

SUNDAY 1.09.2024

▶ **FATHER'S LEGACY**

▶ **GENESIS 12:1-5 NIV**

▶ **WHAT LEGACY WOULD YOU
LIKE TO LEAVE?**

▶ The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. 2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. (12:1-2)

▶ Did you know that Abraham's ancestors, including Terah (his father) and Nahor (his brother) worshiped other gods." Or idols? (Joshua 24:3) What a legacy?

- ▶ Gideon had to tear down his father's altar to Baal, and cut down the symbol of the goddess Asherah, which was beside it, then he built a well-constructed altar to the LORD his God on top of that mound. (Judges 6:25-34)

- ▶ But God separated Abraham from his idolatrous family, so that he can make him and his descendants the messianic nation, which would bring salvation to all earthly families. By telling him,
- ▶ “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. (Gen.12:1-2)

“I will make you into a great nation.

a) Abraham was designated as the
‘father of all who walk God’s
pathway of faith (Rom 4:12).

b) Therefore, Abraham is God's revealed example of his plan to eventually re-establish His Kingdom rule in all the earth through the people of his covenant.

“I will bless you”

a) God is expecting us to be obedient and honest with Him. God was ready to bless Abraham because Abraham was ready to obey God, so he had to leave everything behind, in order to be blessed.

“I will make your name great.”

a) In this passage God promises to make Abraham great; and God did bless Abraham in many ways, including material blessings (Gen. 13:1-30)

- a) We can also see in Gen. 24:35. Where Abraham's servant reports that "the Lord has blessed my master greatly ..." in terms of material blessings.
- b) Greatness is more than material blessings.

What can we learn from Abraham today?

- ▶ You cannot inherit what you don't know,
- ▶ Abraham knew exactly what true 'legacy' was.
- ▶ True Legacy was a bout God's Kingdom and His business.

▶ That's why when God told him, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you" (12:1). Abram did not resist, he obeyed.

▶ In Gen 25:5, Abraham, “left everything he owned to Isaac” because Isaac was walking in his father’s footsteps. Jacob and his brother Esau were wrestling for what they did not understand, that is why Jacob cheated.

► But while Jacob was on the run, he had an encounter with God. After wrestling God he was asked, "What is your name?" Twenty years earlier, when his father had asked him the same question, he had lied and said, "I am Esau" (Gen. 27:19). But this time he said, "Lord, I am Jacob" (Gen 32:27)

▶ We have great examples in the Bible, Paul left his legacy to young Timothy by saying “and the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.” (2 Tim 2:2).

▶ Many of you are like Abraham today, Abraham was not born in a Christian family. According to Joshua 24:3, Abraham's ancestors, including Terah his father and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods or idols.”

▶ But Abraham learned to listen to God, even in the midst of all these gods, Apostle Paul said,

▶ “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. (Romans 1:20)