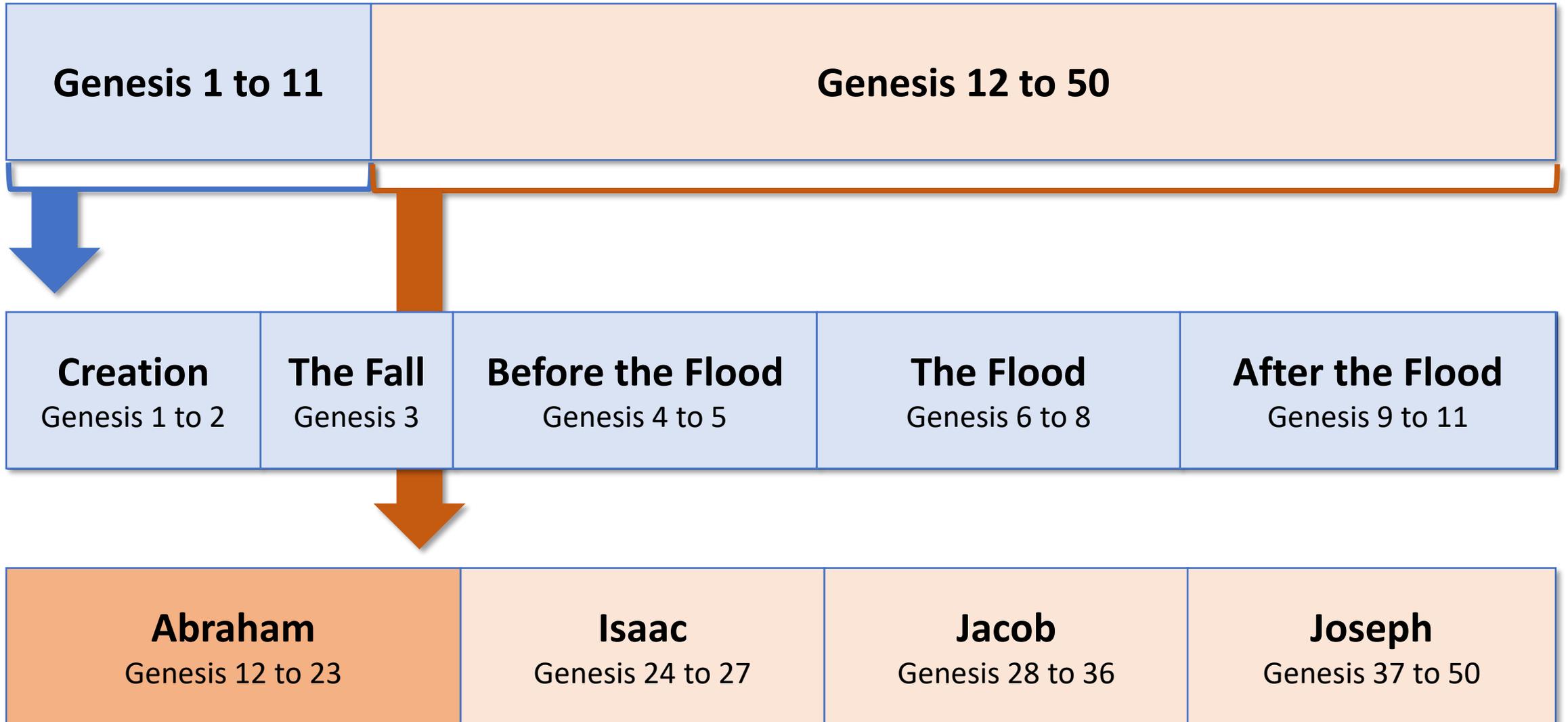


Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

12. Abraham and Abimelech, Isaac and Hagar

An outline of the Book of Genesis *



* Approximate chapter divisions only

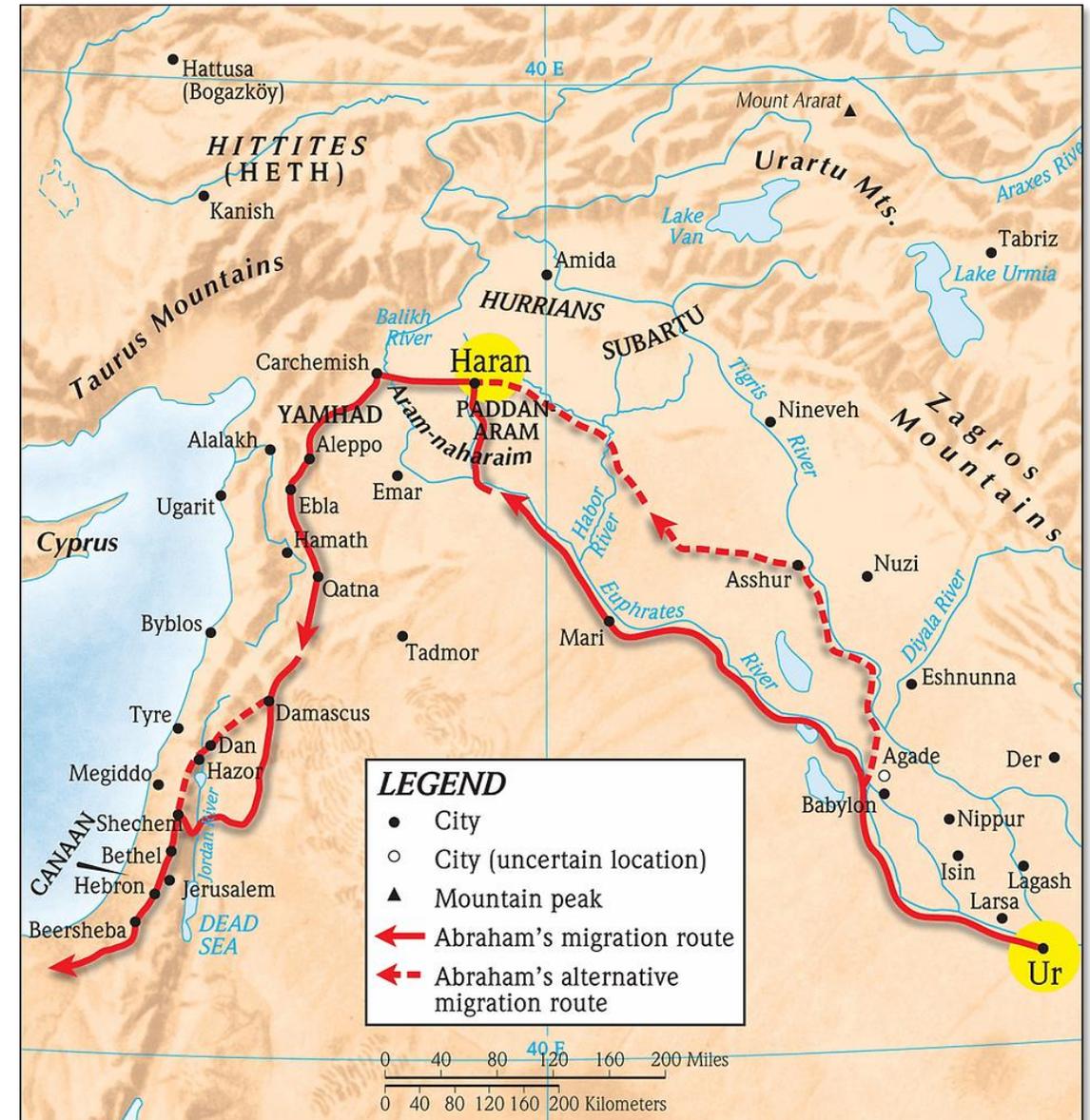
The promise of God – chapter 12

Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house **to the land that I will show you.**

And **I will make of you a great nation,** and I will bless you and make your name great, so that **you will be a blessing.**

I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you **all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**

(Genesis 12:1-3)



The promise of God – chapter 15

And He brought him outside and said,
“Look toward heaven, and number the stars,
if you are able to number them.”

Then He said to him,
“So shall your offspring be.”

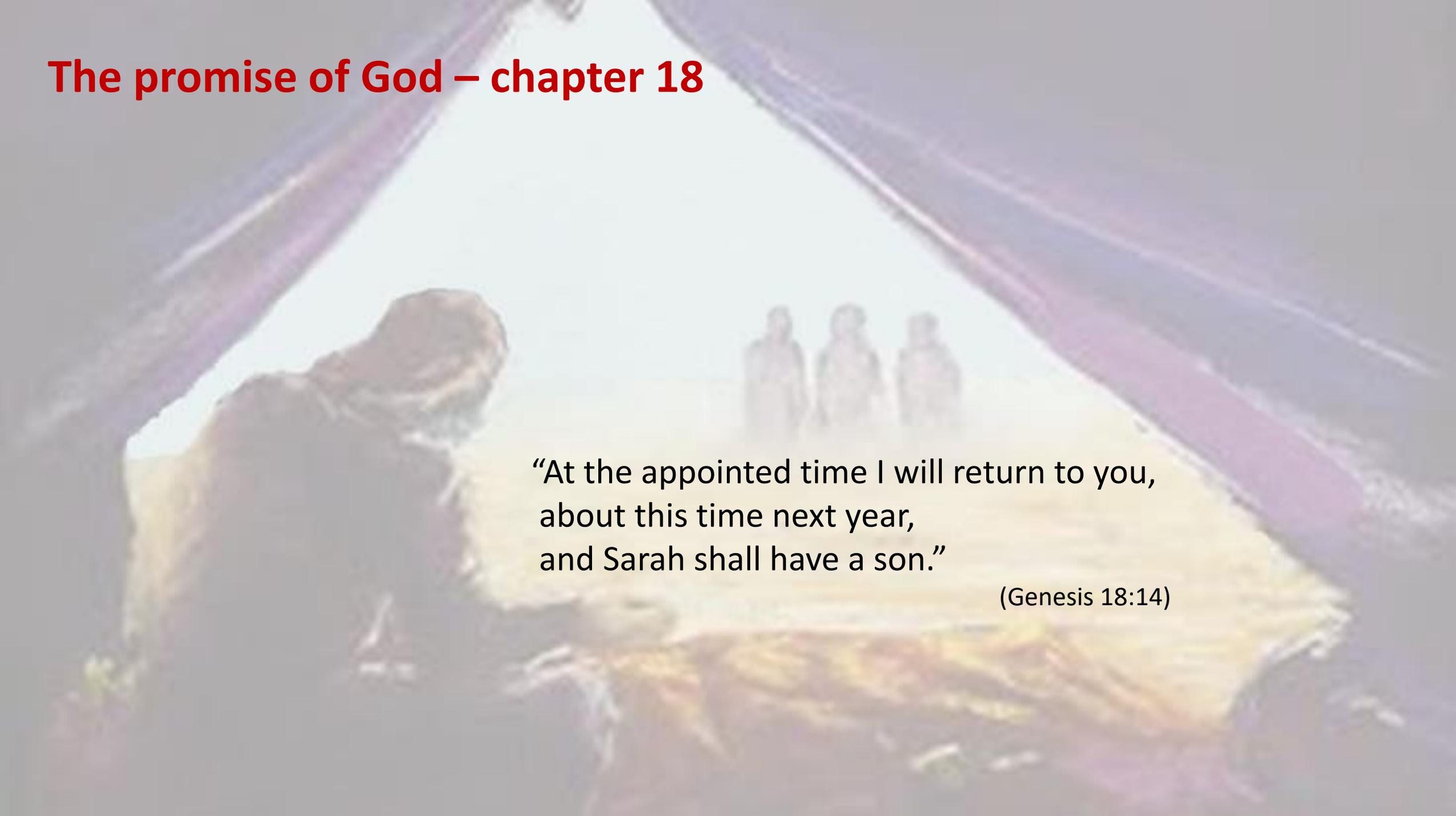
(Genesis 15:5)

The promise of God – chapter 17

“Behold, My covenant is with you...
No longer shall your name be called **Abram**,
but your name shall be **Abraham**,
for I have made you
the father of a multitude of nations.”

(Genesis 17:4-5)

The promise of God – chapter 18



“At the appointed time I will return to you,
about this time next year,
and Sarah shall have a son.”

(Genesis 18:14)

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

Genesis 20 and 21

- Abraham in Gerar (Genesis 20)
- The birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-21)
- The oath at Beersheba (Genesis 21:22-34)

Abraham in Gerar

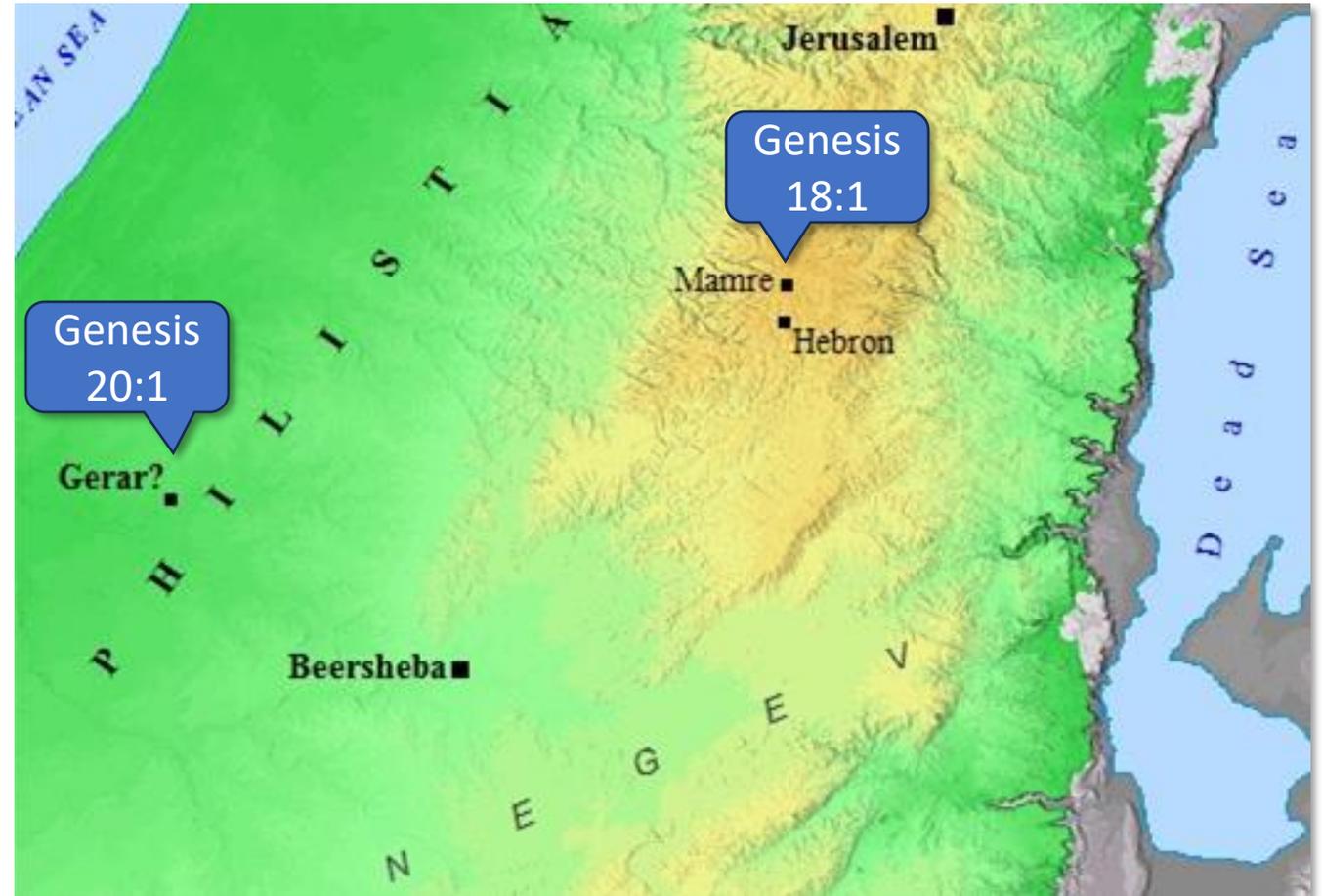
From there Abraham **journeyed** toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and **he sojourned in Gerar.**

And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.”

And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and **took Sarah.**

(Genesis 20:1-2)

***What !?!
Not again!***



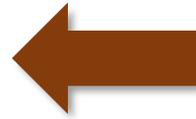
Abraham in Gerar

From there Abraham **journeyed** toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and **he sojourned in Gerar.**

And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, “She is my sister.”

And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and **took Sarah.**

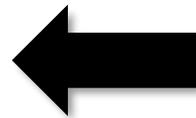
(Genesis 20:1-2)



By faith he [Abraham] went to live in the land of promise, **as in a foreign land, living in tents...**

For he was looking forward to **the city that has foundations,** whose designer and builder is God.

(Hebrews 11:9-10)



For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against...

the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

(Ephesians 6:12)

Are YOU walking in the footsteps of Abraham?



By faith he went to live
in the land of promise,
as in a foreign land, living in tents...

For he was looking forward to
the city that has foundations,
whose designer and builder is God.
(Hebrews 11:9-10)

For we do not wrestle against
flesh and blood, but against...
the spiritual forces of evil
in the heavenly places.

(Ephesians 6:12)

Abraham in Gerar

And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and **took Sarah.**

Sarah is
about 89!

But God came to Abimelech

in a dream by night and said to him,

“Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife.”

(Genesis 20:3)



“Lord, will You kill an innocent people?”

Did he not himself say to me, ‘She is my sister’?
And she herself said, ‘He is my brother.’
In the integrity of my heart... I have done this.”

*“Yes, I know... and it was I who kept you from **sinning against Me**....”*

*“Now then, return the man's wife, for **he is a prophet**, so that **he will pray for you**, and you shall live....”*

So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants....

And the men were very much afraid.

(See Genesis 20:4-8)

Abraham in Gerar

And the men were very much afraid.

Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him,

**“What have you done to us?
And how have I sinned against you...?”**

Abraham said,

“I did it because I thought,
‘There is no fear of God at all in this place,
and they will kill me because of my wife.’

“Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father
though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife.”

(Genesis 20:9-12)



A half truth is a lie

Abraham in Gerar

And the men were very much afraid.

Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him.

And Abimelech said,

“Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you.”

To Sarah he said,

“Behold, I have given **your brother** 1000 pieces of silver.

It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated.”

Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves....

(Genesis 20:14-17)

Abraham in Gerar

And the men were very much afraid.

God's promise to Abraham:

*"I will bless you and make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you,
and him who dishonors you I will curse..."*

(Genesis 12:2-3)

God's promise to Jacob:

*"Behold, I am with you and will keep you
wherever you go... For I will not leave you
until I have done what I have promised you."*

(Genesis 28:15)

**I am sure of this,
that He who began
a good work in you
will bring it to completion
at the day of Jesus Christ.**

(Philippians 1:6)

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

Genesis 20 and 21

- Abraham in Gerar (Genesis 20)
- **The birth of Isaac** (Genesis 21:1-21)
- The oath at Beersheba (Genesis 21:22-34)

The birth of Isaac

The LORD visited Sarah **as He had said**,
and the LORD did to Sarah **as He had promised**.

And Sarah conceived
and bore Abraham a son in his old age
at the time of which God had spoken to him.

Abraham called the name of his son
who was born to him,
whom Sarah bore him, **Isaac**.

Laughter

(Genesis 21:1-3)

God has made me laugh;
everyone who hears
will laugh with me.



(Genesis 21:6)

The birth of Isaac

...Abraham made a great feast
on the day that Isaac was weaned.

Isaac is perhaps 2 or 3,
and Ishmael 16 or 17

But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian,
whom she had borne to Abraham, **laughing**.

Mocking

So she said to Abraham,

**“Cast out this slave woman with her son,
for the son of this slave woman
shall not be heir with my son Isaac.”**

(Genesis 21:8-10)

Hagar is a wife
of Abraham

The promise - Isaac

And the thing was very displeasing to Abraham on account of his son.

Abraham's
natural affection

But God said to Abraham,

“Be not displeased because of the boy and because of your slave woman.

*“Whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for **through Isaac shall your offspring be named.***

“And I will make a nation of the son of the slave woman also, because he is your offspring.”

(Genesis 21:11-13)

I will surely multiply your offspring so that they cannot be numbered for multitude.

The Angel of the Lord,
to Hagar
(Genesis 16:10)

The birth of Isaac

So Abraham rose early in the morning and took bread and a skin of water and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, **and sent her away.**

And she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beersheba.

(Genesis 21:14)

Hagar is given her freedom but divorced

The birth of Isaac

When the water in the skin was gone...

“Let me not look on the death of the child.”

And ... she lifted up her voice and wept.

And God heard the voice of the boy...

“What troubles you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Up! Lift up the boy... for I will make him into a great nation.”

Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water....

And God was with the boy, and he grew up....

...and his mother took a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

(Genesis 21:15-21)

So she [Hagar] called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, “You are a God who sees me”...
(Genesis 16:13)

The birth of Isaac – and an allegory

It is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman.

But the son of the slave was born **according to the flesh**, while the son of the free woman was born through **promise**.

Now this may be interpreted allegorically:
these women are **two covenants**.

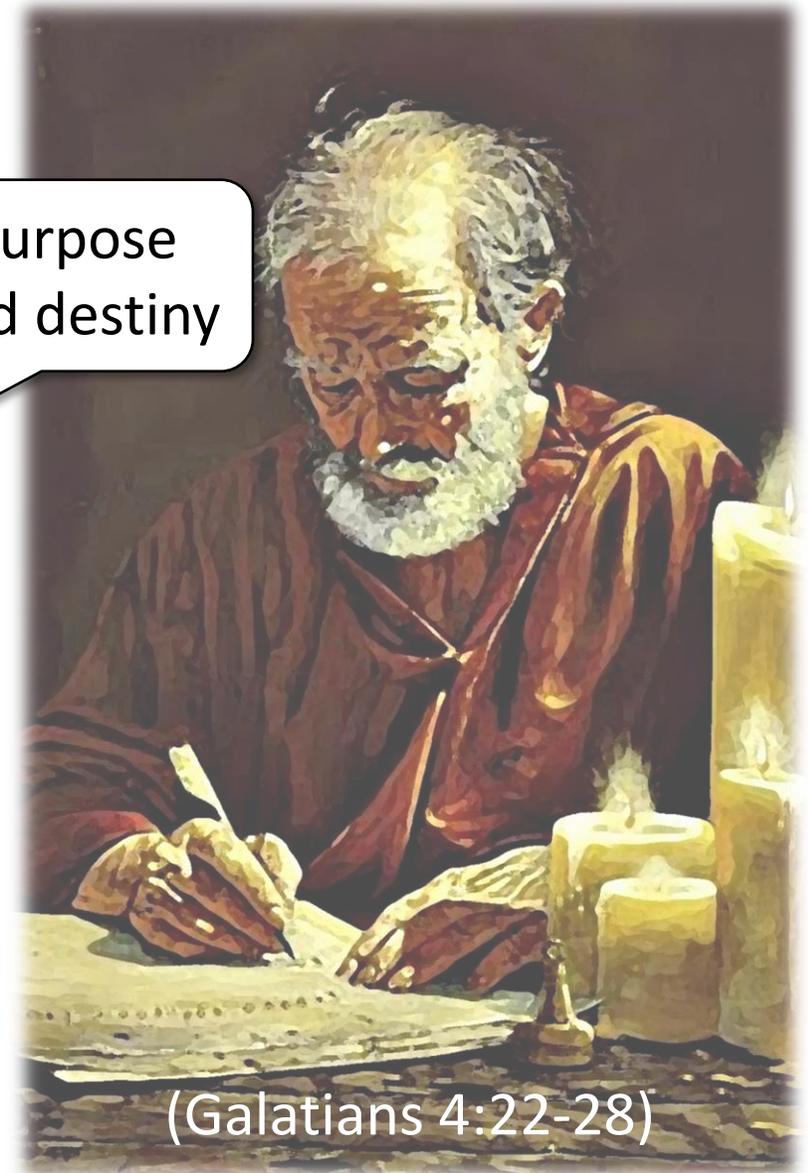
One is from **Mount Sinai**... she is Hagar...
the present **Jerusalem**....

But the **Jerusalem above** is free, and she is **our** mother....

Now you, brothers, like **Isaac**, are **children of promise**.

Purpose and destiny

Purpose
and destiny



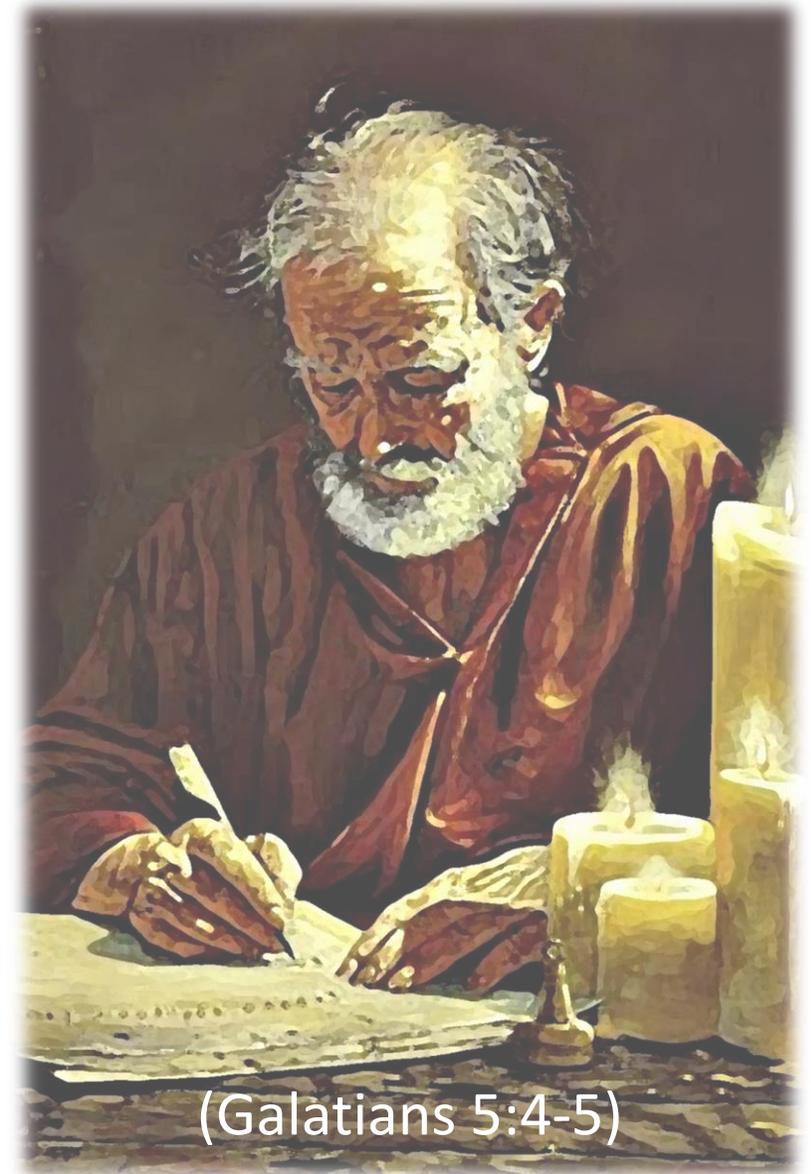
(Galatians 4:22-28)

The birth of Isaac – and an allegory

You are severed from Christ,
you who would be **justified by the law;**
you have fallen away from **grace.**

For through **the Spirit, by faith,**
we ourselves eagerly wait
for the **hope of righteousness.**

The end goal of the
gift of righteousness



(Galatians 5:4-5)

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

Genesis 20 and 21

- Abraham in Gerar (Genesis 20)
- The birth of Isaac (Genesis 21:1-21)
- **The oath at Beersheba** (Genesis 21:22-34)

The oath at Beersheba

At that time Abimelech... said to Abraham,
“**God is with you in all that you do.**”

“Now therefore swear to me here by God
that you will not deal falsely with me
or with my descendants or with my posterity,
but **as I have dealt kindly with you,**
so you will deal with me and with the land
where you have sojourned.”

And Abraham said, “**I will swear.**”

(Genesis 21:22-24)

*I will make you a great nation;
I will bless you
And make your name great;
And you shall be a blessing.*
(Genesis 12:2)

Proverbs 16:7

The oath at Beersheba

“Well of the oath”
or “Well of the seven”

So Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and the two men made a covenant.

“cut a covenant”

Abraham set seven ewe lambs of the flock apart...

“These seven ewe lambs you will take from my hand, that this may be a witness for me that I dug **this well.**”

(Genesis 21:27-30)

A vital
possession

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

Genesis 20 and 21

➤ **Abraham in Gerar**

➤ **The birth of Isaac**

➤ **The oath at Beersheba**

➤ God is faithful – the seed of the woman has brought redemption as He promised.

➤ There is one way – Christ alone saves – and we must live by His life through faith.

➤ All God's promises will be fulfilled – not one shall fail. And so we wait for Him.

Genesis

The Book of Beginnings



By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out...

(Hebrews 11:8)

“God is with you in all that you do.”

(Genesis 21:22)

Your conduct must be free from the love of money and you must be content with what you have, for He has said,
“I will never leave you and I will never abandon you.”

(Hebrews 13:5)