

Lech Lecha (go for yourself) Torah Portion 3 Genesis 12:1- 17:27

Background: This Torah portion begins at the end of 2,000 years of human history. This is the end of the **period of desolation** (Tohu) that was foreshadowed by the first two alephs in Genesis 1:1. These alephs were in the 3rd place showing that the Torah was not known or followed. It was known to those who sought to know Elohim. The **period of Torah** had begun. Ten Generations had passed from Adam to Noah and ten generation had now past from Noah to Abram. Abram was born 1948 years from creation and he was called seventy five years later after the first two thousand years were ended. After 20 generations **יהוה** would use Abram to begin His plan to redeem mankind.

Lech Lecha (לך לך) = go for yourself

Events in this Torah portion:

- **יהוה** called Abram to leave his family and go to the land He would show him
- **יהוה** would bless those who blessed him and curse those who cursed him
- Abram arrived in Shechem and **יהוה** told him He would give him the land
- Abram moved to east of Bethel and built another Altar
- Abram went to Egypt because of the famine
- Sarai was taken by Pharaoh and wealth was given to Abram
- **יהוה** afflicted Pharaoh because of Sarai and he returned her to Abram
- Abram and all his household left Egypt with much wealth
- Abram returned to the Altar at Bethel
- Lot separated himself from Abram and settled near Sodom
- **יהוה** promised Abram all the land he could see and that his offspring would be numerous
- Abram walked through the land and moved to Mamre (Hebron) and built an Altar there
- Four kings attack and capture five cities and took many prisoners including Lot
- Abram attacked them at night and rescued the prisoners including Lot
- Abram is met by Melchizedek and gave him a tenth but took nothing for himself
- **יהוה** told Abram his reward was great, and his offspring will be as numerous as the stars
- Abram believed **יהוה** and it was counted to him as righteousness
- Abram asked how he would know he would inherit the land. **יהוה** told him to divide animals for a blood Covenant. **יהוה** vowed to give the land to Abram
- Hagar was given to Abram and she conceived but then turned against Sarai
- Sarai dealt harshly with her and she fled and an angel spoke to her
- The angel told her that her seed would be unable to be counted for multitude
- Ishmael's descendants would be against each other, but would live in the same lands
- **יהוה** appeared to Abram as El Shaddai and changed his name to Abraham and made him the father of nations and Sarai's name was changed to Sarah
- Abraham was promised a son through Sarah
- Ishmael would be blessed in multitude and 12 princes would come from him
- The Covenant will only be established through Isaac who would be born in one year

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- Abraham circumcised all males in his household

Year 2,000 - 4 years after the dispersion

6 years after the death of Noah

Abraham began to influence people to follow Hashem.

Ten Trials -Abram had to show his greatness and love for יהוה by the trials he would go through. When Israel left Egypt they also were subjected to ten trials.

Abraham's Ten Trials

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| 1 | Abraham's exile from his family and homeland. |
| 2 | The hunger in Canaan after יהוה had said that he would become a great nation and be blessed |
| 3 | The corruption in Egypt that resulted in the abduction of Sarah |
| 4 | The war with the four kings |
| 5 | His marriage to Hagar after having despaired that Sarah would ever give birth |
| 6 | The commandment of circumcision |
| 7 | Abimelech's abduction of Sarah |
| 8 | Driving away Hagar after she had given birth. |
| 9 | The very distasteful command to drive away Ishmael |
| 10 | The binding of Isaac on the altar |

Heavenly Test -is when one has to chose between יהוה's will and what he would do on his own or his own understanding. These trials are not to prove to יהוה what a person will do, since He already knows the outcome. Trials are to show the world how a great man obeys יהוה (Ramban). Ramban says that יהוה only tests righteous people who He knows will do His will, not the wicked who disobey. Thus all trials are for the benefit of those being tested. The reward for actual deeds far out weighs rewards for having merely the potential to do good deeds.

Reference: **Stone Edition Chumash** page 54

Abram is told to Leave his father's house

Genesis 12:1-4 Now יהוה had said to Abram, Get out of your **country**, and from your **kindred**, and from your father's **house**, to a land that I will **show** you: 2 And I will make of you a **great nation**, and I will **bless** you, and make your **name** great; and you shall be a blessing: 3 And I will **bless** them that **bless** you, and **curse** him that **curses** you: and in you shall all **families** of the earth be blessed. 4 So Abram departed, as יהוה had spoken to him; and **Lot** went with him: and Abram was **seventy and five** years old when he departed out of **Haran**.

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Country = land, earth (s#0776 ארץ) (eh'-rets)

Kindred = kindred, offspring, relatives (s#04138 מולדת) (mo-leh'-deth) from (s#03205 ילד) to bear, begat

House = house, dwelling, habitation (s#01004 בית) (bah'-yith)

Show/Appeared = to see, look, inspect, perceive, consider (s#07200 ראה) (raw'-aw)

Great = great in number, magnitude or extent (s#1419 גדול) (gaw-dole)

Nation = nation, people, usually of non-Hebrew people (s#01471 גוי) (go'-ee)

Bless = source of blessing, prosperity, praise of יהוה, gift (s#01293 ברכה) (ber-aw-kaw) from (s#01288 ברך) to bless, kneel

Name = name (s#08034 שם) (shem)

Bless (1st) = to bless, kneel (s#01288 ברך) (baw-rak)

Bless (2nd) = to bless, kneel (s#01288 ברך) (baw-rak)

Curse (1st) = to be of little account, to be insignificant (s#07043 קלל) (kaw-lal)

Curses (2nd) = to curse, to be made a curse (by Elohim) (s#0779 ארר) ('aw-rar)

Families = clan, family, tribe, people, nation (s#04940 משפחה) (mish-paw-khaw)

Lot = covering (s#03876 לוט) (lote)

Seventy = seventy, multiple of seven (s#07657 שבעים) (shib-eem)

Five = five (cardinal number) (s#02568 חמש) (khaw-maysh)

Haran = mountaineer (s#02771 חרן) (kaw-rawn) a city to which Abram migrated when he left Ur of Chaldees and where he stayed until his father died. Located in Mesopotamia in Paran-Aram at the foot of Mount Masius between the Khabour and the Euphrates rivers. from (s#02787 חרר) (khaw-rar) to burn, be hot, be scorched or charred

The Promised Blessing of Abram

Comment: The blessing that יהוה gave to Abram meant that anyone who thought that Abram or any of his descendants were insignificant or of little importance would be cursed with a curse coming from their Creator. It also meant that those who honored Abram or his descendants would receive special blessings. This blessing is part of the inheritance to those who follow the Elohim of Abraham.

I will bless (s#01288 ברך) those who bless (s#01288 ברך) you, and him who curses (s# 07043 קלל) you, I will curse (s#0779 ארר); and all the families of the earth shall bless (s# 01288 ברך) themselves by you.

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First called Hebrew

Abraham was called **Ivri** from the word (עבר) which means the other side. He came from the other side of the Euphrates river. This is where we get the word Hebrew. He was on the other side of the moral battle, the opposite side from the world. יהוה's call on all of our lives is to be willing to stand against popular opinion and not to be approved of by the majority in order to follow Him. Abraham was one of the first **politically incorrect** people in the land of Canaan. יהוה had sent him into the land of cursed people. They had thrown off the commandments .

Torah Principle

Whatever happened to the Patriarchs is a foreshadowing of what will happen to their future descendants. This can be seen many times by journeys, digging wells, sacrifices. This also includes what will happen to their descendants of today. Gen 32 Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed This is where the term **Jacob's troubles** comes from as well as the word **tribulation**.

Related Scripture: Our inheritance is through Abraham

Galatians 3:29 And if you *are* Messiah's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

יהוה promises Abram the Land of Canaan

Genesis 12:5-9 And **Abram** took **Sarai** his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had acquired in Haran; and they went to the land of Canaan; and to the land of Canaan they came. 6 And Abram passed through the land to the place of **Shechem**, to the plain of **Moreh**. And the Canaanite *was* then in the land. 7 And יהוה appeared to Abram, and said, To your **seed** will I give this land: and there he built an **Altar** to יהוה, who appeared to him. 8 And he removed from there to a mountain on the east of **Bethel**, and pitched his tent, *having* Bethel on the **west**, and **Hai** on the **east**: and there he built an Altar to יהוה, and called on the name of יהוה. 9 And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the **south**.

Abram = father of **Aram** (his former homeland) (s#087 אברם) (ab-rawm')

Sarai = my princess (s#08297 שרי)(saw-rah'-ee) from (s#08269 שר) (sar) leader

Shechem = back or shoulder, a city in Manasseh; located in a valley between Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim (BDB#7927 שכם) (shek-em')

Moreh = teacher (s#04176 מורה) (mo-reh)

Show/Appeared = to see, look, inspect, perceive, consider (s#07200 ראה) (raw'-aw)

Seed = seed, posterity, plant, fruit, child (s#02233 זרע) (zeh'-rah)

Altar = altar (s#04196 מזבח) (miz-bay'akh)

Bethel = house of El (s#01008 בית־אל) (bayth-ale)

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West = to roar, a sea, large body of water, Mediterranean (סַיִם) (yawm)

Hai (Ai) = heap of ruin (עֵי) (ah-yaw)

East = east, antiquity, front, from of old (קֵדִים) (kayd'-maw)

South = south country, south, negev (נֶגֶב) (neh'-gheb)

Comment: Abraham pitched his tent between Bethel (House of El) and Ai (Heap of Ruin). This is like the song " Some want to live within the sound of chapel bells but **I want to run a mission a yard from the gates of hell.**" The Hebrew for this verse reads like this: (and **Pitched his tent (with) Beth-el** on the West). The word for grace is a word picture which means: **to pitch ones tent with**. People only pitch their tents near to those that they were in agreement with. So those that pitched their tents near each other were of the same mindset and belief system.

Abram is Fearful because Sarai was beautiful

Genesis 12:10-13 And there was a **famine** in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to **sojourn** there; for the famine *was* grievous in the land. 11 And it came to pass, when he came near to enter into **Egypt**, that he said to Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that you *are* a fair woman to look on: 12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see you, that they shall say, This *is* his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save you alive. 13 I ask you to **say you are my sister**: that it may be well with me for your sake; and my soul shall live because of you.

Famine = famine, hunger (רָעָב) (raw-awb)

Sojourn = sojourn, abide, dwell in/with, be a stranger (גֹּר) (goor)

Egypt = (dual of s#4693) upper and lower Egypt (מִצְרַיִם) (mits-rah'-yim)

Sister = a sister literally and figuratively, together (אָחוֹת) (aw-khoth')

Comment: A severe **Famine** in land - Abram went to Egypt just as Jacob and all his family would do in the future. This is a foreshadowing of their slavery in Egypt because of a famine. This famine seemed to prove that **יהוה's** word was not true. **יהוה** had said He would bless him and make his name great, but now Abram did not even have enough food to eat. This was a test of Abram's faith. When **יהוה** tells us He is going to do a certain thing we can expect the circumstances to change for the worse, but we must not let hasatan take away our faith. **יהוה** will ultimately do what He has said. **Say you are my sister**. This can be a term used for a family member such as a niece, even a man's wife can sometimes be called "my sister." This term used in this way is a term of endearment. This story was meant to protect him and Sarai. It was common practice to kill a husband to take his wife in the land of the descendants of Ham. Sarai was actually his niece, the daughter of his brother Haran

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Pharaoh Took Sarai

Genesis 12:14-20 And it came to pass, that, when Abram came into Egypt, the Egyptians saw the woman that she was very fair. 15 The **princes** also of Pharaoh saw her, and commended her before **Pharaoh**: and the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. 16 And he treated Abraham well for her sake: and he had sheep, and oxen and he donkeys and menservants and maidservants and she donkeys and camels. 17 And **יהוה** **plagued** Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai Abram's wife. 18 And Pharaoh called Abram and said, What is this that you have done to me? why did you not tell me that she was your wife? 19 Why did you say, She is my sister? so I might have taken her to me to wife: now therefore behold your wife, take her and go your way. 20 And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him: and they sent him away and his wife and all he had.

Princes = person of rank, captain, chief, general, governor, lord, prince (s#08269 שר) (sar)

Pharaoh = title of Egyptian kings (s#06547 פרעה) (par-o')

Plagued = primitive root; to touch, lay hand upon, reach, acquire violently, strike, punish, defeat, bring down, smite, strike, touch (s#05060 נגע) (na-ga')

Comment: This event in Abram's life foreshadows events in the lives of his descendants. Jacob (a descendant of Abram) and all his family came to Egypt and were given gifts at first but then were held as slaves etc. When the nation of Israel left Egypt 211 years later they took the wealth of Egypt with them when they asked their neighbors for gifts to take with them. This foreshadowing of future events is stated in Ecclesiastes and is sometimes called the **Solomon Principal**.

Torah Principle

Events in Scripture foreshadow future events

Ecclesiastes 1:9 The thing that has been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and *there is no new thing* under the sun.

Ramban states: the lives of the Patriarchs foreshadows events in the lives of their descendants

Abraham's time in Egypt foreshadowed Israel's time in Egypt

<u>Abraham's time</u>	<u>Israel & Moses time</u>
Abraham went to Egypt because of famine	Israel went to Egypt because of a famine

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Abraham's bride, Sarah was taken by Pharaoh	יהוה's bride, Israel was taken into slavery
יהוה afflicted Pharaoh because of Sarah	יהוה sent 10 plagues on Pharaoh & Egypt because of Israel
Pharaoh released Sarah, Abraham's bride	Pharaoh released Israel, Abraham's descendants, יהוה's bride
Abraham was driven out of Egypt	Israel, Abraham's descendants were told to leave Egypt quickly
Abraham left with great wealth	Israel left with the wealth of Egypt
Abraham went to יהוה's house (Bethel)	Israel went to meet יהוה at Sinai which is called the mountain of יהוה
Pharaoh's wise men may have told him that the skin disease was a result of taking Sarah because she alone did not have the disease.	Pharaoh's wise men told him that Egypt was destroyed because he would not let Israel go.
Abraham was sent away in honor	The Egyptians looked favorably on Israel.
Abraham <u>ascended</u> from Egypt	Israel the descendants of Abraham <u>ascended</u> from Egypt to Mount Sinai
Abraham was chosen by יהוה	Abraham's descendants were chosen by יהוה

Abram left Egypt with Riches

Genesis 13:1-5 And Abram **went up** out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, to the south. 2 And Abram *was* very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold. 3 And he went on his journeys from the south even to **Bethel**, to the place here his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and **Ai**; 4 To the place of the Altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of יהוה. 5 And Lot also, went with Abram, he also had flocks and herds and tents.

Bethel = House of God (s#01008 **בית-אל**) (bayth-ale')

Ai = heap of rubble (s#05857 **עי**) (ah-yaw')

Comment: Abram went back to where his camp was before, between **Beth-el (House of Elohim) and Ai or Hai**. **Ai** is the place where Achan would take gold and garments and hide them in his tent and brought sin in the camp that led to a curse and defeat of the Army of Israel. The defeat that was a result of sin may have been foreshadowed by what happened to Lot and the sin of Sodom. Abram was like Beth-El and Lot went to Sodom which is like Ai. This is the

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direction that is always used when going to the land of Israel. The land of Israel is always spiritually "up" from everywhere else.

Future Events that will happen in Ai: The ayin (ע) is a picture of an eye and the yod (י) is a picture of a hand. This is the place where Israel was defeated because of the sin of Achan. When Jericho was destroyed, Achan 's eyes (ע) saw the silver and gold wedge and the clothing that was forbidden by יהוה to take but he took with his hand (י) and brought sin on all Israel. Joshua and all Israel took Achan and all that was his and stoned them and burned them and raised a great heap of stones over them. see **Joshua chapter 7**

Abram and Lot Separate

Genesis 13:6-13 And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. 7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's cattle and the herdsmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land. 8 And Abram said to Lot, Let there be no strife, I ask you, between me and you, and between my herdsmen and your headmen; for we are brethren. 9 *Is* not the whole land before you? separate yourself, I from me: if *you will take* the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if *you depart* to the right hand, then I will go to the left. 10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it *was* well watered everywhere, before יהוה destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, *even* as the garden of יהוה, like the land of Egypt, as you come to Zoar. 11 Then Lot chose all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed from the east: and they separated themselves the one from the other. 12 Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom. 13 But the men of Sodom *were* wicked and sinners before יהוה exceedingly.

Strife = strife, controversy, dispute (s#07379 ריב) (reeb)

Herdsmen = to pasture, tend, graze, feed, shepherd (s#07462 רעה) (raw-aw)

Cattle = cattle, livestock, also sheep & goats (s#04735 מקנה) (mik-neh)

Canaanite = zealous (s#03669 כנעניב) (ken-ah-an-ee)

Perizzite = belonging to a village (s#06522 פריזי) (per-iz-zee)

Strife = burning (s#05467 סדם) (sed-ome)

Brethren = brother, relative, kinship (s#0251 אח) (awkh)

Left = left, left hand/side, north as one faces east (s#08040 שמאל) (sem-ole)

Right = right, right hand/side, south when facing east (s#03225 ימין) (yaw-meen)

Sodom = burning (s#05467 סדם) (sed-ome)

Gomorrah = submersion (s#06017 עמרה) ('am-o-raw)

Zoar = insignificance (s#06820 צער) (tso'-ar) City at SE end of the Dead Sea near Sodom and Gomorrah. One of five cities Elohim planned to destroy but Lot fled there.

Separated = to separate, divide (s#06504 פרד) (paw-rad)

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Toward = as far as, even to, until, up to (עד) (ad) These are the same as the enlarged letters (Jot & tittle) in the Shema in Deuteronomy 6:4. This word can also mean Witness. This word comes from (עד) perpetuity, for ever, future, continuing

Wicked = bad, evil (רע) (rah)

Sinners = sinners, exposed to condemnation (חטא) (khat-taw)

Comment: Abram was willing to take the least desirable land for peace, Lot wanted the best land no matter what. Abram knew the land was given to him and his descendants and יהוה could work it out. All directions are given facing east. Right would be south and left would be north. When Lot said he would go east he was saying that he would leave the promised land and go to Sodom. **Lot journeyed from the East** - This phrase is showing us that Lot turned away from righteousness. The direction he actually went was East, however the Scripture says he went from the East. This is showing us that he went away from the blessed direction toward Sodom a center of great wickedness. He was leaving Abram and his way of life and יהוה's blessing. Abram did not offer for him to go east and may have been shocked when Lot chose to do so. Although Ruth was a descendant of Lot, the rest of the nation became so evil that יהוה prohibited the descendants of Ammon and Moab from entering the congregation of Israel for ten generations. Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom. This is saying that Lot accepted the ways of Sodom and showed grace to them. It is not the purpose of Elohim for righteous people to curb their righteous ways to fit into a wicked society.

Related Scripture: Ammon and Moab

Deuteronomy 23:3 An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of יהוה; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of יהוה forever:

יהוה gives Abram all the land he can see

Genesis 13:14-18 And יהוה said to Abram, after Lot was separated from him, Lift up now your eyes, and look from the place where you are **northward**, and **southward**, and **eastward**, and **westward**: 15 For **all the land which you see, to you I will give it to you, and to your seed forever**. 16 And I will make your seed as the **dust** of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall your seed also be **numbered**. 17 **Arise, walk** through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it to you. 18 Then Abram removed *his* tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of **Mamre**, which *is* in **Hebron**, and built there an Altar to יהוה.

North = north or hidden (צפון) (tsaw-fone) (tsaf-fawn)

South = to be parched, south, Negev, (נגב) (neh'-gheb)

East = east, antiquity, front, from of old (קדם) (kayd'-maw)

West = west, sea, roaring (ים) (yawm)

Forever = antiquity, futurity, forever, perpetual (עולם) (o-lawm)

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Dust = dry earth, dust, powder, ashes, ground, mortar (s#06083 עפר) (aw-fawr)

Numbered = to count, reckon, number, appoint, prepare (s#04487 מנה) (maw-naw)

Arise = rise, stand, rise to rightful place, be fulfilled (s#06965 קים) (koom)

Walk = to go, walk, come, manner of life (s#01980 הלך) (haw-lak)

Mamre = strength, fatness (s#04471 ממרא) (mam-ray) oak grove of Hebron Abram's home

Hebron = from s#2267 seat of association, a place in Israel, name of two Israelites (s#02275 חברון) (kheb-rone')

Comment: After the unselfish act of Abram of offering Lot the best of the land for his animals, יהוה gave Abram the entire land that he could see in all directions. This mountain where Abraham was at this time is called **Har Abraham** = Mount Abraham in Israel today. This is in remembrance of this Scripture . The entire land of Israel can be seen from the top of this mountain including the land that was promised but not yet given to Israel. The land was promised to Abraham although he never took possession of it. The nation of Israel has never possessed all the land that יהוה promised them, but Abraham and they will when Yeshua comes back. The merit of being unselfish with all that he had with Lot, proved what was in the heart of Abram and יהוה rewarded him for it. Again wherever Abram moved he built an Altar to יהוה.

Kings Against Kings

Genesis 14:1-9 And it came to pass in the days of **Amraphel** king of **Shinar**, **Arioch** king of **Ellasar**, **Chedorlaomer** king of **Elam**, and **Tidal** king of **nations**; 2 *That these* made war with **Bera** king of **Sodom**, and with **Birsha** king of **Gomorrah**, **Shinab** king of **Admah**, and **Shemeber** king of **Zeboiim**, and the king of **Bela**, which is Zoar. 3 All these were joined together in the vale of Siddim, which is the salt sea. 4 Twelve years they served Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled. 5 And in the fourteenth year came Chedorlaomer, and the kings that *were* with him, and defeated the Rephaims in Ashteroth Karnaim, and the **Zuzims** in Ham, and the **Emims** in **Shaveh Kiriathaim**, 6 And the **Horites** in their mount **Seir**, unto **Elparan**, which *is* by the wilderness. 7 And they returned, and came to **Enmishpat**, which *is* **Kadesh**, and defeated all the country of the **Amalekites**, and also the **Amorites**, that lived in **Hazezontamar**. 8 And there went out the king of Sodom, and the king of Gomorrah, and the king of Admah, and the king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (the same *is* Zoar;) and they fought with them in the vale of Siddim; 9 With Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, and with Tidal king of nations, and Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar; four kings against five.

Amraphel = sayer of darkness (s# 0569 אמרפל) (am-raw-fel)

Shinar = country of two rivers (s#08152 שנער) (shin-awr) later called Babylonia or Chaldea

Arioch = Lion Like (s# 0746 אריוך) (ar-yoke)

Ellasar = El is chastener (s#0495 אלסר) (el-law-sawr) town in Babylonia

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Chedorlaomer = Handful of sheaves (s#03540 כדרלעמר) (ked-or-law-o'-mer) (Kdorla omer) may be Elam son of Shem

Elam = eternity (s#05867 עילם) (o-lawm) province East of Babylon & North East of the lower Tigris river

Tidal = great son (s#08413 תדעל) (tid-'awl)

Nations = nations, gentiles (s#01471 גוי) (go'-ee)

Bera = son of evil (s#01298 ברע) (beh'-rah)

Sodom = burning (s#05467 סדום) (sed-ome)

Birsha = with iniquity (s#01306 ברשע) (beer-shah)

Gomorrah = submersion (s#06017 עמרה) ('am-o-raw)

Shinab = splendor of the father (s#08134 שנאב) (shin-awr)

Admah = red earth (s#0126 אדמה) ('ad-maw)

Shemeber = lofty flight (s#08038 שמאבר) (shem-ay'-ber)

Zeboiim = gazelles (s#06636 צבאיסבלע) (tseb-ee-yeem)

Bela = destruction (s#01106 בלע) (beh'-lah)

Zuzims = roving creatures (s#02104 זוזים) (zoo-zeem) ancient people of uncertain origin

Emims = terror (s#0368 אימים) (ay-meem) ancient inhabitants of Moab

Shaveh Kiriathaim = plain of the double city (s#07741 שוה קריתים) (shaw-vay' kir-yaw-thah'-yim)

Horites = cave dwellers (s#02752 חרי) (kho-ree) inhabitants of Mount Seir & inhabitants of Edom in later times

Seir = hairy, shaggy (s#08165 שעיר) (sar-'eer) inhabitants of Edom before Esau

Elparan = palm of Paran (s#0364 איל פארן) (ale-paw-rawn) town at the tip of the gulf of Aqaba on the Red Sea

Enmishpat = spring of judgment (s#05880 עין משפט) (ane-mish-pawt)

Kadesh = holy (s#06946 קדש) (kaw-dashe)

Amalekites = people of lapping (s#06003 עמלקי) (am-aw-lay-kee) descendants of the grandson of Esau

Amorites = a sayer (s#0567 אמרי) (em-o-ree)

Hazontamar = dividing the date palm (s#02688 חצצון תמר) (khats-ats-one' taw-mawr)

Background: Nine kings had gathered for a conference. It was agreed that the five weaker kings would pay tribute to Chedorlaomer and his allies. They paid this for 12 years, but on the 13th year they rebelled. Chedorlaomer and the other three kings attacked and conquered every kingdom that was located near them that he thought might help them in battle. Then he turned north to attack the five rebellious kings. The king of Sodom with the four kings that were his allies took the initiative and picked the place of battle before Chedorlaomer's army caught them in their cities. He picked an area near the dead sea that had slime pits. This would have been a

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great advantage against the enemy if they had followed through on their plan. However the king of Sodom and the others who were with him fled before their enemies and fell into their own trap.

Lot is captured

Genesis 14:10-16 And the vale of Siddim *was full of slimepits*; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there; and they that remained fled to the mountain. 11 And they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their victuals, and went their way. 12 And they took Lot, **Abram's brother's son**, who dwelt in Sodom, and his goods, and departed. 13 And there came one that had escaped, and told Abram the Hebrew; for he dwelt in the plain of **Mamre** the Amorite, brother of **Eshcol**, and brother of **Aner**: and these *were* confederate with Abram. 14 And when Abram heard that **his brother** was taken captive, he armed his trained *servants*, born in his own house, three hundred and eighteen, and pursued *them* to Dan. 15 And he divided himself against them, he and his servants, by night, and attacked them, and pursued them to Hobah, which *is* on the left hand of Damascus. 16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought again **his brother Lot**, and his goods, and the women also, and the people.

Slime pits = well, pit, spring, slime pits (s#0875 באר) (be-ayr)

Mamre = strength, fatness (s#04471 ממרא) (mam-ray) oak grove near Hebron

Eshcol = cluster (s#0812 אשכול) (esh-kole)

Aner = boy (s#06063 ענר) (aw-nare)

The Battle: When the battle began the king of Sodom and his allies panicked and ran. They fell into the slime pits themselves. This is the time that Lot was taken captive. Chedorlaomer may have thought that Abraham would pay a reward for Lot's return. A fugitive escaped and told Abraham that Lot was taken captive. Abraham armed the 318 men of his household and pursued them to Dan (northern area of Israel). He attacked them at night and defeated them, He freed all the captives and recovered all the booty. He pursued them as far as Hobah a town north of Damascus. This is quite a long distance, more than 50 miles. We can see this victory was from יהוה because Abraham defeated the large army with only **318 men**.

The Number 318: We see **Eliezer** (s#461 אליעזר) (g# 318) Abraham's faithful servant is a type and shadow of the Holy Spirit. This is shown clearly later when he is sent to get a wife for Isaac. Eliezer is sent to get the **bride** for the **son** and never speaks of himself, but only of the **Father** and the **Son**. (See **Torah Portion Chayei Sarah**) The Gamatra of his name is 318. This is the number of servants that Abraham armed to fight in the battle. This is telling us that the **Holy Spirit was responsible for the victory**.

Eliezer = El is my help (s#0461 אליעזר)

Gamatra of Eliezer (ל י ז)

(א)(1) + (ל)(30) + (י)(10) + (ע)(70) + (ז)(7) + (ר)(200) = 318

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The Return from Victory

Genesis 14:17-24 And the king of Sodom went out to meet him after his return from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer, and of the kings that *were* with him, at the valley of Shaveh, which *is* the king's dale. 18 And **Melchizedek king of Salem** brought forth bread and wine: and he *was* the priest of the most high El (**אל**). 19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed *be* Abram of the most high El (**אל**), possessor of heaven and earth: 20 And blessed be the most high El (**אל**), which has delivered your enemies into your hand. And he gave him tithes of all. 21 And the king of Sodom said to Abram, Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself. 22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up my hand to **יהוה**, the most high El (**אל**), the possessor of heaven and earth, 23 That I will not *take* from a thread even to a shoe lace, and that I will not take anything that *is* yours, or you might say, I have made Abram rich: 24 Except for that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

Malchizedek (Melchizedek) = from king (s#04428 **מלך**) + righteous (s#06664 **צדק**)
(s#04442 **מלכי-צדק**) (Malkiy-Tsedeq) = my King of Righteousness

The Name **Melchizedek** is formed from the two Hebrew words for "**My King**" and "**Righteousness.**" This King was the king of **Salem**, the city that later was called **Jerusalem**.

Comment: Abraham was entitled to all the people and the spoils. He had either already taken a **vow** or he took one at this point to not profit from what **יהוה** had done. He did not want anyone to think he had obtained his wealth through any means other than the blessing of **יהוה**.

Gamatra of Melchizedek (**מלכי-צדק**)

מ (40) + **ל** (30) + **ך** (20) + **י** (10) + **צ** (70) + **ד** (4) + **ק** (100) = 274

Other words that have a Gamatra of 274 include:

Flock - (s#5739 **עדר**)

Way - (s#1870 **דרכים**)

Mordant - (s#4782 **מרדכי**)

Related Scripture: The King of Righteousness

Jeremiah 23:6-8 In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this *is* His name that He shall be called, **יהוה OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS** :7 Therefore, behold, the days come, says **יהוה**, that they shall no more say, **יהוה** lives, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; 8 But, **יהוה** lives, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries where I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

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Stone Edition Chumash (page 65) **Genesis 14:18** says: He brought **bread & wine**. Jewish Sages believe that this person was Shem the son of Noah. He was king of the future site of the Temple the home of righteousness. He showed Abraham that he bore him no ill will for having killed Elam Shem's first born son who was Chedorlaomer king of Elam. Abraham was a descendant of Shem. (Melchizedek said) **blessed be Abram of Elohim the Most High**. Abraham gave Melchizedek a **tithe**.

Comment: It may be possible to think that this is Shem since there were ten generations from Noah to the time of Abram and Shem lived to be 600. He was a 100 years old when he had his first son Arphaxad 2 years after the flood and it was 286 years later when Abram was born and we know that Abram was not yet 100 at this time. This would make Shem no more than 486 years old at the time that Abram returned from the battle. We know from Hebrews chapter 7 that Melchizedek had no father or mother, this could be a reference to Noah and his wife not living at this time. However it also said that he had no descendants and we know that that is not true of Shem since even Abram was a descendant of Shem. This leaves only the possibility that this was Yeshua who is the King of Righteousness that will reign in Jerusalem for a 1,000 years. We see that David wrote about Melchizedek hundreds of years later saying that **יהוה** said to Adonai that He would be a **Priest forever** after the order of Melchizedek. Only an eternal being can be a Priest forever.

Related Scripture: The King of Righteousness

Psalms 110:1-7 <A Psalm of David.> **יהוה** said to Adonai, Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies Your footstool. 2 **יהוה** shall send the rod of your strength out of Zion: rule in the midst of Your enemies. 3 Your people *shall be* willing in the day of Your power, in the beauty of holiness from the womb of the morning: you have the dew of Your youth. 4 **יהוה** has sworn, and will not repent, You *are* a **Priest forever** after the order of **Melchizedek**. 5 Adonai at Your right hand shall strike through kings in the day of His wrath. 6 He shall judge among the heathen, He shall fill *the places* with dead bodies; He shall wound the heads over many countries. 7 He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall He lift up the head.

Related Scripture: The King of Righteousness

Hebrews 7:1-28 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the most high Elohim, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; 2 To whom also **Abraham gave a tenth part** of all; first being by interpretation **King of righteousness**, and after that also **King of Salem**, which is, **King of peace**; 3 **Without father, without mother, without descendant, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life**; but made like the **Son of Elohim**; abides a priest continually. 4 Now consider how great this man *was*, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. 5 And also those that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the Torah, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: 6 But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. 7 And without all contradiction **the less is blessed of the better**. 8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he *received them*, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

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9 And as I may so say, **Levi also, who received tithes, paid tithes in Abraham.** 10 For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchizedek met him. 11 If perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the Torah,) what further need *was there* that another priest should rise after the order of Melchizedek, and not be called after the order of Aaron? 12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the Torah. 13 For he of whom these things are spoken pertains to another tribe, of which no man attended at the Altar. 14 For *it is* evident that **Adonai sprang out of Judah;** of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. 15 And it is yet far more evident: for that **after the likeness of Melchizedek there comes another priest,** 16 Who is made, not after the Torah of a carnal commandment, but after the **power of an endless life.** 17 For He testifies, **You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.** 18 For there is a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness of it. 19 For the Torah made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope *did;* by us drawing near to Elohim. 20 And inasmuch as not without an oath *he was made priest:* 21 (For those priests were made without an oath; but **this with an oath by Him that said to Him, יהוה sware and will not repent, You are a Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek:**) 22 By so much was **Yeshua made a surety of a better testament.** 23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not allowed to continue by reason of death: 24 But **this man, because He continues ever, has an unchangeable priesthood.** 25 Therefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come to Elohim by Him, seeing He lives forever to make intercession for them. 26 For such a high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; 27 Who needs not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for His own sins, and then for the people's: for **this He did once, when He offered up Himself.** 28 For the Torah makes men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the Torah, *makes* the Son, who is consecrated forevermore.

Comment: We see that Abram who was the father of the twelve tribes including the Priests from the Tribe of Levi gave tithes to **Melchizedek.** This shows that **Melchizedek** was greater than the Priestly Tribe, because verse 7 says that the lesser was blessed by the better or greater. This means that **Melchizedek** was above the whole order of Levitical Priests. Messiah was of the order of **Melchizedek** because He has an unending life. He offered Himself once for all time.

I am your Shield

Genesis 15:1-6 After these things the word of יהוה came to Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: **I am your shield,** and your exceeding great reward. 2 And Abram said, Adonai יהוה, what will you give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus? 3 And Abram said, Behold, to me you have given no seed: and, even, one born in my house is my heir. 4 And, behold, the word of יהוה *came* to him, saying, This shall not be your heir; but he that shall come forth out of your own body shall be your heir. 5 And He brought him outside, and said, **Look now toward heaven, and count the stars,** if you are able to number them: and He said to him, So shall your seed be. 6 And he **believed** in יהוה; and He counted it to him for **righteousness.**

Shield = a shield, figuratively a protector, buckler, defence (שׂוּן מגן) (maw-gane')

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Believed = build up trust, trust, believe, turn to the right (s#0539 אמן) (aw-man')

Righteousness = rightness, justice (s# 06666 צדקה) (tsed-aw-kaw')

Magan Avraham = shield of Abraham

Comment: After the battle יהוה assured Abram that He would protect him from any counter attack from the enemy he had just conquered. Abram had kept his vow to not take anything from the spoil of the battle. When יהוה said he had a exceeding great reward, Abram said that he had no one to leave his wealth to, so it would not do him any good to have more than he could use in his lifetime. יהוה then told him that he would have a son and that his descendants would be as many as the stars. There are 7 billion people on earth today and the end times are approaching and the number of stars is billions of billions. It is believed that half of all the people who have ever lived are alive today. That would mean that the total number of people that have ever lived would be around 14 billion. This is far less than the number of stars, so how will יהוה fulfill this promise to Abram? יהוה does not lie nor does He exaggerate, so we know that He will do exactly what He has said. This is a good question to ponder, it may lead to a greater understanding of the plan of יהוה.

יהוה said I am your shield your reward is very great.

Magan Avraham (מגן אברהם) = shield of Abraham

You do not need to fear a counter attack by the armies you defeated.

יהוה showed him the **STARS** and the **DUST** of the earth

When Israel was **not following the Torah** they would be as the **DUST**, walked on by all but they would still exist after those who had walked on them were no more.

When Israel was following the Torah they would be like the **STARS**, exalted above all other nations through the blessings of יהוה.

Abraham trusted in יהוה and He counted it to him as Righteousness

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The Covenant of Divided Animals

Genesis 15:7-12 And He said to him, I *am* יהוה that brought you out of Ur of the Caldees to give you this land to inherit it. 8 And he said, Adonai יהוה, how shall I know that I shall inherit it? 9 And He said to him, Take Me an **heifer** of three years old, and a **she goat** of three years old, and a **ram** of three years old, and a **turtledove**, and a young **pigeon**. 10 And he took to Him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds he did not divide. 11 And when the **fowls** came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. 12 and when the sun was going down, a **deep sleep fell on Abram**; and, behold, an horror of great darkness fell on him.

Heifer = female calf, especially one nearly grown, calf cow (s# 05697 עגלה) (eg-law')

She goat = from (s#5810) a she *goat* (as *strong*), but masculine in plural (which also is used elliptically for *goats' hair*): - (she) goat, kid (s# 05795 עז) (aze)

Ram = From the same as s#0193; properly *strength*; hence anything *strong*; specifically a *chief* (politically); also a *ram* (from his strength); a *pilaster* (as a strong support); an *oak* or other strong tree: - mighty (man), lintel, oak, post, ram, tree. (s# 0352 איל) (ah'-yil)

Turtledove = Probably the same as (s# 8447); a *ring* dove, often (figuratively) as a term of endearment: - (turtle) dove. (s# 8449 תר תור) (tore, tore)

Pigeon = From (s# 1497); a *nestling* (as being comparatively *nude* of feathers): - young (pigeon). (s# 1469 גזל גוזל) (go-zawl', go-zawl')

Fowls = from (s#5860) a hawk, bird of prey, fowl, ravenous bird (s#5861 עיט) (ah'-yit)

Sleep = from (s#7290) lethargy or (by implication) trance, deep sleep (s#8639 תרדמה) (tar-day-maw')

Comment: Abram killed the animals and divided all but the birds. As the sun was about to set, a deep **sleep** fell on him and **dread** and **great darkness** (foreshadowing the Tribulation before the Greater exodus). The Passover lamb is to be killed in the evening of the 14th of the month of Nissan, the same day of the year that this Covenant was made with Abram. The Greater Exodus at the time of the Great Tribulation will also begin at this time of year, just as the Exodus from Egypt took place on the following morning (same day). This Covenant that יהוה made with Himself insured that all of Abraham's descendants or those who joined themselves to Abraham would have access to forgiveness through the death of Messiah. These slain animals are a picture of the death of Yeshua. The word used here for three in Hebrew means triple (**משלשת**) This number (3) is used to point to **acts of redemption** throughout Scripture. This Covenant points to the renewed Covenant that would take place on the same day of the year that this Covenant took place on, Passover in 30 AD.

New day began when the sun went down (This is the day that would be Passover Nissan 14) Abram did not walk between the animals, Only יהוה went between the pieces as a smoking furnace and a burning lamp. **This is a unilateral Covenant** -- only יהוה was required to become as one of the animals if He or Abram or Abram's descendants did not keep the Covenant. **This**

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Covenant was made between יהוה and Himself (Father & Son), Abram was not required to do anything.

The Vow: If either of us or our descendants do not keep this Covenant may I (Yeshua) be like one of these animals.

Covenant = covenant in the sense of cutting, made by passing between pieces of flesh, league (s# 01285 ברית) (ber - eeth)

New Covenant would be Cut with the Death of Messiah as shown to Abram

Jeremiah 31:31-33 Behold, the days come, says יהוה, that I will make a New Covenant with the **house of Israel**, and with the **house of Judah**: 32 Not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My Covenant they broke, although I was a husband to them, says יהוה: 33 But this *shall be* the Covenant that I will make with the **house of Israel**; After those days, says יהוה, **I will put My Torah in their inward parts**, and write it in their hearts; and will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.

Comment: Notice that the New Covenant is made **first with the house of Israel** then with the house of Judah. Those of Ephraim are the first to have the Torah placed in their hearts. Judah has been faithful to preserve the written Torah through out the ages, but has also followed the traditions of man. Recently Ephraim has begun to have a desire to keep Torah. This love of Torah is in our hearts. Our desire to keep Torah is the center of our lives. All of Judah does not have this desire yet and the Scriptures say that we will make Judah jealous.

Torah = Instructions, precept and statutes (s# 8451 תורה) (to-raw')

The Torah is instructions for us to have a happy, prosperous and long life that is pleasing to our Creator. The limited or basic definition is the five books of Moses. The greater definition is everything that Elohim has instructed us to do.

Related Scripture: Israel is to be brought back to Torah before Judah

Isaiah 11:12-13 And He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the **outcasts of Israel (ten Tribes)**, and gather together the **dispersed of Judah** from the four corners of the earth. 13 The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: **Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim.**

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Steps of a Blood Covenant

1. Animals were slain and divided with a path between
2. Vowels were exchanged, with details of what was required of each person.
3. Each party became part of the others family
4. Some clothes were often exchanged
5. Weapons were exchanged
6. The Covenant extended to all future generations
7. Debts of each were shared by both
8. If one broke the Covenant they would be made as the slain animals
9. There are no acceptable reasons to break the vow.

A bi-lateral Covenant -- both were expected to do their part. Both men would walk between the pieces of the slain animals. Walking through the blood. They were making a vow that if they did not keep this covenant, they would be as one of these animals, dead with no hope of life

Uni-lateral Covenant -- Only יהוה walked between the animal pieces. If Abram or his descendants failed to keep the Covenant, יהוה agreed to become as one of the animals. Yeshua paid for the failure of Abram and his descendants on the tree when He became like one of the animals with no hope of life. These two events took place on the same day of the year, יהוה's appointed times.

Related Scripture: Promise to Abraham and his descendants and all who join Galatians 3:29 And if you *are* Messiah's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Yeshua became as one of the animals when He died on the tree. He paid the price for our breaking the Covenant and saved us **from the curse** related to breaking the Torah, **not from the Torah**. The curse was a result of our ancestors worshiping the golden calf, after they had been joined to Yeshua at Mount Sinai. This along with our own sin prevented us from being joined back to Yeshua because He would have to break His own commandment in Deuteronomy 24:1-4 if He took us back after our unfaithfulness in worshiping a false god. However the laws of remarriage applied to the Covenant at Mount Sinai since the Covenant was a wedding Covenant. The Torah states in Deuteronomy 24 that a man could not be remarried to his wife if he (Messiah) divorced her and she married another man (golden calf). However the laws of marriage only apply until death. When Yeshua died we could then be joined back to Him. We did not have to become as one of the slain animals because He had paid for our debt and became a new man who could now be remarried to us without breaking His own commandment. This is what Paul was writing about in Romans chapters seven. See the Torah Study notes in Deuteronomy chapter 24 for more understanding.

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Related Scripture: husbands can't remarry wives if she has married another Deuteronomy 24:1-4 When a man has taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor in his eyes, because he has found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give *it* in her hand, and send her out of his house. 2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's *wife*. 3 And *if* the second husband hates her, and writes her a bill of divorcement, and gives *it* in her hand, and sends her out of his house; or if the second husband dies, which took her *to be* his wife; 4 Her former husband, which sent her away, **may not take her again to be his wife**, after she is defiled; for that *is* abomination before יהוה: and you shall not cause the land to sin, which יהוה your Elohim gave you *for* an inheritance.

Related Scripture: We Can be Rejoined to Messiah after His death

Romans 7:1-4 Don't You Know brethren, (for I speak to them that know the Torah,) how the Torah has dominion over a man as long as he lives? 2 For the woman which has a husband is bound by the Torah to *her* husband as long as he lives; but if the husband dies, she is loosed from the Torah *commandment concerning her* husband. 3 So then if, while *her* husband lives, she is married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband is dead, she is free from the Torah *commandment concerning remarriage*; so that she is not an adulteress, even though she married another man. 4 Therefore, my brethren, you also are become dead to the Torah *commandment of remarriage* by the body (*death*) of Messiah; that you should be married (*remarried*) to another, *even* to Him (*Messiah*) who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto Elohim.

Prophecy of Egyptian exile and Return to the Land

Genesis 15:13-21 And he said to Abram, Know of a surety that your seed shall be a **stranger** in a land *that is* not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them **four hundred years**; 14 And also that nation, that they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward they shall come out with great substance. 15 And you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. 16 But in the **fourth generation** they shall come here again: for the iniquity of the Amorites *is* not yet full. 17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a **smoking furnace**, and a **burning lamp** that passed between those pieces. 18 In the same day יהוה made a Covenant with Abram, saying, **To your seed have I given this land**, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates: 19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, 20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, 21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

Stranger = alien, guest, foreigner, gentile (s#1616 גֵר) (gare')

Fourth = fourth, (fractional), four-square, fourth part (s#7251 רְבִיעִי) (reb-ee-ee')

Generation = a revolution of time, age, generation, a dwelling, posterity (s#1755 דֹר) (dore)

Smoking = smoke lit. or fig (vapor, dust, anger) (s#6227 עָשָׂן) (aw-shawn')

Furnace = fire-pot, furnace, oven (s#8574 תַּנּוּר) (tan-noor') from (s#5216 נִיר) (neer) to glisten, a lamp or light

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Burning = fire (lit. or fig), burning, fiery, fire, flaming, hot (s#784 **אש**) (aysh)

Lamp = to shine, flambeau, lamp, flame, lightning, torch (s#3940 **לפיד**) (Lap-peed')

Comment: Abraham killed the animals and divided their bodies but the birds he did not divide. As the sun was about to set a deep **sleep** fell on him and **dread** and **great darkness** (foreshadowing Tribulation). The Passover lamb is to be killed in the evening of the 14th of the month of Nissan, the same day of the year that this Covenant was made with Abraham. The Greater Exodus at the time of the Great Tribulation will also begin at this time just as the Exodus from Egypt took place on the following morning (same day). Abram is told that his descendants will go into bondage for a period of time and then in the fourth generation, they would come out with great wealth. The ten nations that are listed, are the ten nations whose land they will be given. However only seven of the nations were in the land that they conquered in the first exodus. The other three were in Edom, Moab and Ammon. **יהוה** did not allow Israel to take land from these nations at the time of the first exodus. He told them that He would not give them even enough of their land to put their foot on. However when the second exodus takes place **יהוה** will judge these nations and their land will be given to Israel.

Abram did not walk between the animals

יהוה Father & Messiah went between the pieces as a smoking furnace and a burning lamp

This is a unilateral Covenant -- Only **יהוה** was required to become as one of the animals If Abram or his descendants did not keep this Covenant.

Related Scripture: Later at the time of the sin of the golden calf

Exodus 32:13-14 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to **whom You swore by Your own self**, and said to them, **I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven**, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give to your seed, and they shall inherit *it* forever. 14 And **יהוה** repented of the evil which He thought to do to His people.

Moses did not give any excuses for the sin of the people. He reminded **יהוה** of the Covenant He had made with Himself concerning Abram and his descendants when He walked between the pieces of the animals, and when He told Abram to count the stars if he could. The conditions of this Covenant had to be met by **יהוה** alone no matter what the descendants of Abram did.

Yeshua became as one of the animals when He was crucified. He paid the price for our breaking the Covenant and saved us **from the curse** related to breaking the Torah. The curse was a result of our ancestors worshipping a false god, after they had been joined to Yeshua at Mount Sinai. Because of this we could not be joined back to Yeshua or else He would break His own commandment in Deuteronomy chapter 24 verse 1-4. However the laws of remarriage only apply until death. When Yeshua died we could then be joined back to Him. We did not have to become as one of the slain animals because He had paid for our debt and became a new man who could be married to us without breaking His commands. This is what Paul was writing about in

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Romans chapters six through eight.

The time of the Exodus 400/430 Years

The start of this 400 years would begin 15 years after **יהוה** spoke to Abram. Isaac, Abram's 1st descendant of the Covenant, was born at this time. This began the prophecy clock because now "**Abram's descendants were sojourning.**" This time continued until Jacob and all his family moved to Egypt. When they came to Egypt, Joseph gave them land, so they were no longer sojourning, they were living on the land they owned. Apparently the land was taken away when there arose a Pharaoh who knew not Joseph. They were sojourning again until they left Egypt in the Exodus, 430 years after **יהוה** spoke to Abram. After 470 years they returned to the land after spending 40 years in the wilderness because of their rebellious nature. Since history given in the Scriptures is also prophecy, we know the timing for the future exodus will also begin on Passover after very difficult times. The second exodus is shown in Revelations 12:13-17.

Related Scripture: End time Greater Exodus

Revelations 12:13-17 And when the dragon saw that he was cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*. 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly to the wilderness, to her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Yeshua the Messiah.

Comment: This prophecy in Revelations 12 shows us that the woman who had the man child (Yeshua) was Judah. The ten tribes had been in exile for more than 700 years at the time that Messiah was born. Judah has had its holocaust during world war II and will not be tried again. However Israel (10 tribes) has not been tried by fire as Judah was. We see in verse 17 that the dragon (Satan) will turn his wrath against those of the ten tribes who keep the commandments and have the testimony of Yeshua. We will not be taken to the wilderness. This will be like Winston Churchill said during world war II, "This will be our finest hour."

Related Scripture: Time of 1st Exodus

Exodus 12:40-41 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. 41: And it came to pass at the end of the **four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of יהוה went out from the land of Egypt.**

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<u>1st Exodus Timing</u>	<u>2nd Exodus Timing</u>
<p>400 years prophesied for the return to the land</p>	<p>Hosea 6:1-2 Come, and let us return unto יהוה: for He hath torn, and He will heal us; He hath smitten, and He will bind us up. 2 After two days will He revive us: in the third day He will raise us up, and we shall live in His sight.</p> <p>Comment: The word He is used six times and then the possessive form (His) is used. This I believe shows we will return for the 7th thousand year period, just as Israel returned to the land. This is related to the verse in Noah Torah portion. My spirit will not always strive with man, but his years shall be 120 (<i>jubilee years or 50 x 120 = 6,000 years</i>)</p>
<p>Delayed 30 Years</p> <p>The Exodus occurred 30 years after it was expected because the timing did not start until Abram had a descendant (15 years later) and it was delayed another 15 years when Joseph gave them land and they were not sojourning during those 15 years.</p>	<p>Hosea 6:2 <u>After two days</u> will He revive us:</p> <p>Comment: After two days or after 2,000 years He will return us to the truth of His word. We will be awakened in preparation to come into His sight.</p> <p>Delayed 30 Years Possible conclusion. The two days or 2,000 years did not start until the death of Messiah approximately 30 AD. This might make the 2nd Exodus begin in the year 2030</p>

Salvation has always been a gift. While we were yet sinners Messiah died. Did Israel deserve to be redeemed from Egypt? We don't earn salvation by keeping the Torah. We keep the Torah in gratitude for being adopted into the family. After we were adopted we were told the rules of the house. After Israel was redeemed from Egypt they were taken to mount Sinai and given the instructions of Torah.

Words that begin with PR: Brad Scott of Wildbranch Ministry says that any Hebrew word that starts with a pay (פ) and a resh (ר) will always be associated with **division**. The word for the Torah portion is parashat which is the dividing of the Torah into weekly studies. But remember that evil is always associated with dividing and destroying. Good is associated with bringing together into one (ehad). Ishmael would live among his brethren but would always be divided against them and they against each other. This is a perfect description of the Arab population today. The dividing the Torah into portions is so we will understand it as a whole, not to destroy it.

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What Abram gave away he received back many times over from יהוה

Situation	Abram's reaction	יהוה's response
Abram was told to leave his home land and native country for an unknown country	Abram followed יהוה's command	יהוה told him he would make him into a great nation and bless those who blessed him and curse those who lightly esteemed him. He would be a blessing to all nations
Pharaoh took Sarai from Abram	Abram did nothing. He did not resist evil. It was beyond his ability to change Matthew 5:39 But I say to you, That you resist not evil : but whoever shall strike you on your right cheek, turn to him the other also.	יהוה punished Pharaoh, and returned Sarai to him and gave Abram much wealth
Strife between Abram's herdsmen and Lot's herdsmen over the land	Abram gave Lot the choice of the land to keep peace. Matthew 5:9 Blessed <i>are</i> the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of Elohim.	יהוה told Abram that he would give him all the land Matthew 5:5 Blessed <i>are</i> the meek: for they shall inherit the earth
The Enemy came, captured Lot and many people and took the wealth .	Abram took his servants and defeated the enemy, but took none of the wealth or people for himself	יהוה promised to give him great wealth and his descendants (people) would be as the stars of heaven for number
The army of the enemy was much larger than the 318 servants of Abram	Abram took the men he had to fight against a larger force, not allowing fear to control him	יהוה enabled Abram to destroy the enemy and later told him not to fear because יהוה would be his shield. Since you did not let fear defeat you, I defeat fear in your life.

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Hagar Conceives

Genesis 16:1-6 Now Sarai Abram's wife bare him no children: and she had an handmaid, an Egyptian, whose name was **Hagar**. 2 And Sarai said to Abram, Behold now, **יהוה** has **restrained** me from bearing: I ask you to go to my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. 3 And Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. 4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived: and when she saw that she had conceived, her **mistress** was despised in her eyes. 5 And Sarai said to Abram, My **wrong** is **due to you**: I have given my maid to your bosom; and when she saw that she had conceived, I was **despised** in her eyes: **יהוה** judge between me and you. 6 But Abram said to Sarai, Behold, your maid *is* in your hand; do to her as it pleases you. And when Sarai dealt **harshly** with her, she fled from her face.

Hagar = flight (s# 01904 **הגר**) Some believe that Hagar was a daughter of Pharaoh.

Her name could mean "the gentile"

Restrained = to enclose, to hold back, to maintain, rule (s#06113 **עצר**) (aw-tsar')

Mistress = lady, mistress (s#01404 **גברת**) (gheb-eh'-reth)

Wrong = violence, wrong, cruelty, injustice (s#02555 **חמס**) (khaw-mawce)

Due to you = as, against, among, because of, beside (s#05921 **עליך**) (ale ch)

Despised = to make light, trifling, despise, slight (s#07043 **קלל**) (kaw-lal')

Harshly = looking down, to depress, chasten, deal hardly, force, gentleness, humble, ravish, submit self, weaken (s#06031 **ענה**) (aw-naw')

Comment: Sarai may have believed she was too old to conceive and tried to have children through Hagar. Ancient writings on stone tablets of this time show that marriage covenants were written that required the wife to produce a male heir or she was required to supply a second wife who could produce an heir. This was the normal procedure that was followed at that time. Rabbinical comments say that Hagar was a daughter of Pharaoh who was given to Abram when he went to Egypt during the famine. This might account for the problem of pride and rebellion on her part. It is not clear why Sarai believed that the plan she initiated and Abram followed was a failure because of Abram. It might possibly be that Abram treated Hagar with such love and respect that she thought that she would replace Sarai as Abram's wife.

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An Angel speaks to Hagar

Genesis 16:7-16 And the **angel** of יהוה found her by a **spring** of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to **Shur**. 8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's **maid**, where did you come from? and where will you go? And she said, I flee from the face of my **mistress** Sarai. 9 And the angel of יהוה said to her, Return to your mistress, and **submit** yourself under her hands. 10 And the angel of יהוה said to her, **I will multiply your seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude.** 11 And the angel of יהוה said to her, Behold, you *are* with child, and shall bear a son, and shall call his name Ishmael; because יהוה has heard your affliction. 12 And he will be a **wild ass man**; his hand *will be* against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. 13 And she called the name of יהוה that spoke to her, The **Living One sees** me: for she said, I Have also here looked after Him that sees me? 14 The **well** was called **Beerlahairoi**; behold, *it is* between **Kadesh** and **Bered**. 15 And Hagar bare Abram a son: and Abram called his son's name, which Hagar bare, **Ishmael**. 16 And Abram *was* eighty six years old, when Hagar bare Ishmael to Abram.

Angel = messenger, prophet, priest, teacher, angel, king (s#04397 מלאך) (mal'-ak)

Spring = an eye, fountain, resemblance, sight, knowledge, look (s#05869 עין) (ah'-yin)

Shur = a region of desert, a wall as going about (s#07793 שור) (shoor)

Maid = fem. to spread out, bond woman (s#08198 שפחה) (shif-khaw')

Mistress = lady, mistress (s#01404 גברת) (gheb-eh'-reth)

Submit = looking down, to depress, chasten, deal hardly, force, gentleness, humble, ravish, submit self, weaken (s#06031 עוה) (aw-naw')

Wild ass = running wild, wild ass of a man(s# 06501 פרא) (peh' reh) from (s#06500 פרא) to bear fruit, be fruitful (paw-raw')

Man = Adam (s# 0120 אדם)

Living One = living One (s#0410 אל) (El)

See = to see (s#07210 ראי) (ro-ee')

Well = a pit, a well (s#0875 באר) (be-ayr')

Beerlahairoi = “well of the living (one) my seer”(s#0883 באר לחי ראי) (be-ayr' lakh-ah'ee ro-ee)

Kadesh = a place in the Desert (s#06946 קדש) (kaw-dashe') from (s#06945 קדש) a quasi sacred male person, devotee to licentious idolatry, sodomite, separated (kaw-dashe')

Bered = name of a place south of Israel (s#01260 ברד) (beh'-red) from (s#01258 ברד) (baw-rad') to hail

Ishmael = “God will hear” (s#03458 ישמעאל) (yish-maw-ale')

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Comment: We often hear comments that Ishmael was a mistake that Abram and Sarai made that was a problem to all their future descendants. However we see that **יהוה** spoke to her blessed her and said that her descendants through Ishmael would be so many that they could not be numbered. If this was a mistake why would **יהוה** increase his numbers so greatly that they could not be numbered. We know that there will always be tares with the wheat. This was part of the plan that these two nations should coexist to bring about the purposes of the Creator. The presence of evil drives righteous men closer to their Creator. We seek our Elohim when we are in trouble, fearful or in need. He has set before us blessings and cursing, If there were no consequences for disobedience why would we return to follow the commandments?

Covenant of Circumcision

Genesis 17:1-14 And when **Abram** was ninety nine years old, **יהוה** appeared to Abram, and said to him, I am **El Shaddai**; walk before Me, and be perfect. 2 And I will make My Covenant between Me and you, and will **multiply** you **exceedingly**. 3 And Abram fell on his face: and Elohim talked with him, saying, 4 As for Me, behold, My Covenant *is* with you, and you shall be a **father of a multitude of nations**. 5 Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but your name shall be **Abraham**; for a father of many nations I have made you. 6 And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come out of you. 7 And I will **establish** My Covenant between Me and you **and your seed after you** in their generations for an **everlasting Covenant**, to be a Elohim to you, and to your seed after you. 8 And I will give to you, and to your seed after you, the land where you are a stranger, **all the land of Canaan**, for an **everlasting** possession; and I will be their Elohim. 9 And Elohim said to Abraham, You shall keep My Covenant therefore, you, and your seed after you in their generations. 10 This *is* My Covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your seed after you; Every man child among you shall be **circumcised**. 11 And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the Covenant between Me and you. 12 And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which *is* not of your seed. 13 He that is born in your house, and he that is bought with your money, must be circumcised: and My Covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting Covenant. 14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My Covenant.

Abram = father of Aram (his former homeland) (s#087 אברם) (ab-rawm')

El Shaddai = contraction of El and breast (s#0410 אל) (ale) & (s#07706 שדי)

(shad-dah'-ee) = אל שדי (ale Shad-dah'-ee)

The word shad in Hebrew means a woman's breast when she is nursing a baby. The name El Shaddai means the Breasted El or the Elohim who can supply all your needs, just as a mother supplies all that a baby needs.

Increase (multiply) = increase, excel, great, more, multiply (s#07235 רבה) (raw-baw')

Exceedingly = vehemently, speedily, diligently, exceeding (s#03966 מעד) (meh-ode') (word used twice in this verse to show **יהוה** would **Greatly** increase)

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Multitude = noise, tumult, crowd, multitude, riches (חמון) (haw-mone')

Nations = nations, gentiles, troop of animals, locust (גוי) (go'-ee)

Abraham = **Father of a multitude of nations** (אברהם) (ab-raw-hawm')

(Galatians 3:29 if you are Messiah's then are you Abraham's seed, and heirs of the promise.)

GOD's name LORD = (יהוה)

Establish = rise, stand, rise to rightful place, be fulfilled (קום) (koom)

Everlasting = antiquity, futurity, forever, perpetual (עולם) (o-lawm)

Circumcised = to cut short, circumcise, curtail, figuratively destroy (מול) (mool)

The letter "Hey" (ה) is the fifth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, the Torah has five books.

The letter "Hey" is the picture of a window. It has the meaning of enlightenment or revelation.

יהוה had taken a letter (ה) from His own name and placed it in Abram name to make it Abraham.

Comment: Abram was ninety nine years old when יהוה came to make the Covenant with him. Abram's (אברם) name was changed to Abraham (אברהם). יהוה took a letter (ה) from His name and added it to Abram's name. The letter hay (ה) is the 5th letter of the Aleph Bet. It is the first letter in the Hebrew word for grace and it's symbolic meaning is "to reveal." This change of names in making a Covenant was often done to show that the families of both parties had merged into one family. This meant that the enemies of one were now the enemies of both. All things were now in common. יהוה had already said that He would bless those who blessed Abram and his descendants and curse those who cursed Abram and his descendants. Abraham would be a father of many nations. Part of the way this was accomplished was through casting the ten Tribes of Israel out of the land and scattering them to all the world. They would later understand that they were descendants of Abraham and begin to keep the commandments just as Abraham did. Now we are near the return of Messiah and there are descendants of Abraham in nearly every country of the world waiting to return back to the land that יהוה promised Abraham.

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Promise of a Son

Genesis 17:15-27 And Elohim said to Abraham, As for **Sarai** your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but **Sarah** shall her name be. 16 And I will bless her, and give you a son also by her: yes, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be from her. 17 Then Abraham fell on his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born to him that is a hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? 18 And Abraham said to Elohim, O that Ishmael might live before You! 19 And Elohim said, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son indeed; and you shall call his name Isaac: and I will establish **My Covenant with him for an everlasting Covenant, and with his seed after him.** 20 And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. 21 But My Covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear to you **at this set time in the next year.** 22 And He left off talking with him, and Elohim went up from Abraham. 23 And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as Elohim had said to him. 24 And Abraham was ninety nine years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. 25 And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old, when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. 26 In the same day was Abraham circumcised, and Ishmael his son. 27 And all the men of his house, born in the house, and bought with money of the stranger, were circumcised with him.

Sarai = my princess (שׂרַי) (saw-rah'-ee) from (שׂר) (sar) leader

Sarah = Princess of all Nations (שָׂרָה) (sarah)

Comment: Sarai's (שׂרַי) name was changed to Sarah (שָׂרָה). יהוה again took a letter from His name and placed it in Sarah name. She would be a mother who would have future descendants that would be kings and nations.

Related Scripture: Abraham our Father & Sarah who we are born from

Isaiah 51:1-3 Hearken to Me, you that follow after righteousness, you that seek יהוה look to the rock where you are hewn, and to the hole of the pit where you are digged. 2 Look to **Abraham your father**, and to **Sarah that bare you**: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him. 3 For יהוה shall comfort Zion: He will comfort all her waste places; and He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of יהוה; joy and gladness shall be found there, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

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Comment: Our model for righteousness is from Abraham and Sarah, they are our true spiritual father and mother. We also see that the land of Israel will be or become like the garden of Eden. This may take place after the seventh Millennium when all sin is removed and we are returned back to the garden.

Was Abraham a Jew?

We know that Abraham was not Jewish because to be Jewish implies that he is a descendant of his great grandson Judah. All Jewish people are descendants of their father Judah, the fourth son of Jacob through Leah. That being said we also realize that those who lived in the land up until they were cast into exile by the Romans were called "Jews" by outsiders even if they were from the Tribe of Benjamin or other tribes. When the nation split after Solomon died and became the nations of Israel and Judah. Judah was composed of those of the Tribe of Judah and those of the Tribe of Benjamin. There were also those of the Tribe of Levi, the priestly tribe. The Tribe of Levi did not receive land but were given forty six cities all over the country. When the two nations split many of the Tribe of Levi moved from their town in the north and came to live in Judah so that they could continue to be Priests in the Temple in Jerusalem. All people living in the southern Kingdom of Judah were called Jews even though they were not of that Tribe. This is like us today being called Americans no matter what nationality we are. People born in Mexico are also from North America but are not called Americans unless they become citizens of the United States.

This misunderstanding about all the descendants of Abraham being Jewish has been allowed and even encouraged by Jewish Sages. We see this in many books and even translations of the Scriptures. An example is the commands concerning Hebrew slaves that are owned by other Hebrews found in Exodus 21:2

The Stone Edition Chumash page 417 (the Chumash is the first five books of the Bible with commentary)

Related Scripture: Hebrew not necessarily Jewish

Exodus 21:2 If you buy a **Jewish** bondsman, he shall work for six years; and in the seventh he shall go free, for no charge.

The Hebrew text uses the word (s#5680 עברי) (ib-ree') which means Hebrew not Jewish, this means all twelve tribes. This seems like Judah is trying to cut out all the other tribes. Judah has been more faithful than the other tribes, but יהוה still desires for us to return. The word (s#5680 עברי) is related to the act of crossing over as in crossing over a stream of water to the other side for gain. Abram obeyed יהוה and crossed over into the promised land. He also crossed over from idol worship to the worship of the true Elohim. Because he was faithful, יהוה made a Covenant with him and his descendants.

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Genesis 12:1-3 Now יהוה had said to Abram, Get you out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you: 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing: 3 And **I will bless those that bless you, and curse him that curses you: and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

This Covenant and other Covenants that יהוה made with Abram were passed down to Isaac then Jacob and then to his twelve sons. It continues to be passed down to their descendants, but it is conditional in that all must seek יהוה by living their life obedient to His commands. There is forgiveness but we must seek to please יהוה by the way we live.

Back to the second question, was Abraham a gentile?

The Biblical definition of a gentile is one standing with his back toward יהוה. Abram was a gentile when he was in his father's house, since his father was an idol maker. When Abram left his father's house and obeyed יהוה's command to go to a land that would be shown to him, he became a Hebrew. This option is also open to whoever will. Any person can join themselves to Israel. That person will no longer be a gentile, but will be of the commonwealth of Israel. They will not be considered second class citizens.

Related Scripture: One law for everyone

Numbers 15:14-16 And if a stranger sojourn with you, or whoever *is* among you in your generations, and will offer an offering made by fire, of a sweet savor to יהוה; as you do, so he shall do. 15 **One ordinance shall be both for you of the congregation, and also for the stranger that sojourns with you,** an ordinance forever in your generations: **as you are, so shall the stranger be before יהוה.** 16 **One law and one manner shall be for you, and for the stranger that sojourns with you.**

We see this in the book of Ephesians:

Related Scripture: We can be brought back into the Covenant

Ephesians 2:8-19 For **by grace are you saved through faith;** and that not of yourselves: *it is the gift of Elohim:* 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Yeshua to good works, which Elohim has before ordained that we should walk in them. 11 Therefore remember, that **you being in time past Gentiles** in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 12 That at that time you were without Messiah, **being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel,** and **strangers from the Covenants of promise, having no hope,** and without Elohim in the world: 13 But now in Messiah Yeshua **you who sometimes were far off are made near by the blood of Messiah.** 14 For He is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of partition *between us;* 15 **Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained** in ordinances; **for to make in Himself of two one new man,** *so* making peace; 16 And that He might reconcile both to Elohim in one body by the cross,

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having slain the enmity thereby: 17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. 19 Now therefore **you are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens** with the saints, and of the household of Elohim;

Through the death of Messiah we are brought back into the Covenant. He removed the **enmity** that kept us from being joined back into the Covenant. This enmity was caused by Israel turning away from יהוה and worshiping false gods. This act of rebellion caused יהוה to divorce Israel (not Judah) from the Covenant that was made at Mount Sinai. Deuteronomy 24:1-4 says that a man can not be married back to his first wife if she has married another since they were divorced. This prevents Messiah from being married back to Israel since she has turned to idols. However the laws of marriage are binding only until death. When Messiah died for His bride who had turned away from Him, that law no longer restricted Him from marrying her again. As it says in the verse in Ephesians **having slain the enmity** we can be joined back to Him. He did not do away with the law or Torah, He followed it completely. He died so that Israel could be joined back to Him in agreement with His Torah.

Related Scripture: We can be rejoined back to Messiah

Deuteronomy 24:1-4 When a man has taken a wife, and married her, and it come to pass that she find no favor in his eyes, because he has found some uncleanness in her: then let him write her a bill of divorcement, and give *it* in her hand, and send her out of his house. 2 And when she is departed out of his house, she may go and be another man's *wife*. 3 And *if* the latter husband hate her, and write her a bill of divorce, and gives *it* in her hand, and sends her out of his house; or if the latter husband die, which took her *to be* his wife; 4 **Her former husband, which sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after that she is defiled; for that is abomination before יהוה: and you shall not cause the land to sin,** which יהוה your Elohim gave you *for* an inheritance.

Peter also writes about what Messiah's death accomplished in his letter. He is reflecting on the words found in Hosea

Related Scripture: Those lost are brought back into the Covenant

I Peter 2:9-10 But you *are* a **chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvellous light: 10 **Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of Elohim: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.**

Related Scripture: The 10 Tribes brought back into the Covenant

Hosea 1:2-11 The beginning of the word of יהוה by Hosea. And יהוה said to Hosea, Go, take to you a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land has committed great whoredom, *departing* from יהוה. 3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son. 4 And יהוה said to him, Call his name **Jezeel**; for yet a little *while*, and I will avenge the blood of Jezeel on the house of Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel. 5 And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow

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of Israel in the valley of Jezreel. 6 And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And *Elohim* said to him, Call her name **Loruhamah**: for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away. 7 But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and will save them by **יהוה** their Elohim, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen. 8 Now when she had weaned Loruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son. 9 Then said *Elohim*, Call his name **Loammi**: **for you are not My people**, and I will not be your *Elohim*. 10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered; and **it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said to them, You are not My people, there it shall be said to them, You are the sons of the living Elohim**. 11 Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great *shall be* the day of Jezreel.

So we see why we must be joined to Israel, because all our fathers have turned away from the Covenant with **יהוה** and worshiped idols. Yeshua redeemed Israel but He did not redeem other nations in the world. All people are welcomed to join with Israel and come into a personal relationship with Messiah. They are no longer gentiles, but they are of the commonwealth of Israel, with all rights and privileges.

Related Scripture: The new/renewed Covenant is made with Israel and Judah

Jeremiah 31:31-33 Behold, the days come, says **יהוה**, that **I will make a new Covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah**: 32 Not according to the Covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My Covenant they broke, although **I was an husband to them**, says **יהוה**: 33 But this *shall be* the Covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, says **יהוה**, I will put My Torah in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.

There is no salvation outside of joining the people of Judah and Israel. **יהוה** has not made a covenant with any other people. The New Covenant is only made with these two nations.

Related Scripture: Yeshua died to rejoin Israel to Judah and to Himself

John 11:47-53 Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for this man does many miracles. 48 If we let Him alone, all *men* will believe on Him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation. 49 And one of them, *named* Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said to them, You know nothing at all, 50 Nor consider that **it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not**. 51 And this he spoke not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that **Yeshua should die for that nation**; 52 **And not for that nation only**, but that also He should gather together in one the children of Elohim that were scattered abroad. 53 Then from that day forward they took counsel together for to put Him to death. We see that **יהוה** directed the high priest to accomplish His will in the death of Yeshua to save the nation of Judah and the scattered nation of Israel.