

Journeys OF Faith

The God of

Abraham • Isaac • Jacob

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Prayed and Answered!

Genesis 25

“The prayers of God’s saints
strengthen the unborn generation
against the desolating waves of
sin and evil.” E.M. Mounds

7 These are all the years of Abraham's life that he lived, one hundred and seventy-five years. 8 Abraham breathed his last and died in a ripe old age, an old man and satisfied with life; and he was gathered to his people.

GENERATIONS - TOLEDOTH

12 Now these are the records of the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's maid, bore to Abraham;

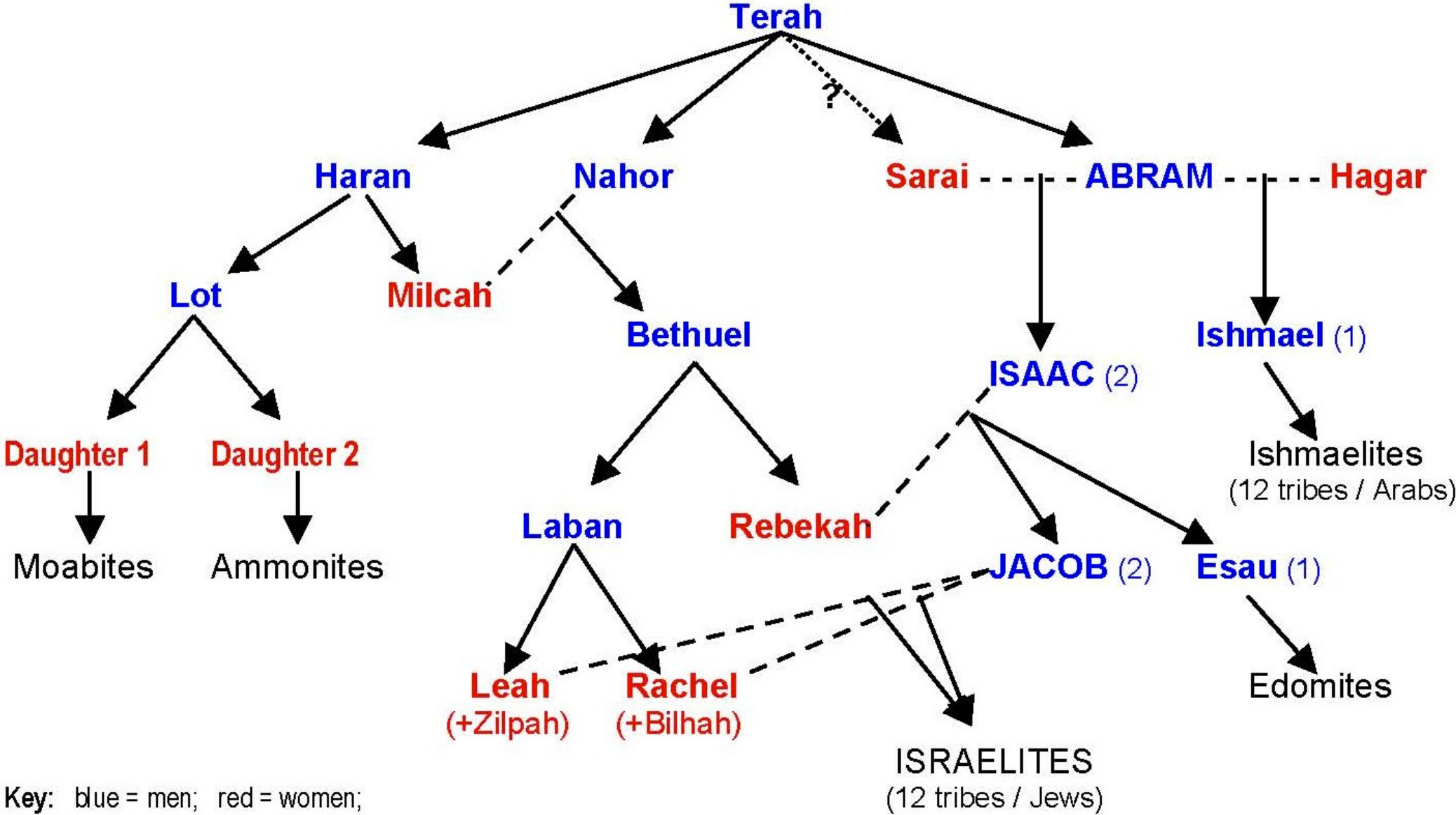
GENERATIONS - TOLEDOTH

19 Now these are the records of the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham became the father of Isaac;

Purposes 1-19

- Generations of Ishmael
- Generation of Isaac
- Generations of Abram – Abraham
- Generations of God keeping His Word!
- In spite of....
- Despite

Family of Abraham



Key: blue = men; red = women;
dashes = spouses; arrows = children

19 Now these are the records of the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham became the father of Isaac;

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20 and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife.

21 Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD answered him and Rebekah his wife conceived.

Prayer of Isaac 19-21

- Generations – not forth coming! (20 years)
- Rebekah did not conceive
- Another miracle baby!
- Dads – don't miss the obvious solution!

“Beware in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do.” Andrew Murray

22 But the children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is so, why then am I this way?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.

Prayer of Rebekah 21,22

- Answered Prayer should go easy?
- Answer was not as expected!
- Why is God's way often difficult?
- God's ways are long term – Lot (Ammon, Moab)
- Esau – Edomites – Idumeans - Herods

“It is often expectation that
causes us to miss God's
explanation.”

23 The LORD said to her,
“Two nations are in your womb;
And two peoples will be separated
from your body;
And one people shall be stronger
than the other;
And the older shall serve the younger.”

24 When her days to be delivered were fulfilled, behold, there were twins in her womb.

25 Now the first came forth red, all over like a hairy garment; and they named him Esau.

26 Afterward his brother came forth with his hand holding on to Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob; and Isaac was sixty years old when she gave birth to them.

Prophecy 23-26

- Two nations – Israel – Edom
- Not according to culture – younger/older
- Twins – without ultrasound!
- Red and hairy – Esau
- Second – holding his heel - Jacob

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“A woman once said to Charles Spurgeon, ‘I cannot understand why God should say that He hated Esau.’
‘That,’ Spurgeon replied, ‘is not my difficulty, madam. My trouble is to understand how God could love Jacob.’”

27 When the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the field, but Jacob was a peaceful man, living in tents.

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28 Now Isaac loved Esau, because he had a taste for game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Preferences 27,28

- Preference is inevitable – do not deny
- Prejudice is avoidable – do at all costs!
- There will be a difference in interests and ideas
– do not let this become a slighting of any!
- Time with – actions for – love sufficient!

“Prayer does not mean simply to pour out one’s heart. It means rather to find the way to God and to speak with him, whether the heart is full or empty.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer

29 When Jacob had cooked stew, Esau came in from the field and he was famished;

30 and Esau said to Jacob, "Please let me have a swallow of that red stuff there, for I am famished." Therefore his name was called Edom.

31 But Jacob said, "First sell me your
birthright."

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32 Esau said, “Behold, I am about to die; so of what use then is the birthright to me?”

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33 And Jacob said, “First swear to me”; so he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.

34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew; and he ate and drank, and rose and went on his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Pottage 29-34

- Each son acted accordingly – hunter – gatherer
- Deuteronomy 21:17 - birthright
- 1 Chronicles 5:1-2 - Joseph – Judah
- Sold too much for too little = SIN!

Heb 12:16 “that there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal.”

Prayed and Answered!

- Be careful what you ask for – God my grant!
- Be ready for God's answer NOT your expectation
- God will do His will His way – Watch!
- God will answer in His time – NOT yours!
- God does many things in every answer -

“A true prayer is an inventory of needs, a catalog of necessities, an exposure of secret wounds, a revelation of hidden poverty.” Charles H. Spurgeon

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