

EXPLORING THE OLD TESTAMENT

Week 3

Genesis 12-50

Introduction to Genesis 12-50

- These chapters take a view into the lives and families of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob, also called, “The Patriarchs.”
- God’s special *people*, will live in God’s special *place*, under God’s special *rule*:
 - *People*
 - *Place*
 - *Rule*

God and Abraham - Genesis 12-23

Summary

- God's calling of Abram out of Mesopotamia.
- God ratifies a covenant with him through circumcision and a new name - Abraham.
- They reveal a troubled family history for Abraham, both within his marriage, and with his nephew Lot.

God and Abraham - Genesis 12-23

Place

- *Genesis 12:1* -Real historic land but also a picture of a greater reality to come
- *Hebrews 11:10* -Just like Abraham we have been called from our natural home in this world to God's heavenly country

God and Abraham - Genesis 12-23

People

- *Genesis 12:2* - “Great nation”-- God’s people
- *Genesis 12:3* - “all peoples of earth will be blessed”--promised Savior of the world
- *Genesis 15:6* - “he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness” --Faith
- **Faith:** Romans 4 and Galatians 3

God and Abraham - Genesis 12-23

Rule

- *Genesis 15:13* - “know for certain”-- **Covenant**
- *Genesis 15:12* - God puts Abraham asleep and ratifies it alone-- **Grace**

God and Isaac - Genesis 24-28

Summary

- Isaac and his wife Rebekah had twin sons, Jacob and Esau.
- The household is very troubled with sin and faithlessness.
- Jacob, the second born, is the heir of the covenant.

God and Isaac - Genesis 24-28

Election: The doctrine that some will be given grace and those some are chosen by God purely on the grounds of grace, not on the grounds of anything they have done.

God and Isaac - Genesis 24-28

10 And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, 11 though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls— 12 she was told, “The older will serve the younger.”

- Romans 9:10-12

God and Isaac - Genesis 24-28

Election: The doctrine that some will be given grace and those some are chosen by God purely on the grounds of grace, not on the grounds of anything they have done.

People become part of God's people by being called by God into faith. Not by being physically descended from Abraham--Grace!

God and Jacob - Genesis 29-50

Summary

- These verses outline multiple marriages and a severely troubled family life. It focuses primarily on Joseph.

God and Jacob - Genesis 29-50

The Story of Joseph

- Genesis 45:4-5-- “you sold me here, for God sent me before you”
 - We have a real responsibility for what we do, whether good or evil, but God superintends everything.

God and Jacob - Genesis 29-50

The Story of Joseph

- Genesis 45:4-5
- Genesis 50:20 - “to bring it about that many people should be kept alive”
 - The threat of starvation for Jacob and his family threatened the extinction of the line through which God promised to save the world. God will go to great lengths to keep his promise.

God and Jacob - Genesis 29-50

The Story of Judah

“Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you. Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.”

- Genesis 49:8-10

God and Jacob - Genesis 29-50

The Story of Judah

- In Genesis 49:8-10 we see that through Judah will come a ruler, a king, for the people.

Conclusion

We end Genesis with God beginning to establish his people through three generations of men called by God through faith. They are still under God's rule (the rule of the promised Savior of the world) but they are not in God's place.

To Do for Next Week

In Your Groups...