP THE HOLY LAW of GOD**. Abram tried to accomplish and bring about **in the STRENGTH of HIS FLESH NATURE** God's promise of **A SPIRITUAL SEED**.

**IT CAN'T BE DONE!!!!** When we try to bring something **SPIRITUAL** out of our **OWN STRENGTH** and in our **FLESH FALLEN NATURE**, we make a **MESS**.

**ISHMAEL WAS A HOT MESS!!! AND STILL IS TODAY!!!**

In fact, when we **attempt the SPIRITUAL** in the **strength of our FLESH NATURE**, we create something that will grow to **MOCK the TRUE SPIRITUAL SEED** God is raising up in us and through any ministry He has given us—just as **Ishmael** grew up to **MOCK the TRUE PROMISE of GOD, ISAAC, the SPIRITUAL SEED**.

This chapter shows the **binding pledge** of the **Covenant**, for God preserved Hagar and Ishmael **because Ishmael was the son of Abram**. Ishmael and his descendants live because their **father was ABRAHAM** who was **IN COVENANT** with God. Verses 11-12 state that **Ishmael's descendants** will become an **innumerable multitude** of people. They will be characterized as a **“wild man” who is set against everybody**. Out of **Ishmael** came the **Arab race** and the **Islamic religion**, which has now spread beyond the Arab race. Abram was 86 when Ishmael was born.

**10.** Genesis 17 Abram is **99 years old** and God appears to him as the **“Almighty God,”** which translates **EL SHADDAI** (the double-breasted One, the All-Sufficient One). God tells Abram that Abram will be the **father of MANY NATIONS**, so God is changing his name to **ABRAHAM**. The change in the name means **“BREATH.”** This Spiritual **PROMISED SEED** that God is going to give **ABRAHAM** will all come about because of **THE BREATH OF GOD**. It will be a **SUPERNATURAL CONCEPTION**—a **SPIRITUAL CONCEPTION**. The Book of Hebrews (11:11) tells us that God gave Sarai a **GIFT of FAITH** to have the **strength** to **CONCEIVE** this **SEED of the SPIRITUAL PROMISE**.

**11.** Genesis 17: 7-10 God tells Abraham that the **COVENANT of bringing forth the MESSIAH** will be with this **SEED OF the PROMISE, ISAAC, NOT** with Ishmael and that it, like **Noah's RAINBOW COVENANT**, will be an **EVERLASTING COVENANT**—the land of Canaan will be for an **EVERLASTING POSSESSION**—and that **HE, GOD**, will be **their GOD**. God institutes the **TOKEN or SIGN of this EVERLASTING COVENANT: CIRCUMCISION**. This **SIGN or TOKEN** is pointing to the **TRUE PROMISED SEED, MESSIAH JESUS**, coming out of **ISAAC'S LINEAGE**. **CIRCUMCISION** involved the **SHEDDING of BLOOD**. **Jesus** came from this **PROMISED SEED of ABRAHAM** and He **SHED HIS BLOOD on the Cross**, for the Bible says that “without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.” The Book of Romans (2:28-29) tells us that this **PHYSICAL CIRCUMCISION of the OLD TESTAMENT** was pointing to the **SPIRITUAL CIRCUMCISION of the NEW TESTAMENT** that happens when we come by **FAITH** to the **CROSS OF CHRIST**—His **Spirit** comes into us and **CIRCUMCISES our HEART**, the **SIN CENTER** of our being. This **SPIRITUAL CIRCUMCISION** removes the **“FORESKIN”** over our **HEARTS**.

**QUESTION:** Did you know that if you have received Jesus as your Savior you have been **“CIRCUMCISED”**? That is, circumcised where it counts!

- 12.** Genesis 17:15 God changes Sarai's name to **SARAH (MOTHER of NATIONS)** and, like ABRAHAM, her name now has **BREATH** added to it. REMEMBER, **God's BREATH** into Adam caused Adam to be a **living** soul. **LIFE** is coming out of this **NAME CHANGE** for both Abraham and Sarah!!! (Likewise, when we come to Christ, our **NAMES** are changed to **CHRISTIAN** and **ETERNAL LIFE** comes **INTO US** and **OUT OF US** to others!)The **Breath** is the **HOLY SPIRIT**. This conception would be the work of the Holy Spirit in Sarah's old age to have the strength to conceive. Although **not** a **SUPERNATURAL** conception as with **JESUS**, Sarah's conception empowered by the Holy Spirit's **GIFT OF FAITH** reflects the conception of **Jesus** as being the **ULTIMATE FULFILLMENT OF THE SEED OF THE PROMISE, THE TRUE SPIRITUAL SEED**.
- 13.** Genesis 17:18-20 God **ESTABLISHES** the **EVERLASTING COVENANT** with the **seed** which **SARAH shall bear** and God names the child, **ISAAC. (LAUGHTER)** The name is not just because Sarah laughed, but because **SPIRITUAL SEED** should be **JOYFUL**. **WE** are the **NEW TESTAMENT OFFSPRING of JESUS**. We should be **JOYFUL!!!** Sunday mornings in church services **SHOULD BE the MOST JOYFUL** day of the week!
- 14.** Genesis 17:23-27 **Everybody** in Abraham's household got **CIRCUMCISED** or they weren't covered by the provisions of the **COVENANT!!!** Abraham was **99 years old** when he got **CIRCUMCISED**. **NOTICE:** Abraham had to be **CIRCUMCISED BEFORE** he could conceive the **SPIRITUAL SEED**.

**QUESTION:** Why did Abraham have to be circumcised before he could conceive the PROMISE?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

- 15.** Genesis 21: The child of the **SPIRIT**, the **PROMISED SEED, ISAAC**, is born. As the **PROMISED CHILD** grows, the **BONDWOMAN'S** son, **ISHMAEL**, is **cast out into the wilderness** along with his mother, **HAGAR**, because of **MOCKING ISAAC**. God honors his promise to Abraham and **preserves ISHMAEL**, making a great nation out of his descendants.
- 16.** Genesis 22: Abraham's faith is tested when God asks him to offer his **ONLY SON OF THE PROMISE, ISAAC**. It is a beautiful portrayal of **God the Father** offering **His ONLY SON OF PROMISE, JESUS**, on that **SAME MOUNT, MORIAH**, approximately 2000

years later!!! Verse 8 says that Abraham stated that **GOD** would provide **HIMSELF** as a **LAMB**. Jesus was “The **LAMB of God** which taketh away the sins of the world.”

17. Genesis 24: Abraham’s servant, **ELIEZER**, is sent to find **ISAAC** a **WIFE**. **ELIEZER’S name** means **“COMFORTER.”** He is a type or foreshadowing of **THE HOLY SPIRIT**, Who seeks out the **BRIDE of CHRIST** for the **PROMISED SON OF GOD, JESUS**. Eliezer finds **REBEKAH**, relative of Abraham, who becomes **ISAAC’S WIFE**.
  
18. Genesis 25: Sarah had died and Abraham marries Keturah, who has 6 sons for him. One of those sons is **MIDIAN**, out of which will come the **MIDIANTIES**. (Remember this nation later on when **JOSEPH’S story** is told and when **MOSES’ story** of a wife is told.) **THE SCARLET THREAD OF REDEMPTION**, the **BLOOD LINEAGE OF JESUS**, continues with **REBEKAH** giving birth to **TWINS: ESAU and JACOB**. Esau becomes a man driven by his **FALLEN FLESH NATURE** and does **NOT** regard the importance of the **SPIRITUAL**, which is contained in the **BIRTHRIGHT**. Esau was the **FIRSTBORN** and **entitled** to the **DOUBLE PORTION** of the **BIRTHRIGHT**, but he **SOLD IT** to his brother, **JACOB**, for a **BOWL OF RED POTTAGE**. His name was then known as **EDOM** which, like **ADAM**, means **RED**. HE will father a nation known as **EDOMITES** and **AMALEKITES** who will oppose the **SPIRITUAL SEED**, the line of the **MESSIAH**, which will come out of **JACOB**. This struggle illustrates the New Testament spiritual principles that the **FLESH is at ENMITY with GOD**. (Romans 8:7) The **FLESH FALLEN NATURE** is an enemy of the **SPIRITUAL**. We experience this “warfare” in our own bodies every day—our fallen nature chooses one direction, but our born again spirit chooses God’s direction.
  
19. Genesis 27: **JACOB** (whose name means **supplanter, deceiver**) in collaboration with his mother, Rebekah, **DECEIVES** his aged father, Isaac, into **BLESSING HIM** and confirming the **BIRTHRIGHT in him**, instead of his elder brother, Esau.
  
20. Genesis 28: **JACOB**, out of **fear of ESAU**, flees, but has an encounter with God in a **vision of a ladder** that reached to **HEAVEN**, with the angels of GOD ascending and descending upon it. God is **confirming THE COVENANT WITH JACOB** that **HIS LINEAGE** will be the one producing that **“LADDER”** which **connects HEAVEN TO EARTH**, that is the **LORD JESUS HIMSELF**, will come out of **JACOB**.
  
21. Genesis 29-30 Jacob goes to live with his mother’s brother, LABAN, and is **deceived** into **marrying LEAH**, the oldest, when he was in **love with RACHEL**. These two

women, along with their handmaids, **Bilhah** and **Zilpah**, will conceive **by JACOB** and produce **12 SONS**, who will become the **nation of ISRAEL**.

(**JACOB'S name** will later be changed to **ISRAEL** after his deceitful nature has been changed following a **wrestling match with GOD ALL NIGHT!** Genesis 32:28)

The 12 sons are...

**REUBEN** (Leah), **SIMEON** (Leah), **LEVI** (Leah), **JUDAH** (Leah), **ISSACHAR** (Leah), **ZEBULON** (Leah), **JOSEPH** (Rachel), **BENJAMIN** (Rachel), **DAN** (Bilhah), **NAPHTALI** (Bilhah), **GAD** (Zilpah), **ASHER** (Zilpah). **NOTE: JUDAH is the BLOODLINE OF THE MESSIAH, JESUS.**

**22.** Genesis 37: Jacob (now **named ISRAEL**) has a favored son from the wife he loved, **RACHEL**. His name is **JOSEPH**. Out of jealousy the other brothers sell him into slavery to a band of **MIDIANITE slave traders** journeying to **EGYPT**. (Verse 28) Remember, **Midian came out of Abraham's wife, Keturah**, after Sarah's death. Through God's favor and God's gift to Joseph to interpret dreams, **Joseph** is elevated to **PRIME MINISTER of EGYPT**, the most powerful nation of that day. **GOD HAS SOVEREIGNLY PLACED HIM THERE TO PRESERVE THE SEED OF THE MESSIAH WHICH WILL NOT COME OUT OF HIS TRIBE, BUT OUT OF His brother's tribe, THE TRIBE OF JUDAH**. Remember, God told Abraham that his descendants would be **in EGYPT 400 years**. (In God's sovereignty, He will allow this mighty nation of **EGYPT** with all its **resources** to **NOURISH His chosen people** and cause them to **MULTIPLY**. God will ultimately use **JOSEPH'S position** to bring Jacob and his sons with their families to Egypt.)

**23.** Genesis 38 While Joseph was becoming a man in Egypt, one of his brothers, **Judah** (**the lineage of JESUS CHRIST**) would **NOT** make good on his promise to his widowed daughter-in-law that she would eventually be wed to his last son. This daughter-in-law, **TAMAR**, was entitled to have **SEED from that family** she had wed into. Finally, in desperation, she posed as a prostitute and her father-in-law, **JUDAH** (the lineage of **JESUS CHRIST**) impregnated her, not knowing she was his daughter-in-law. Out of **TAMAR** would come **TWINS, PHAREZ and ZARAH**. **PHAREZ would continue the lineage of JESUS CHRIST.**

**24.** Genesis 41 Joseph's life **foreshadowed** many aspects of the life of **JESUS CHRIST**, even though **Jesus** would **NOT** come from Joseph's tribe. Like Jesus, Joseph was rejected by his brethren, favored by his father, wore an inheritance coat of many

colors, was of impeccable moral character, stayed faithful to God even when they bound his feet in fetters in prison, was elevated to a place of highest honor, was given a **GENTILE BRIDE**, became a **SAVIOR to the WORLD** and his **BRETHREN** during famine.

**25.** Genesis 42-45 God uses the famine to cause Jacob (**ISRAEL**) to send his remaining sons into **EGYPT** to find food. Joseph recognizes them, but they do not recognize Joseph. Through a series of events, Joseph tests his brothers' character to see if they had changed since selling him into slavery at the age of 17. When Joseph sees that they have truly repented for what they did to him, he reveals himself to them and sends for his father and the remainder of the families of his brothers so that he can provide for them in Egypt.

**26.** Genesis 46 God speaks to **Jacob (Israel)** in **NIGHT VISIONS** and tells him **NOT TO FEAR—TO GO DOWN INTO EGYPT “FOR I WILL MAKE OF THEE A GREAT NATION.”**

God tells Jacob that he will see and touch Joseph again! Joseph, meanwhile, has had **2 SONS** by his **GENTILE BRIDE: MANASSEH and EPHRAIM**. They will each become a **TRIBE** in the **nation of ISRAEL** when **GOD separates the tribe of LEVI** out of the 12 original sons for the **PRIESTHOOD 400 years later under MOSES' leadership**. Counting Joseph's sons, a **TOTAL OF 70 SOULS** of the house of **JACOB (ISRAEL)** went down into **EGYPT** (verse 27). The name **HEBREWS** is often used in referring to the descendants of **Jacob (ISRAEL)** as they become a mighty nation and simply **means** descendants of **EBER**, the grandson of **ARPHAXAD**, son of **SHEM**, son of **NOAH**.

**27.** Genesis 48-49 **Jacob's (ISRAEL'S)** descendants **multiply** under **JOSEPH'S administration** of **EGYPT**. Jacob's time to die arrives and he utters **REMARKABLE PROPHECIES** about the **descendants of his 12 sons**. Joseph keeps his promise to his father, **Jacob (ISRAEL)**, and takes Jacob home to **CANAAN** to bury him. They **return to EGYPT** following the burial of father Jacob.

**28.** Genesis 50 Joseph grows old and eventually dies, but not before making his relatives promise to carry his bones out of **EGYPT** when God one day brings them all out of **EGYPT** and back into the **PROMISED LAND of CANAAN**. **Joseph KNEW** and **BELIEVED the prophecy** that had been given to his **GREAT GRANDFATHER, ABRAHAM**.

**29.** Exodus 1 After many years, a **king** rose to power in Egypt who did **not know Joseph** and felt threatened by the tremendous growth of the people of Jacob (Israel). **Taskmasters** were set over them to afflict them, but the people continued to multiply. Then the king commanded the midwives of the Hebrew women to **KILL ALL MALE** babies they delivered, but the **midwives** were **GOD-FEARING** and did not comply with the king's order. The Pharaoh then ordered **ALL the people** to cast all the **MALE Hebrew babies into the river.**

God is developing a **PATTERN** in the scriptures with His people being **enslaved by EGYPT**. It is a picture of **OUR ENSLAVEMENT to the WORLD' S SYSTEM** and **SIN**. **SIN RULES** over us as a **CRUEL TASKMASTER.**

**30.** Exodus 2 God's calendar of **400 years in EGYPT** is up! He sends a baby named **MOSES** out of the **TRIBE of LEVI**, as a **DELIVERER!** Moses is a **foreshadowing** of our **GREAT SPIRITUAL DELIVERER, JESUS!**

There is a **SPIRITUAL principle** in this baby's life that God illustrates here: The very **RIVER** that the evil Pharaoh decreed for the male babies to be thrown into **for death, GOD USES TO SAVE MOSES!!!** **God** can cause what is **meant for EVIL**, to be **turned around for GOOD!**

Moses is found in the river by the **PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER** who gives the baby **PROTECTION** in the very palace of the king who had ordered the slaughter of Hebrew babies!!!

Moses grows into a man and the **spirit of a DELIVERER**, God's calling upon His life, is shown when he kills the Egyptian who was beating a Hebrew. He flees to **MIDIAN** (remember Abraham's wife, Keturah) to escape the wrath of Pharaoh. Moses marries a **MIDIANITE**, Zipporah, and begins a life of sheep tending.

**31.** Exodus 3 Moses, while tending his flock, leads them to the back side of the desert to graze upon a **MOUNTAIN** named **HOREB**, also called **SINAI**. God appears to him as a **FLAME OF FIRE** in a bush that burned but was not consumed. (Think about the 120 in the upper room on the Day of Pentecost in the New Testament—split **FLAMES OF FIRE** upon their heads.)

God introduces Himself as **“I AM THAT I AM.”** (The **ETERNAL, SELF-EXISTENT ONE.**)

God commissions **MOSES** to lead His people out of Egypt.

- 32.** Exodus 4 God uses what is in **MOSES’ HAND**. (God will use what is in our hands, too!) Moses has a **ROD**. It turns into a **SERPENT** (symbol of the **sin problem/our spiritual bondage** beginning in Garden of Eden). Moses is told to pick the serpent up **BY THE TAIL!** What is the **REASON** to handle the **serpent** by his **tail**? The Book of Revelation tells us that the **“Serpent** (formerly Lucifer) drew a **third of the stars”** (angels) with **HIS TAIL** when he rebelled against God and fell from Heaven. God is illustrating that His deliverer, Moses, and ultimately the coming **SPIRITUAL DELIVERER, Jesus**, have **POWER OVER ALL THE POWER OF THE ENEMY!!!**

God allows Moses to have Aaron, his older brother, as the spokesperson because Moses says he is not an eloquent speaker and is of slow tongue and slow speech.

- 33.** Exodus 5-12 Moses and Aaron begin to appear before Pharaoh and tell him that Almighty God has said to “Let His people go.” Pharaoh **INCREASES** the burdens upon the people. (Note: In spiritual warfare in your life, the **ENEMY** will get uncomfortable when he sees God is actively doing something. The **enemy**, many times, will respond by **INCREASING his affliction** upon you, **BUT IT’S NOT GOING to LAST**, because God says that the **enemy’s TIME IS UP!!!**) God then introduces **HIS COVENANT NAME** for the **FIRST TIME, JEHOVAH**. God uses Moses and Aaron to announce the **FOLLOWING JUDGMENTS upon EGYPT**, while the land of **GOSHEN** where His **COVENANT people reside**, is **FREE OF ANY JUDGMENT**: (1) Waters turned into **BLOOD** (2) Plague of **FROGS** (3) Plague of **LICE** (at this point Pharaoh’s magicians could not duplicate the acts of Moses anymore) (4) Swarms of **FLIES** (5) Plague of **MURRAIN** (deadly disease) upon livestock (6) Plague of **BOILS** upon man and beast (7) Plague of **HAIL** mingled with **FIRE** (8) Plague of **LOCUSTS** (9) Plague of **DARKNESS** which could be **FELT** for 3 days (10) Final plague of **DEATH OF ALL THE FIRSTBORN OF EGYPT**. God’s people had to **DO SOMETHING** in order to **have PROTECTION** from this **PLAGUE OF DEATH**:

**STRIKE THE SACRIFICED PASSOVER LAMB’S BLOOD** upon the side posts and upper door posts of each home.

The **LAMB** was to be taken on the **14<sup>th</sup> DAY, ROASTED** with **FIRE** and eaten with **UNLEAVENED BREAD** and **BITTER HERBS. NOTHING** was to be left of the **PASSOVER LAMB** for it is a **TOTAL and COMPLETE OFFERING** unto God, as representing **JESUS**, our **TRUE PASSOVER LAMB**, who was **“ROASTED”** with the **FIRE of GOD’S JUDGMENT upon SIN** at the Cross. Just as the Hebrews did, we, the **CHURCH, SPIRITUALLY “EAT”** of the **true PASSOVER LAMB, JESUS**, and **are given LIFE**. This is illustrated in the **LAST SUPPER** in the **NEW TESTAMENT**. Jesus was showing his disciples at the **LAST SUPPER** that the **PASSOVER in EGYPT** and, consequently, **all the PASSOVER FEASTS** that the people of **ISRAEL** had to observe throughout their history have **POINTED TO HIM!!!** Jesus is the **FULFILLMENT!**

After the **PASSOVER** and the killing of **ALL the FIRSTBORN of EGYPT**, God’s **COVENANT people** are **FREED!!!** They are **RELEASED from BONDAGE** and brought **OUT OF EGYPT** in order to **COME INTO the PROMISED LAND**. Likewise, after the **TRUE PASSOVER, JESUS**, was sacrificed at Calvary, **those who by FAITH** received His sacrifice, **WERE FREED** from the power and penalty of **SIN**. Jesus brings us **OUT** to **BRING us into a LIFE of possessing the PROMISED LAND both HERE** and, in the future, **HEAVEN’S PROMISED LAND**. Possessing your **personal PROMISED LAND here, in this life**, is the **PURPOSE** for which you were created!