



the
Acts

of
God's Church



Sermon Series

THE EARLY CHURCH

- 1. Internal growing pains*** – People Care
- 2. External growing pains*** – Persecution

ACTS 6:10


But they were unable to stand up against his wisdom and the Spirit by whom he was speaking.

STEPHEN

- ***Evangelist:*** Someone who frequently presents the good news of Jesus Christ
- ***Apologist:*** Someone who defends the faith before a critical world

ACTS 7:1

“Are these things true?” the high priest asked.

A medieval battle scene featuring a large group of knights on horseback. The knights are wearing chainmail armor and helmets, and are holding long spears. They are riding across a field of tall grass. The scene is set against a hazy, overcast sky. The overall tone is dramatic and historical.

**THIS IS THE
HILL I WILL
DIE ON!**

JOHN 8:32

“You will know the truth and the truth will set you free!”

JOHN 8:33

“But we are descendants of Abraham,” they said. “We have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean, ‘You will be set free’?”

ACTS 7:2

“Brothers and fathers,” he replied, “listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he settled in Haran,

NUMBERS 14:21

“But as surely as I live, and as surely as the earth is filled with the Lord’s glory,”

PSALM 139:7-12

Where can I go to escape your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I go up to heaven, you are there; *if I make my bed in Sheol*, you are there.

SHEOL

“Sheol” (Hebrew)

Means, *“underworld,” “place of the dead,” or “place of inquiry.”* It also means, *“Hell or Gehenna”* (Greek)

PSALM 139:7-12

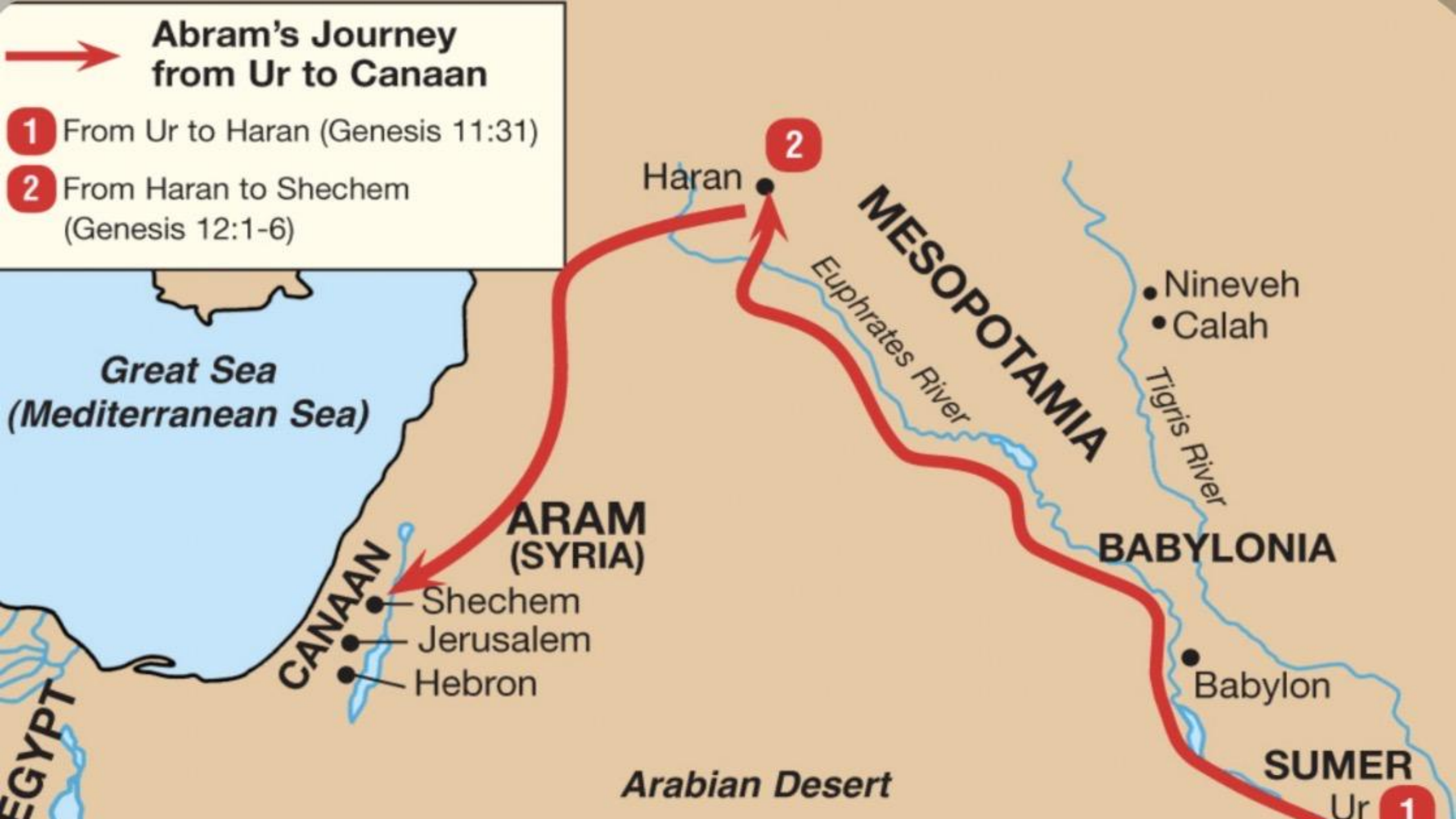
⁹ If I fly on the wings of the dawn and settle down on the western horizon, ¹⁰ even there your hand will lead me; your right hand will hold on to me. ¹¹ If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me, and the light around me will be night”—¹² even the darkness is not dark to you. The night shines like the day; darkness and light are alike to you.

JAMES 4:8

“Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.
Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you
double-minded.”

ACTS 7:3-5

and said to him: **Leave your country and relatives, and come to the land that I will show you.** ⁴ “Then he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. From there, after his father died, God had him move to this land in which you are now living. ⁵ He didn’t give him an inheritance in it—not even a foot of ground—but he promised to give it to him as a possession, and to his descendants after him, even though he was childless.



2 PETER 3:9

The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.