

"The Earthly Kingdom of Jesus Christ"

Part 3

Genesis 11-12, 15

Introduction: Last week in our study of the Kingdom we looked at an event in Genesis 11 which was the Tower of Babel. It was at the Tower of Babel that the Nimrod led a rebellion against God and Satan used him to attempt to develop a one world government. It was at the Tower of Babel where there was a worship system that was developed that contaminated every nation on the earth. It was the Mother Child worship system.

History tells us that Nimrod was married to a woman named Semiramis. The two of them had a child named Tammuz. Tammuz was killed by a wild animal but then Tammuz was miraculously resurrected to life, very similar to the way Satan, in Revelation 13, is going to bring the Anti-Christ back to life in the tribulation period. Therefore, everybody started to worship the mother and the child; so they worshipped Semiramis, and they worshiped Tammuz. That was the religious system that was established at the Tower of Babel and when God went down and scattered the people, they each took with them this worship system.

There was a study done by Alexander Hislop called the Two Babylons and in this study he researched this spread of the Mother Child cult to see how it changed over the years. Here is what he has recorded:

	<u>Mother</u>	<u>Child</u>
Assyria	Ishtar	Tammuz
Phoenicia	Astarte	Baal
Egypt	Isis	Osirus/Horus
Greece	Aphrodite	Eros
Rome	Venus	Cupid
Asia	Cybele	Desius
India	Isi	Aswara
Romen Catholicism	Mary	Jesus
Israel	Queen of Heaven	Tammuz

Let us notice the verses that show us that Satan attempted to pollute Israel with this false worship system.

Jeremiah 7:18

¹⁸ *The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.*

Jeremiah 44:17

¹⁷ *But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.*

Ezekiel 8:13-14

¹³ *He said also unto me, Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do.*

¹⁴ *Then he brought me to the door of the gate of the LORD's house which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz.*

Now since this false worship system spread through the nations god then had to start a new nation.

Genesis 11:31, 32 - 12:1-2

³¹ *And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.*

³² *And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.*

¹*Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:*

² **And I will make of thee a great nation**, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

God called Abram out of the land of Shinar to separate him from the idolatry that he was involved in, and it would be in Canaan that God would begin to work with him and through

him God would bring the Theocratic Administrator that would rule over the future Kingdom. Joshua speaks of the idolatry that Abram came out of.

Joshua 24:3

² *And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.*

This now brings us to where we are tonight.

From all of this we can see that Israel holds a very special place because Israel is the only nation that is started outside of the Mother Child cult. It would be through Israel that God will fulfill His Kingdom program.

➤ **The Abrahamic Promises**

Notice Genesis 12:1-7

Here in these verses we can see the promises made to Abram. This is NOT a covenant because the word covenant is not used here. That will come in Genesis 15. Let us look a little closer to these promises.

1. I will make of thee a great nation.
2. I will bless thee.
3. I will make thy name great.
4. Thou shalt be a blessing.
5. I will bless them that bless thee.
6. I will curse him that curseth thee.
7. In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.
8. Unto thy seed will I give this land.

Now with these promises given to Abram we must determine something that is very important pertaining to the Kingdom. We must determine if these promises are literal or are they figurative. Many teachers will say these promises are figurative and that they will be fulfilled in heaven or in the Eternal State of Revelation 22. Let us notice the Eternal State before we get to the promises.

Revelation 21:1

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

When this Eternal State is ushered in the earth, we live on will be destroyed and there will be a new heaven and earth created. The new earth will have not seas like this present earth.

Now let us get to the promises.

Notice Genesis 12:6-7

The land that Abram came to was the land that was promised to him and his descendants.

Notice Genesis 11:31

Here we see in this verse that the land that God has promised to Abram is set against the land he has called him out of, Ur of the Chaldees and Haran. Therefore we can conclude that the land that is promised to Abram/Canaan is a literal land that exists on THIS earth NOT on the earth to come.

Genesis 13:14-18

¹⁴ *And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:*

¹⁵ *For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.*

¹⁶ *And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.*

¹⁷ *Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.*

¹⁸ *Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the LORD.*

Abram is told to walk through the land that God would give to him so therefore we can be absolutely sure that these are literal promises, and this is literal land. I can also add that these promises MUST be fulfilled on THIS earth otherwise God will fail to keep His promises to Abram. There is yet another verse that affirms the land is literal.

Genesis 15:18-19-21

¹⁸ *In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:*

¹⁹ *The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites,*

²⁰ *And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims,*

²¹ *And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.*

And God has promised to Abram the land that these people groups lived on which **MUST** mean that it is literal, and God has defined it by stating that it is between the river of Egypt/the Nile and the Euphrates. Both of these rivers are literal rivers so therefore the land **MUST** be literal.

Now why do we need to know this, and does it really matter? This really does matter!

There are two points that we gather from this information that the Bible gives to us.

- 1. It tells us that before this earth is ever destroyed these promises must be fulfilled.**

They have not yet been fulfilled in our day, but they will be fulfilled in the Millennial Kingdom. There is not a war that can happen that in which this earth would be destroyed by nuclear bombs until these promises are fulfilled in the Kingdom.

- 2. It also tells us that the Kingdom that is yet to come is a literal Kingdom that will be established on this earth.**

This is not something that can be spiritualized. This cannot be carried over into the eternal state. The Kingdom must be on this earth in order for these literal promises to be fulfilled.

Let us notice something else about these promises which God made.

Notice Genesis 12:1-7 again.

Abram was promised that he would become a great nation and in verse 7 we are told that the **LITERAL** land would be given to his seed.

Genesis 15:1-5

After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

² *And Abram said, LORD God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?*

³ *And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir.*

⁴ *And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir.*

⁵ *And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.*

The SEED that would inherit the land would be the SEED that came directly from Abram. It would be his offspring. It would not be a steward of his house, but it would be from his own body. **This is the nation of Israel. This is not the church.** We did not come from the body of Abram.

This tells us that God is not finished with the nation of Israel. The church has not replaced Israel.

Romans 11:1-2a

I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

² *God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew.*

Israel must occupy their land and enjoy the promises of God.

➤ **Abrahamic Covenant**

Just to show how committed God was to Israel and to bringing about the Kingdom he then made a covenant with Abram.

Notice Genesis 15:1-18

The word "covenant" here in verse 18 means "a contract". This was a binding contract which God made on this day. On this day God took the promises He had given to Abram, and He ratified them into a covenant. He did this to show just how sure these promises are. There are 3 main points to this covenant.

1. Land
2. Seed
3. Blessing

What we need to see here is that this covenant is completely UNCONDITIONAL. By that I mean it has nothing to do with the faithfulness of Abram but the entire covenant rests upon the faithfulness of God.

Notice Genesis 15:8-18 again.

Abram never walked between the animals, but God did. If Abram would have walked between them then the covenant would have depended upon his faithfulness, but he didn't. The entire covenant rests upon God's faithfulness and that we know is perfect.

Conclusion:

Hebrews 6:13-18

¹³ *For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself,*

¹⁴ *Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.*

¹⁵ *And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.*

¹⁶ *For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife.*

¹⁷ *Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath:*

¹⁸ *That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:*

Next week we will get back to this covenant. But until then I will let you with the thought that God is faithful. The Kingdom will be restored to the earth otherwise God is not faithful. If there is no earthly Kingdom, then God did not keep His Word.