

I. The Revealing of God’s Will (1-3)

A. We see what Abram was to do (1) - "Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you."

1. He was to uproot socially - “Go from your country and your kindred...”
2. He was to release what was dearest - “...and your father’s house...”
3. He was to obey without receiving explanation - “...to the land that I will show you.”

B. We see what God was to do (2-3) - "And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

1. He would expand Abram (2a) - “I will make of you a great nation...”
2. He would exalt Abram (2b) - “I will bless you and make your name great...”
3. He would extend Abram (2c-3)
 - a. Extended as a blessing - “...so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who will bless you...”
 - b. Extended as a blasting - “...and him who dishonors you I will curse...”
2 Thess 1:6 - “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you.”
 - c. Extended as a bridge - “...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

II. The Response of Abram’s Obedience (4-6)

A. Abram’s decision for obedience (4) - "So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran."

1. He followed instructions - “So Abram went, as the LORD had told him...”
2. He forsook excuses - “Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.”

B. Abram’s degree of obedience (5) - "And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan." All that he had went into obeying God's will: His family, wealth, & servants

**C. Abram’s difficulty in obedience (6) - “At that time the Canaanites were in the land.”
The Canaanites would be a source of fears, a source of battle, a source of compromise, a source of temptation**

III. The Refreshing of God’s Presence (7-9)

A. There was a clarification of purpose (7a) - " Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land."

B. There was a deeper experience of worship (7b) - “So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.”

C. There were priceless lessons learned (8-9) - "From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. 9 And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

He was situated in between the house of God (Beth-el) and a heap of ruins (Ai)