

# Bethel Bible Series

## Pronouncement of a Destiny

### Study 4

*The meek will inherit the earth because they know how to receive it as a gift. PK*

Welcome

Introductions - Tell about your family and where you grew up  
InDepth Bethel - Memory Review = Throw out concepts  
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* = Man has been given four basic responsibilities toward 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 – also joyful countenance and posture

*Banner enfolding figures* = Harmony with self

*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 and "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 and parched ground* = Disharmony with nature leads to misuse of creation

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

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

InDepth Research Presentation - Deb Hale, *Did Adam and Eve really revolt?*

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### Lesson

Genesis 1-11 = Ask for questions from students on Genesis 4-11

#### Standard Bethel - 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 and 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

### Pronouncement of a Destiny

#### 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 and 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 14:27-31, 66-72 = Denied Jesus 3 times after claiming full commitment

Paul

Acts 7:57-8:3 = Agreed to stoning of Stephen and 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 and Lot?

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

Homework Question 4b

What major differences marked the "spiritual discernment" levels of Jacob and 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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### Pre-Requisites for Being a Blessing

#### A Proper Posture

##### *Kneeling Figure*

Genesis 17:1-3 = Came into God's presence on his knees

Genesis 17:18-23 = Recognized the existence of a higher authority and submitted

Genesis 12:7-8; 13:2-4,18 = Built altars and worshipped God wherever he went

#### A Childlike Trust

##### *Facing God*

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

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

Hebrews 11:11-12 = By faith Abraham became father of many, though 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 as God commanded

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

#### The Spectrum

Why is it important that blessings come in different modes and media?

1 Corinthians 12:12-20, 27-30 = Our differences together form the unity of Christ's body

### 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) = Their history reveals God and His plan of salvation to all

How does the destiny given to Abram and his seed compare to the destiny given to the church of Jesus Christ? = The same – *Blessed to be a blessing*

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

What indications are there in the New Testament that people within the chosen family become blessings in different ways? (1 Corinthians 12:1-31) = Individual exists for the good of the whole

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? = God spoke His word through real people
- the way in which salvation came to the world = God came down as a real person
- the way in which the Church has acted as an authoritative voice on such matters as canonizing the Scriptures = God directed people to recognize His word and to lead His people

### Closing

Review Picture Concepts = Assign In-Depth student to present next week

InDepth Research: Pick 5 Bible characters and show how they used their blessings to bless others

Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 4 and Assignment

Next Week - *The Ardent Dreams of a Destiny*