

Bethel Bible Series

Pronouncement of a Destiny

Week 4

Welcome & Announcements

Roll Call - State your name and something for which you feel blessed

Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Weeks

Genesis 1 - Creation and its Concepts = Have someone present

Hands lifting the earth out of hazy mist = God created the heavens and the earth

Halo of white light circling the earth = God created all things good

Fingers opened on the right hand = God relinquished the earth to humankind as a gift

White links attached to the arms and globe = God binds Himself to His creation

Lettered banner flying on the earth = God claims ownership of all that He's fashioned

Figure grasping staff = Humankind, too, is owned by God

Banner furling around figure = Man has freedom within limits

Halo of light behind figures' heads = Mankind was fashioned in the image and likeness of God

Figures holding crowns = Man is the crown of God's creation

Four jewels in crowns = God put man in garden to work and take care of the earth

Jewel 1 = To replenish the earth (Multiply)

Jewel 2 = To subdue the earth (Make Use)

Jewel 3 = To dress, till and keep the earth (Take Care)

Jewel 4 = To have dominion over the earth (Take Charge)

Genesis 2 - Divine Intentions = Have someone present

Garden = Paradise

Note banner extended from heavens = God wanted Perfect Harmony for His creation

Four mountain peaks = God intended a four-fold harmony for man

Raised arms of figures = Harmony with God

Banner enfolding figures = Harmony with self – also joyful countenance & posture

Clasped arms of figures = Harmony with others

Banner flowing through peaceful lake scene = Harmony with nature

Figures with faces lifted upward = Harmony is contingent upon obedience with God

Halos behind figures' heads = Made in God's image, man was able to perfectly obey God's will

Genesis 3 - Disharmony = Ask class

Broken Note = God's Divine Intention of Perfect Harmony is mutilated

Figure facing away from outstretched hand = Disobedience leads to disharmony

Outstretched arms of central figure = Man revolts against God & "limited freedom"

Space between figure and outstretched hand = Revolt brings separation from God

Painful countenance on figure's face = Disharmony with God

Broken note piercing side = Disharmony with self

Broken note striking other figure = Disharmony with others

Broken note penetrating earth = Disharmony with nature

Cracked earth & parched ground = Disharmony with nature leads to misuse of creation

Yokelike appearance of broken note = Sin leaves burden of guilt & "sense of guilt"

Large hand in beckoning position = God didn't abandon sinful man, He gave a promise

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Lesson - Pronouncement of a Destiny

Genesis 1-11

Memory Concept Review

Genesis 1 -	= God created all things good
Genesis 2 -	= Divine intentions
Genesis 3 -	= The fall
Genesis ___ - The Flood	= 7
Genesis ___ - Brother's Keeper	= 4
Genesis ___ - Tower of Babel	= 11
Genesis 12 -	= Blessed to be a blessing

Sin, Judgment, Grace = Read & answer in order of Sin – Disharmony – Judgment – Grace

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Disharmony</u>	<u>Sin</u>	<u>Judgment</u>	<u>Grace</u>
3	= Self 3:7	The Fall 3:6	Death 3:19	Christ Promise 3:15
4	= Others 4:9	Murder 4:8	Expulsion 4:11-12	Mark 4:15
6-9	= Nature 6:11	Wickedness 6:5	Flood 6:17	Noah 6:18-19
11	= God 11:6	Pride 11:4	Dispersed 11:8	Abraham 12:1-3

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A Promise

Homework Question 1a

Do you find any indication of promise here? = List the promises from 12:2

Genesis 12:2 = I WILL bless you, make you into a great nation, make your name great

Shaft of light strikes prism = I will bless you

An Obligation

Homework Question 1b

If so, is it a promise without obligations? = List the obligation from 12:2

Genesis 12:2 = You will be a blessing (Use gifts for others, stewardship, tithe)

Light diffuses & passes through figure = so that you will be a blessing

How does God bless us so we may be blessings?

1 Peter 4:10 = Use the gifts you've received to serve others

A Prophecy

Homework Question 2

Do you find prophecy here? = List the prophetic note in 12:3

Genesis 12:3 = all peoples on earth will be blessed through you

Rays of light extend over earth = by you all families of earth shall be blessed

How were all nations blessed through Abram?

Matthew 1:1, 17 = Jesus descended from David, who descended from Abraham

Galatians 3:7-9 = All who have faith are blessed along with Abraham

Galatians 3:14 = the blessing given to Abraham comes to Gentiles through Christ

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Why was Abram (Abraham) chosen?

Homework Question 3

Did God choose His leaders because of their perfection?

Joshua 24:2 = Terah and his family worshipped other gods

Examples of God's leaders

Abram

Genesis 12:10-13,17-19 = called Sarai his sister, Didn't trust God to protect

Moses

Numbers 20:7-12 = struck rock twice for water, God told him to speak

King Saul

1 Samuel 18:6-9 = jealous of David's victory, tried to kill David afterwards

King David

2 Samuel 11:2-5,14-15 = got Bathsheba pregnant (Uriah's wife), had Uriah killed

King Solomon

1 Kings 11:1-4 = had many foreign wives, against God's command for separation

Peter

Mark 14:66-72 = denied Jesus 3 times

Paul

Acts 7:57-8:1 = agreed to stoning of Stephen & actively persecuted Christ's body

So why did God choose Abram and these others as leaders?

Genesis 15:6 = Faith and spiritual discernment

Homework Question 4a

What major differences marked the "spiritual discernment" levels of Abram & Lot?

Genesis 13:8-12 = Decision of which way to go was based on how God could bless others

Homework Question 4b

What major differences marked the "spiritual discernment" levels of Jacob & Esau?

	<u>Esau</u>	<u>Jacob</u>
Wives	= Chose non-covenant wives 26:34-35, 28:8-9	Chose covenant wives 28:1-2
Brotherly Love	= Held a grudge 27:41	Gave gifts to Esau 32:13-15
Patience	= Impulsive to marry 28:8-9	14 yrs to get wives 29:20, 30
Wrestled with	= Men 27:41	God 32:28

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Qualities of Abraham's Character

A Proper Posture

Kneeling Figure

Genesis 12:4 = God told Abram to leave, so he went, no questions

Genesis 12:7-8 = Built altars and worshipped God wherever he went

Genesis 13:2-4,18 = Built altars and worshipped God

A Childlike Trust

Facing God

Genesis 15:1-6 = Promise of descendants, Abraham believed

Galatians 3:6 = Abraham believed God & it was credited as righteousness

Hebrews 11:11-12 = By faith Abraham became father of many descendants, tho good as dead

Action

Holding Prism

Genesis 12:4 = Abram left, as God had told him

Hebrews 11:8-10 = Abram obeyed and went, though he didn't know where he was going

Genesis 17:9-10, 23-24 = Abraham circumcised his household

Genesis 22:2, 9-12 = Abraham obeyed God and began to sacrifice Isaac

Blessed to be a Blessing (Questions from Page 30 of Text)

From the Christian vantage point, in what significant way did the Jews fulfill their destiny "to be a blessing"? (Romans 9:1-5)

How does the destiny given to Abram and his seed compare to the destiny given to the church of Jesus Christ?

What evidences are there in the New Testament that some of the people had failed to see the Covenant at Sinai in its proper relationship to the Covenant at Ur? (Mark 2:23-28)

What indications are there in the New Testament that people within the chosen family become blessings in different ways? (1 Corinthians 12:1-31)

The destiny concept makes it evident that God uses the "human lot" to carry out His ministry upon the earth.

How does this theme harmonize with:

- the way in which the Scriptures came to us
- the way in which salvation came to the world
- the way in which the Church has acted as an authoritative voice on such matters as canonizing the Scriptures

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 4 and Assignment 5

Next Week - *The Ardent Dreams of a Destiny*