

THE SPIRITUAL BIRTH THAT FINALLY HAPPENS

Genesis 15

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Abram's life-long struggle with idolatry and self-reliance:
- B. Saving faith, the intended response to a fresh glimpse of Christ:
 - 1. Faith is – "Believing (trusting) in God's Word and then acting upon it, even when you can't see the results": (See *Heb. 11:1*)
 - 2. Saving faith - "My acceptance is not based upon what I have done, but totally believing (trusting) and then acting upon what Christ did for me at the cross":
- C. What Godly fear is all about: **v. 1**
 - 1. "Fear is always a **paralyzing emotion**, by design. Scripture commands me to embrace Godly fear which paralyzes me from doing the wrong thing as a result of a vibrant love for Christ. (*Ex. 20:20*) Scripture admonishes me to reject sinful fear which paralyzes me from doing the right thing as a result of a deep seated love for myself. Sinful fear is not only loving the wrong object but placing my faith in the wrong object, as well. (*Compare II Tim. 1:7; Mt. 25:25 with Heb. 12:28-29*) (*Examples Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego in Dan. 3:8-30*)
 - 2. Godly fear that can lead to salvation: (*Jude 22-23*)

II. "STANDING ON THE PROMISES":

- A. God reaffirms His promise of a son (heir): **vv. 1-5**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
- B. Abram's faith finally finds a resting place: **v. 6** (**See Rom. 4:3-5**)
 - 1. "He believed"
 - 2. "Counted it to him for righteousness"
- C. God reaffirms the promise of the land: **vv. 7-21**
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3. (**See map on back**)

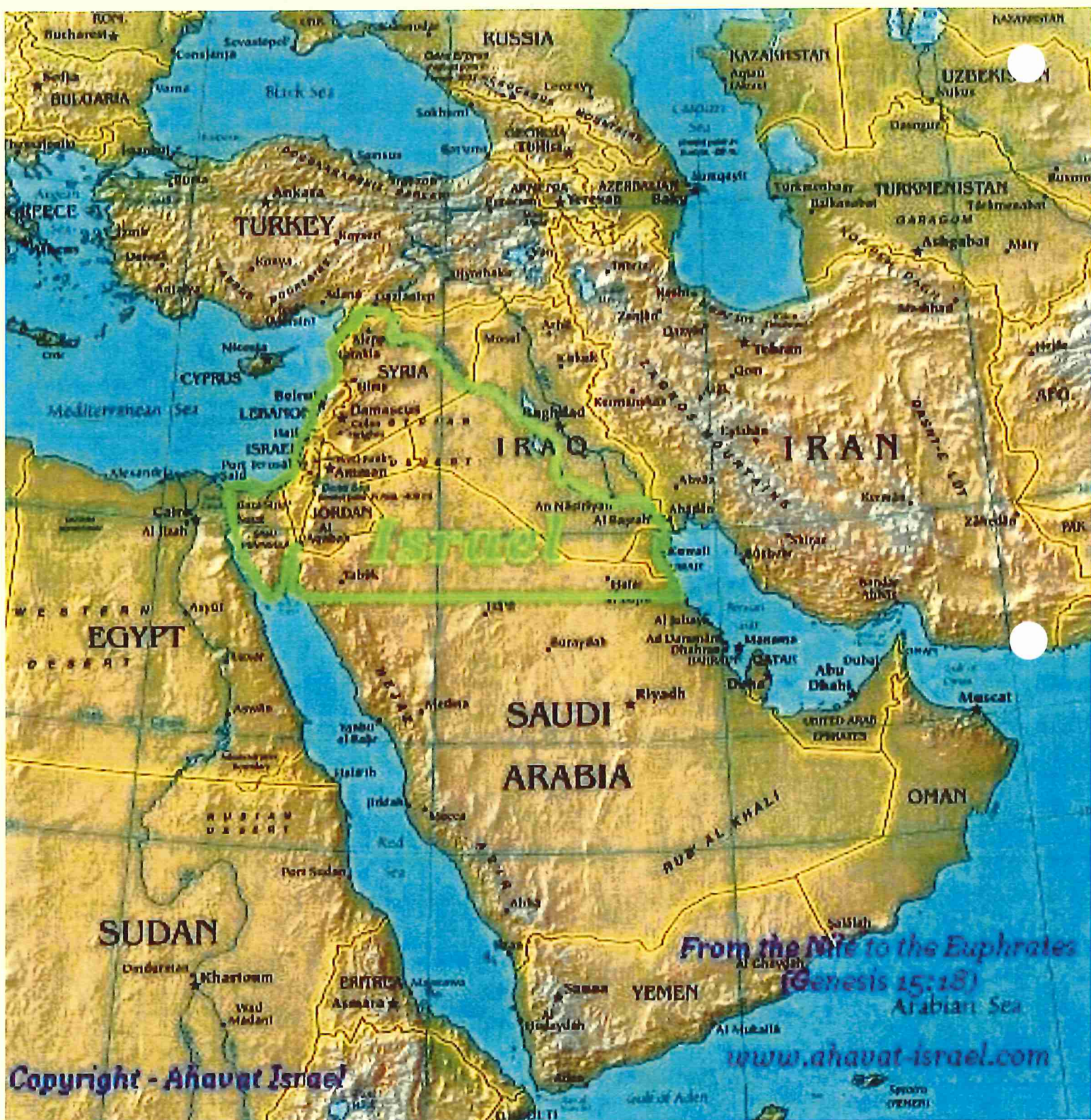
"When by faith, you come to Jesus, He will ask more of you than you originally planned to give, but He always gives you infinitely more than you dared to dream!" (See I Cor. 2:9)

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.
- B.
- C.

"Heirship can only be claimed through sonship." (Rom. 8:14-17; Jn. 1:12)



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From the Nile to the Euphrates
(Genesis 15:18)
Arabian Sea

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