



Blessings for the Nations

Lesson 4 • Genesis 12:1-3

God's Heart for the Nations Is Revealed in His Plan for Creation and His Promise of Redemption! Genesis 1 – 3

- **God's Plan for Creation:** His **PRESENCE** ruling with His **PEOPLE** over His **PLACE!** Genesis 1:26-28
- **God's Promise of Redemption:** God's rule with His people in His place will be **RESTORED** by the promised **Head Crusher** who will overcome the **Heel Biter!** Genesis 3:15

God's Hope for the Nations Is Revealed at the End of His Rainbow! Genesis 4 – 11

- **The Noahic Covenant with Creation:** The Creator God unconditionally promises to be **FAITHFUL** to His Creation Plan on the basis of common grace! Genesis 8:20–9:17

God Is Gracious to Offer Hope for the Languages He Confused and the Nations He Scattered!

On the day the Church was born all three of these judgments were reversed in Christ! Acts 2:5-13, 37-42

- 1) Every **nation was represented** among the scattered Jews from all over the Roman Empire by the providential care of God the Father.
- 2) Each people group heard the gospel in **their own heart language** with a miracle of speaking/hearing by God the Spirit.
- 3) Each one who responded by faith were **gathered into one people** in God the Son.

But How Will the Plan of Redemption Be Fulfilled though the Promised Head Crusher?

God's BLESSINGS for the Nations Are Revealed in His Covenant with Abraham! Genesis 12:1-3

- **The Abrahamic Covenant with Israel:** The Redeemer God unconditionally promises to **FULFILL** His Redemption Promise on the basis of saving grace! Genesis 12:1-3

The Living God is a Missionary God Who Promises BLESSINGS for All the Nations through Abraham!

Genesis 12:1-3 Reminds Us that God Has Blessings for All the Rebellious Nations of the Earth!

Blessings for the Nations Are Revealed in...

1. WHY the LORD PICKED Abraham to Be the Father of Israel and a Blessing to the Nations.

- The Glory of God's Saving Grace – Joshua 24:2-3; Deuteronomy 7:6-8

Why Unconditional Election and Sovereign Grace?

God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him!

- The Mystery of God's Sovereign Election – Romans 9:14-24; 11:33-36; Ephesians 1:3-6

2. WHAT the LORD PROMISED to Abraham in the Abrahamic Covenant.

Genesis 12:1-3

A covenant is a promise between two parties that creates a special relationship that is confirmed by an oath, usually with a blood sacrifice and a sign to remember the binding commitment.

- God's promise to Abraham reveals that God's promise of **REDEMPTION** will fulfill His plan for creation. *Genesis 12:1-3*

The Extent of the Promise

1. **PERSONAL** for Abraham – *"I will bless YOU and make YOUR name great!"*
2. **NATIONAL** for Israel – *"I will make you into a great nation!"*
3. **UNIVERSAL** for All the Nations – *"You will be a blessing...and all the peoples of the earth will be blessed through you"*

The Essentials of the Promise

1. **SEED** – God's **people**
2. **LAND** – God's **place**
3. **BLESSING** – God's **presence...** with Israel **and** for the Nations!

- God's promise to Abraham is progressively revealed to be an unconditional covenant. *Genesis 15:1-21; 17:1-11*

Five Characteristics of the Covenant with Abraham

- 1) It's a **PROMISE**: *The LORD promises (a seed, a land, a blessing) and then seals it with an oath and a blood covenant.*
- 2) It's an **UNCONDITIONAL/ETERNAL** Covenant: *The LORD alone walks between the sacrifices that were cut.*
- 3) It's an **UNIVERSAL** Covenant: *Abraham is blessed to be a blessing to all the families of the earth.*
- 4) It's a Covenant with a **SIGN** - *Circumcision is the sign given after the promise is made and the covenant is cut.*
- 5) Abraham is the **MEDIATOR** - *Though it will ultimately be His Promised Seed – JESUS CHRIST!*

- God's redemption purpose is now **SEALED** with the Abrahamic Covenant.

3. HOW the LORD PROGRESSIVELY Fulfilled the Abrahamic Covenant.

Genesis 12:1-3

- The Progress of **REVELATION** in the Bible – *Genesis to Revelation*
- The Progress of **FULFILLMENT** of All the Covenants in Christ
- PROMISED LAND in the **Abrahamic Covenant**
 - PROMISED SEED in the **Davidic Covenant**
 - PROMISED BLESSING in the **New Covenant**

Why Is Jesus Is the Refuge for All the Nations?

Because God's Blessings for the Nations Will Ultimately Come through the Son of God, the Son of Adam, Son of Abraham, Son of David, and the Promised Seed of the Woman Who Is the Head Crusher of the Heel Biter – the Lord Jesus Christ! Genesis

Genesis 12:1-3 Reminds Us that There Are Blessings for the All the Rebellious Nations of the Earth!

- ☐ Blessings that only come through God's promised Seed to Abraham and the Nation of Israel.
- ☐ Blessings that are only received by grace alone through faith alone just like Abraham.
- ☐ Blessings that are progressively revealed as the LORD fulfills the Abrahamic Covenant through the other biblical covenants.
- ☐ Blessings that will provide a **refuge** for people from every people group, every tribe, every nation, and every language.