

Reading Moses...Finding Jesus... Torah Portion 3 - Meeting 7/12/26

Luke 24:27 “Then Jesus took them through **the writings of Moses** and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”

Next Meeting: **August 9th @ 5pm**

Today - Portion 3 – Lech Lecha “Go Forth or Go Out” Genesis 12:1-17:27

Abraham is the first Hebrew – means to “cross over” – not a nationality or ethnicity or ancestry – means to cross over a boundary (spiritual or physical)

Lech Lecha – Go to yourself....a journey toward finding your true self...who has God called you to be

Abraham searched for God, and God rewarded him for his searching

Genesis 12:1 - The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you.”

Genesis 12:4 - Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.

God can use you no matter your age!

When God calls you to Lech Lecha (find yourself), it will NOT be comfortable....

- Can we be comfortable not knowing the future?
- Will you allow God to put you on this journey – to guide you on this journey – or will you just never start the journey b/c life is comfortable....or maybe life isn’t comfortable.....but the fear of the unknown outweighs the lack of comfort in the current....
- Will you Lech Lecha and trust God to do big things in the unknown journey to find yourself?

God is a promise maker and promise keeper!

Noahic covenant - set of promises that God gave to Noah....

Abrahamic Covenant – set of promises that God made to Abraham

The Abrahamic Covenant builds on the Noahic Covenant!

Genesis 12:2-3 - I will make you into a great nation **(1)**. I will bless you **(2)** and make you famous **(3)**, and you will be a blessing to others **(4)**.³ I will bless those who bless you **(5)** and curse those who treat you with contempt **(6)**. All the families on earth will be blessed through you **(7)**.” - 7 promises!

Genesis 12:7 - Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your descendants.” **(Promise #8)**

Genesis 13:5 - “I am giving all this land, as far as you can see, to you and your descendants as a **permanent** possession.”

Olam - permanent...forever...everlasting

Genesis 15:1 - Some time later, the Lord spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, “Do not be afraid, Abram, for I will protect you, and your reward will be great.”

Promises #9 and #10

Abrahamic Covenant:

1. Promise of a Great nation
2. Promise to Bless Abram
3. Promise to make Abram’s name great
4. Promise that Abram will be a blessing
5. Promise to bless those who bless Abram and his descendants
6. Promise to curse those who curse Abram and his descendants
7. Promise to bless all the families of the earth
8. Promise of land to Abram’s descendants FOREVER
9. Promise to protect
10. Promise to Reward

Bless – Baruch, Barak - “to increase” or “to give more”
Barchu - bless (increase) or to praise

To Bless God means that we give more of ourselves/time/effort/resources to God. For God to bless us, we are asking that God give more of Himself to us.

Genesis 12:3 - “I will **ble**ss**** those who **ble**ss**** you, And I will **cu**rs**e** him who **cu**rs**es** you” (NKJV)

Genesis 12:3 - “I will bless those who bless you and **cu**rs**e** those who **tre**at** you with co**nt**empt.” (NLT)**

Arar - means a curse on you

Qualal - to slight....to bring into contempt...to make light of.... To despise....

God is literally saying...if you harm them, if you think less of them, if you don't care about them, if you despise them, if you feel contempt toward them or treat them with contempt....one or all of those things brings a curse on you.

IT MATTERS WHAT WE THINK ABOUT ISRAEL AND GOD'S PEOPLE!

Genesis 15:18-20

¹⁸ So the Lord made a covenant with Abram that day and said, "I have given this land to your descendants, all the way **from the border of Egypt to the great Euphrates River**— ¹⁹ the land now occupied by the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, ²⁰ Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, ²¹ Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites."

Israel has never occupied all the land that was promised to them.

Joshua 1:4 – God is reminding Joshua of the promise of land, as they are about to enter the Promised Land.....He says:

⁴ from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.'

God said from the River to the Sea – belongs to Israel.

The land promised to Abram covers the Sinai Peninsula, modern day Israel, Jordan, over half of Syria, most of Lebanon, a little bit of Turkey, and about half of Iraq.



Finding Jesus....

John 8:56-58 - “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad.” Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

Jesus is connecting Himself to a Jewish Legend about Abraham... Those promises came from Jesus – who is God...who was there in the beginning...who was there giving the promises to Abraham...who Abraham could see in the future as a descendant!

Galatians 3:16 - Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, **“And to your Seed,” who is Christ.** (NKJV)

Galatians 3:29 – “And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and **God’s promise to Abraham belongs to you.**”

2 Corinthians 1:20 - For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. (NKJV)

What’s the point? These promises made here in this portion are for God’s chosen family – which you and I are adopted into through our faith in Jesus – but ultimately these promises point to Jesus as Messiah who was there giving the promises! This portion matters to you b/c these promises are for you!!!

Recap

- Where are you on the journey to find yourself?
- Are you willing to journey into the unknown????
- Will you Lech Lecha?
- As you do....rest assured that God is a promise maker and keeper...and all His promises point to Jesus as Messiah!
- AND..because of your belief in Jesus, these promises are for you!

Next month, August 9th, we’ll cover Vayera – “And He Appeared”...as we continue the story of Abraham...in Genesis 18:1-Genesis 22:24

GIVING OPTIONS:

Cash: (please fill out envelope so that we can give you a receipt for tax records)

Checks: Please make checks payable to “Follow Him With Us”

Website: www.followhimwithus.com/give

App: Follow Him With Us (App store or Google Play)

- Select “Give” tab after downloading the App



Venmo:

Follow Him With Us, Inc

@FollowHimWithUS

