

PRECEPT  
UPON  
PRECEPT®

# *Genesis*

PART 3

BECOMING A FRIEND  
OF THE FAITHFUL GOD

A STUDY ON ABRAHAM

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®  
GENESIS  
PART 3  
BECOMING A FRIEND OF THE FAITHFUL GOD  
A STUDY ON ABRAHAM

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## HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

**How to Study Your Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010*

**The New Inductive Study Bible—New American Standard Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000*

**Word Study Tools**

## RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

WALVOORD, JOHN F.; ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

**The Bible Knowledge Commentary (Old Testament)**

*Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985*

KIDNER, DEREK F.

**Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries: Genesis**

*Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Press, 1967.*

## RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

**Logos Bible Software**

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at [www.logos.com](http://www.logos.com).



## LESSON ONE—Chapters 11:24–14:24

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:  
Observation Worksheets of Genesis 11–14  
“Abraham’s Family Tree”  
“Journal on God”  
“From Ur to Canaan”  
“Abraham’s Sojournings”  
“Genesis 1–25 at a Glance”

**An ordinary man,**

**An extraordinary promise,**

**And an awesome God.**

**Do you feel pretty ordinary? Maybe a little insignificant? It’s all right. In fact, it’s good. Why? Because it’s just like God to pick ordinary people and do extraordinary things with them and through them.**

**All that’s required is that you simply listen to what God says and then move forward from there, one step at a time.**

**You have a great study before you, friend. If you’ll determine to do as much as you can each week, remembering that even a little studying is better than none at all, and if you’ll set your goal to persevere for the next six weeks, you’ll be awed at what you learn and the difference it will make in your life.**

**Studying the Word of God inductively always makes an incredible difference, as long as you don’t let truth go in one ear and out the other!**

**So to prevent this from happening, why don’t we begin by praying together.**

*O Father, we come to You now to ask for Your help because You are God and nothing is too difficult or impossible for You. You know our schedules, the pressures and pulls of our lives, and yet You tell us how essential it is that we know and understand You and Your ways—Your dealings with men and women who are just like us.*

***Becoming a Friend  
of the Faithful God***  
*Lesson 1, Chapters 11:24–14:24*

*Father, we need Your wisdom, Your encouragement, Your strength, Your direction. We need confidence to face life with all its twists, turns, and difficulties, and we know all this can come only from You as a gift of grace. Grant it, Lord. As we study Your Word, meet with us in personal and intimate ways—ways that will surprise and delight us, ways that will equip and sustain us for all that the future holds, ways that will rebuke us or restrain us if we are going the wrong way, believing something which is not true. Our hearts' desire, dear Lord, is to be pleasing to You in every way. If we are off that path, we trust You to turn us about through Your Word and by Your Spirit whom You gave us through the New Covenant.*

*We will be faithful in giving this study all that we can, and we ask You to change our lives over the next six weeks as we choose the one thing which is needful and which can never be taken away from us—to sit at Your feet and to learn about You.*

*In faith, we thank You for what You are going to do as we carry out our part. We pray this in the name of the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, our Lord Jesus Christ.*

DAY  
ONE

1. There's a key repeated phrase used throughout the book of Genesis. It is "These are the records of the generations of \_\_\_\_\_."

The first time the phrase is used is in Genesis 2:4, but it's a little hard to recognize in the New American Standard Bible, the text we use for this Precept course. The marginal reference in the NASB tells you that the literal translation is "These are the generations" of the heavens and the earth.

The phrase is then repeated in Genesis 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; and 11:27.

Your first assignment is to read Genesis 11:24-32.

- a. You may want to mark the phrase "These are the generations of \_\_\_\_\_" in a distinctive way in your Bible and then mark Genesis 11:27 in the same way on your Observation Worksheet which is in the Appendix.
- b. Read these verses and mark every occurrence of *Abram* in a distinctive color. Take a moment to choose a color or symbol. You might use blue for *Abram*. By the way, Abram's name will be changed to Abraham later. Just wanted you to know this so you will understand that we are marking the right man—the man whose life we are studying.



***Becoming a Friend  
of the Faithful God***

*Lesson 1, Chapters 11:24–14:24*

2. In the Appendix you'll find the chart "Abraham's Family Tree." This Family Tree only has places for people mentioned in this course—Genesis 11:24–23:20; 25:1-18. Throughout this course when writing a list of names on the Family Tree, begin on the left and record the names in the order of the text. For example, from verse 27, begin with the first blank on the left under Terah and write in order of the text: Abram, Nahor, Haran.

Read Genesis 11:27-32 and record the names of Abram and his siblings, their wives, and their children (Terah's grandchildren) on this chart.

3. Now let's look at some cross-references that will give us insight into why Abram moved from Ur of the Chaldeans. This is an example of progressive revelation. By that we mean that God doesn't give us all the facts at once; sometimes He waits to reveal certain specifics in later books of the Bible.
  - a. Read Isaiah 51:1-2. God is speaking to the nation of Israel in this passage. Note what He says regarding Abram's status when He called him.
  - b. Look up Acts 7:1-5. Record what you learn from reading these verses. ("This country" in verse 4 is Canaan.)
  - c. Hebrews 11:8

4. What benefit did you get from reading the cross-references, from catching God's further revelation? Was anything clarified for you?

DAY  
TWO

1. Read Genesis 11:27–12:9 using your Observation Worksheets. If you have *The New Inductive Study Bible*, you might want to transfer some of your marks to it after you have worked through your Observation Worksheets.
  - a. There are two main personages that we are going to focus on in our study: the LORD\* and Abram. Mark Abram the way you did in DAY ONE.

\*On the back cover of your workbook, you'll see suggested markings for some words used frequently in the Bible. In this workbook, we'll indicate those with an asterisk [\*].

While you won't always want to mark every reference to Abram or to the LORD in the portion of Genesis that we will study, you might find it helpful to do so in this passage because it will train your eye to observe what you can about Abram.

- b. List on the following chart what you learn about the LORD and Abram that answers what we call the 5 Ws and an H: who, what, when, where, why, and how.

For example, list Terah as Abram's father because that helps describe who Abram is. Then note the chapter and verse that gives you that information.

The LORD	Abram

2. Read Genesis 12:1-3 again and focus on what God promised Abram. Simply list below the main points of God's promise. Doing this will help you crystallize truth and remember exactly what God told Abram He would do.

3. Now then, take a few minutes and reflect on the Lord. By the way, when LORD is printed in all capital letters in the New American Standard Bible text, it is an indication that the translators have translated the most holy name for God, YHWH. God's special or proper name, YHWH, will always be indicated as LORD in the text unless it appears in conjunction with Adonai. In that case Adonai will be printed Lord and YHWH will be printed GOD. You see this in Genesis 15:2.

What did you notice the Lord doing and what does this tell you about Him? When you watch what God does and what He says, you learn much about Him. While the Bible is a progressive revelation, its roots of truth are found in Genesis, the book of beginnings. Therefore, Genesis shows us how God first reveals Himself to those whom He created for His will, for His pleasure (Revelation 4:11).

Throughout our study of Abraham, so much is learned about God that we thought it would be good to start a "Journal on God." In fact, you can continue this journal throughout your study of God's Word. You'll find pages for this journal in the Appendix.

Record at least three things you learn about God from this passage and how these three insights apply to your life.

## DAY THREE

1. Let's begin today by reading Genesis 11:27–12:9 again. This time we want to look for key repeated words and to review what we learned about God and Abram.

Basically a key word<sup>1</sup> is an important word which, if removed, would leave the text void of meaning. It is a repeated word. God repeated words so they would be remembered because the Bible is an oral book. There were no printing presses until the fifteenth century, so the Bible was heard more than it was read. For this reason, words were repeated so they wouldn't be missed and you would get the point that God was making.

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<sup>1</sup> If you want to know more about key words, you can read about them in *How to Study Your Bible*. It's the book Precept Ministries International uses in teaching people how to study the Bible inductively. To order call 1-800-763-8280, or go online to [www.precept.org](http://www.precept.org).

Mark the following key words, each in a distinctive way:

- a. *bless\** (*blessing, blessed*)
- b. *altar*
- c. *Lot*

You should continue to mark these during this study. So cut out the Key Word Bookmark on the back cover of this workbook and list these words on the blank side, marking them the way you will throughout this study.

2. Now, did you see any references to time? Paying attention to time is important because it answers the questions, When? How long? How old? God has a purpose when He tells you the age of someone. References to Abram's age will help you understand when various things happened in his life and how long he waited for God's promise to come to pass.

Read Genesis 11:27–12:9 again, marking references to time\* (add to your bookmark).

3. You also want to pay attention to geographical locations since they answer the question, Where? Read Genesis 11:27–12:9 and mark references to geographical locations\* (add to your bookmark)—places where things happened, where they went.
4. Now look at the two maps, “From Ur to Canaan” and “Abraham's Sojournings” in the Appendix and trace Abram's journey through Genesis 12:9. Note what happens in each location. List the locations in the following space and next to them record what, if anything, occurs at each location.

*How are you doing, Beloved of God? We trust that you realize that the study you have undertaken is most significant. You are applying yourself to a most commendable task—that of knowing and understanding the Word of God. And while it requires a great deal of discipline and saying no to other things, we can assure you that you will never regret it. Nor will you be ashamed when you see God face-to-face, for you will have honored Him by honoring His textbook for life.*

*God has magnified His Word together with His name. To know His Word is to know Him, to understand His ways, to appreciate God for who He really is. Not only will you never be sorry that you have disciplined yourself for the purpose of godliness, but you will find that what you learn gives you an edge on life that you never had before. This is the testimony of multitudes who study the Word of God inductively. We hear it over and over. “My life has been changed.” “I made it because of what I learned.” “I can handle it because I know God.”*

*Persevere. Just understand, your determination will not go unchallenged, but that’s good. It proves you are on the right course. You can rest assured that the enemy of your soul, the serpent of old, the devil, Satan, would love to keep you ignorant of God’s precepts. Everything about the Christian’s armor is centered in the Word of God. That’s why so many are going down in deep, regrettable defeat. They do not know their God nor understand His ways, and they stand impotent, defenseless before the one who is a liar, deceiver, destroyer.*

*But not you, Beloved; “the people who know their God will display strength and take action” (Daniel 11:32b).*

*So hangeth thou in there, valiant one.*

DAY  
FOUR

1. Read Genesis 12:10-20. Mark the words on your Key Word Bookmark, along with references to the LORD.
2. List the main events that occur in Genesis 12:10-20.

3. In your “Journal on God,” record what you learn about God from this passage.
4. Does knowing this about God help you in any way? Don’t just answer yes or no; explain your answer.

5. Now read Genesis 13 and once again mark the words on your bookmark, along with *LORD*. Check the locations on your map, “Abraham’s Sojournings,” to know exactly where Abram and Lot go and what occurs in these places.

Watch the references to the land God promised to Abram.





2. Now briefly list the sequence of events in verses 4-12. Refer to the map as you do.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What do you learn about Abram from this account? Notice anything different?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Now read Genesis 14:17-20 again. This time mark references to *Melchizedek*. Although Melchizedek is not mentioned very much in the Bible, he is a very significant character as you will see. Record everything you learn about him from this passage.

**Melchizedek**

<b>Insights from Genesis 14:17-20</b>	<b>Insights from Psalms and Hebrews</b>

5. Read Psalm 110:4; Hebrews 5:5-6; and 6:19–7:17. Record what you learn about Melchizedek on the chart on the previous page.
6. Did you notice how the LORD is referred to in Genesis 14:17-24? God Most High is El Elyon in Hebrew, and this is the first time God is referred to in this way. El Elyon is the name connected with the sovereignty of God and is found prominently in the book of Daniel. In your “Journal on God,” note what you learn about the LORD from this passage and what knowing this can mean to you personally.
7. Beginning with Genesis 11:27, record the main event (theme) of each chapter in the appropriate place on the “Genesis 1–25 at a Glance” chart, located in the Appendix. As we continue our study of Abraham, you will be adding to this chart. Then at the end it can serve as a “table of contents” for these chapters.
8. Well, Beloved, you have just met Abram and watched him as he begins his walk with his God. Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have seen about Abram and God. What have you learned that you can put in your Trust Account and draw on in the time of need? Write it below. To do so will be a valuable exercise, for it will help you remember these things in the time of need.
9. Finally, feel free to consult commentaries; however, we encourage you not to read ahead of where you are studying. To do so would keep you from discovering truth on your own. Not only will you spoil the joy of discovery, you might also find yourself approaching the text with a bias that keeps you from seeing exactly what the text is saying, and you don’t want to do that.

## GENESIS 11:24-32

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- 24** Nahor lived twenty-nine years, and became the father of Terah;
- 25** and Nahor lived one hundred and nineteen years after he became the father of Terah, and he had *other* sons and daughters.
- 26** Terah lived seventy years, and became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran.
- 27** Now these are *the records of* the generations of Terah. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran; and Haran became the father of Lot.
- 28** Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans.
- 29** Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah and Iscah.
- 30** Sarai was barren; she had no child.
- 31** Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans in order to enter the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran, and settled there.
- 32** The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran.



## GENESIS 12

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

NOW the LORD said to Abram,

- “Go forth from your country,  
And from your relatives  
And from your father’s house,  
To the land which I will show you;  
2 And I will make you a great nation,  
And I will bless you,  
And make your name great;  
And so you shall be a blessing;  
3 And I will bless those who bless you,  
And the one who curses you I will curse.  
And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”
- 4 So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.
- 5 Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his nephew, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the persons which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan; thus they came to the land of Canaan.
- 6 Abram passed through the land as far as the site of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. Now the Canaanite *was* then in the land.
- 7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him.
- 8 Then he proceeded from there to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.
- 9 Abram journeyed on, continuing toward the Negev.

- 10 Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land.
- 11 It came about when he came near to Egypt, that he said to Sarai his wife, “See now, I know that you are a beautiful woman;
- 12 and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, ‘This is his wife’; and they will kill me, but they will let you live.
- 13 “Please say that you are my sister so that it may go well with me because of you, and that I may live on account of you.”
- 14 It came about when Abram came into Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful.
- 15 Pharaoh’s officials saw her and praised her to Pharaoh; and the woman was taken into Pharaoh’s house.
- 16 Therefore he treated Abram well for her sake; and gave him sheep and oxen and donkeys and male and female servants and female donkeys and camels.
- 17 But the LORD struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram’s wife.
- 18 Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, “What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife?
- 19 “Why did you say, ‘She is my sister,’ so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her and go.”
- 20 Pharaoh commanded *his* men concerning him; and they escorted him away, with his wife and all that belonged to him.

## GENESIS 13

### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- SO Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, he and his wife and all that belonged to him, and Lot with him.
- 2 Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver and in gold.
  - 3 He went on his journeys from the Negev as far as Bethel, to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai,
  - 4 to the place of the altar which he had made there formerly; and there Abram called on the name of the LORD.
  - 5 Now Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents.
  - 6 And the land could not sustain them while dwelling together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to remain together.
  - 7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. Now the Canaanite and the Perizzite were dwelling then in the land.
  - 8 So Abram said to Lot, "Please let there be no strife between you and me, nor between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brothers.
  - 9 "Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me; if *to* the left, then I will go to the right; or if *to* the right, then I will go to the left."
  - 10 Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the valley of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—*this was* before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go to Zoar.
  - 11 So Lot chose for himself all the valley of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward. Thus they separated from each other.
  - 12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the valley, and moved his tents as far as Sodom.

- 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked exceedingly and sinners against the LORD.
- 14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Now lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;
- 15 for all the land which you see, I will give it to you and to your descendants forever.
- 16 “I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered.
- 17 “Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth; for I will give it to you.”
- 18 Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.



## GENESIS 14

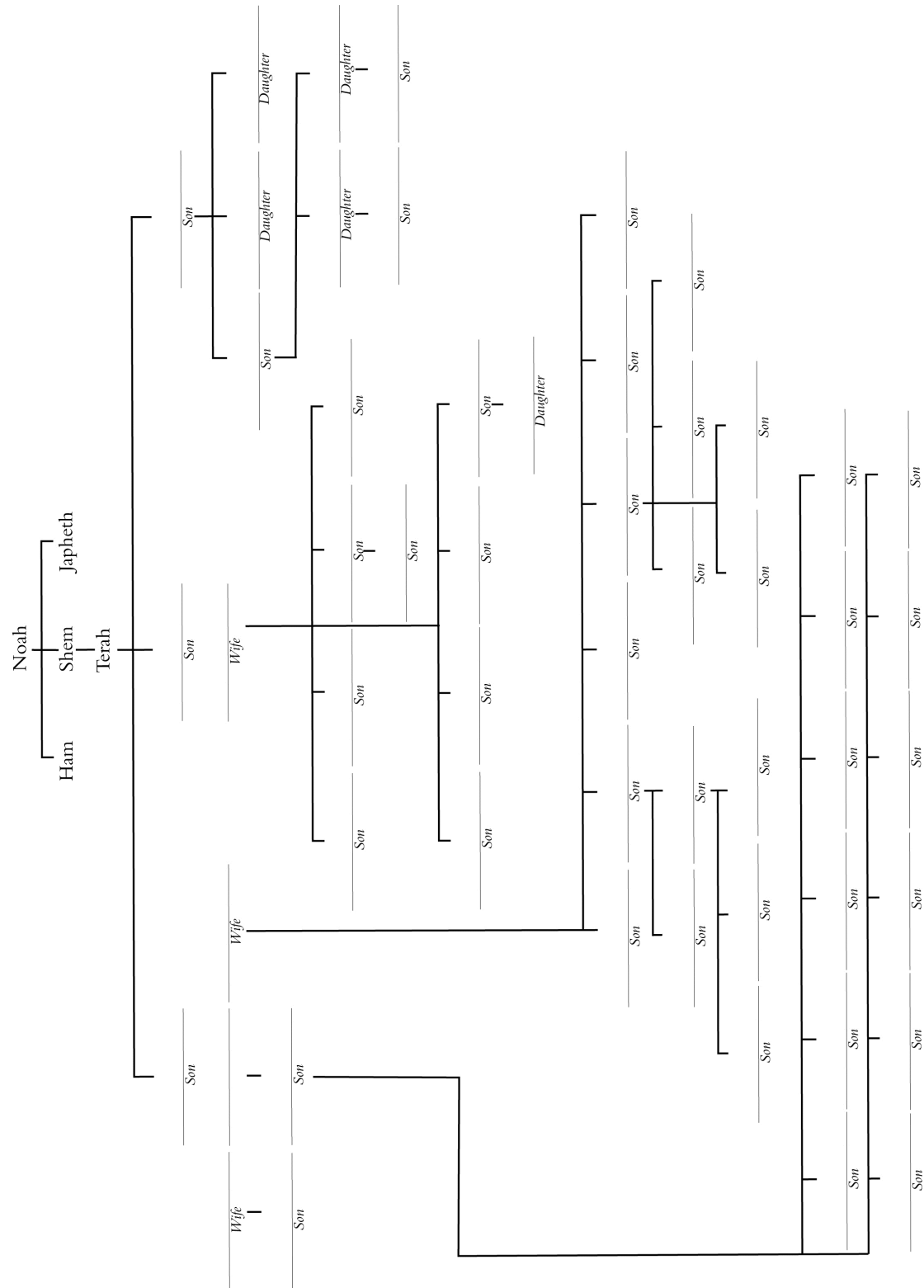
### Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- AND it came about in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim,
- 2 *that* they made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).
- 3 All these came as allies to the valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea).
- 4 Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but the thirteenth year they rebelled.
- 5 In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him, came and defeated the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim and the Zuzim in Ham and the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim,
- 6 and the Horites in their Mount Seir, as far as El-paran, which is by the wilderness.
- 7 Then they turned back and came to En-mishpat (that is, Kadesh), and conquered all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites, who lived in Hazazon-tamar.
- 8 And the king of Sodom and the king of Gomorrah and the king of Admah and the king of Zeboiim and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) came out; and they arrayed for battle against them in the valley of Siddim,
- 9 against Chedorlaomer king of Elam and Tidal king of Goiim and Amraphel king of Shinar and Arioch king of Ellasar—four kings against five.
- 10 Now the valley of Siddim was full of tar pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell into them. But those who survived fled to the hill country.
- 11 Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food supply, and departed.
- 12 They also took Lot, Abram’s nephew, and his possessions and departed, for he was living in Sodom.

- 13 Then a fugitive came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and these were allies with Abram.
- 14 When Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he led out his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.
- 15 He divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus.
- 16 He brought back all the goods, and also brought back his relative Lot with his possessions, and also the women, and the people.
- 17 Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).
- 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.
- 19 He blessed him and said,  
    "Blessed be Abram of God Most High,  
    Possessor of heaven and earth;
- 20 And blessed be God Most High,  
    Who has delivered your enemies into your hand."  
He gave him a tenth of all.
- 21 The king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give the people to me and take the goods for yourself."
- 22 Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the LORD God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth,
- 23 that I will not take a thread or a sandal thong or anything that is yours, for fear you would say, 'I have made Abram rich.'
- 24 "I will take nothing except what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their share."

ABRAHAM'S FAMILY TREE

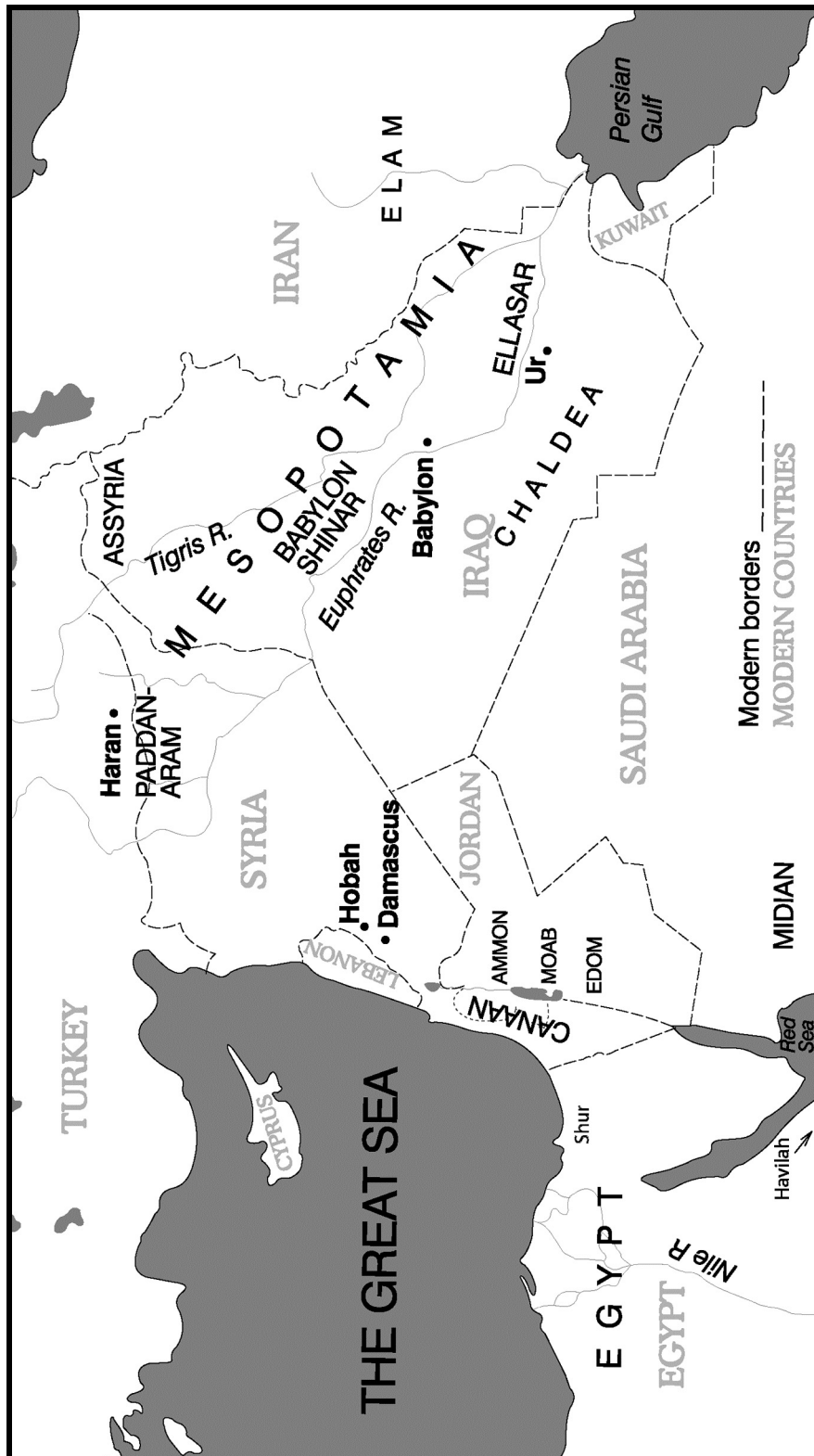




JOURNAL ON GOD

JOURNAL ON GOD

*Becoming a Friend  
of the Faithful God*  
From Ur to Canaan



*Becoming a Friend  
of the Faithful God*  
*Abraham's Sojournings*





GENESIS 1–25:18 AT A GLANCE

Theme of Genesis:	Chapter Themes
	1 Creation in Six Days
	2 Creation of Mankind
	3 The Fall
	4 Cain & Abel
	5 Life Under the Curse
	6 Setting for the Flood Judgment
	7 The Flood
	8 The End of the Flood
	9 God’s Covenant with Noah
	10 Nations Separated after the Flood
	11 Babel/
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	25:1-18

