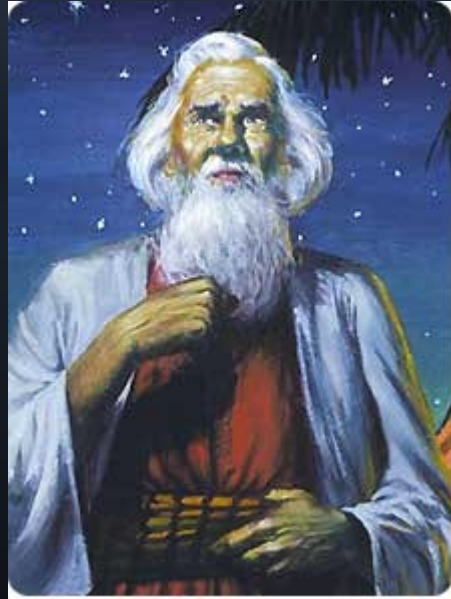


Missions – Lecture 1



Abraham, The Abrahamic Covenant
& Old Testament Missionaries

The Call....

- **Genesis 12:1-3 HCSB** The LORD said to Abram: Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. (2) I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. (3) I will bless those who bless you, I will curse those who treat you with contempt, *and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*
-



Blessed To Be A Blessing...

- Abraham was blessed to be a blessing
- Missions is us sharing our blessings (especially Christ) with a needy world
- The 'promised blessing' is the Holy Spirit who is the dynamic power of mission (Acts 1:4, 2:33, 39 Galatians 3:14)



The Covenant

- Land
- Descendants
- Blessing / Redemption
- Authority / Victory
- Genesis 12:1-3, 7;
13:14-18;
15:4, 5, 13-18;
17:1-8;
18:17-19;
22:15-18



Through The Cross....

- Land = a better country, a heavenly one
(Hebrews 11:15,16)
- Descendants = those who are of faith
(Galatians 3:6-9, 26-29)
- Blessing = the Holy Spirit
(Galatians 3:14)
- Authority = spiritual victory
(2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Romans 8:35-39)



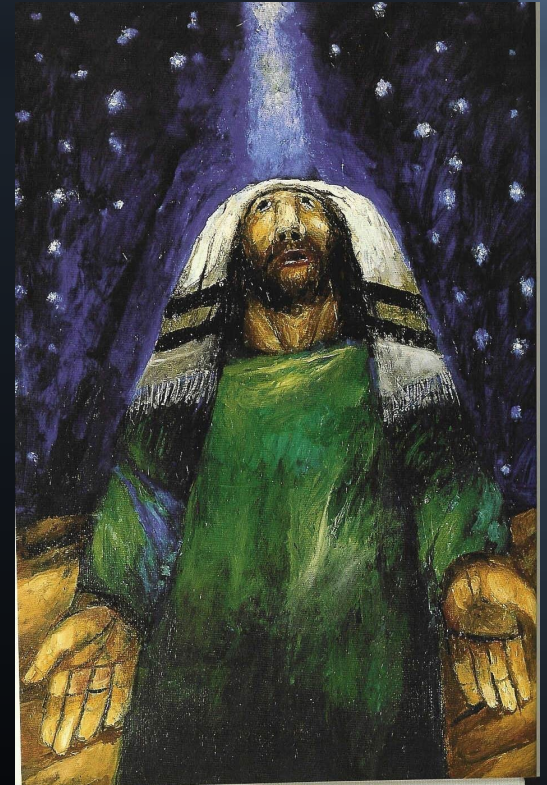
4 Aspects Of Missions

- **Land** – Getting people into the heavenly Jerusalem, also Acts 1:8 – the geographic spread of the gospel
- **Descendants** – Getting people saved, heirs of Christ, sons of God, descendants of Abraham
- **Blessing** – getting people filled with the Holy Ghost and the fruit and power of the Holy Spirit
- **Authority** – Spiritual warfare, exorcism, redemption, healing



Abraham As A Missionary

- Called Out Of Babylonian Idolatry
- Went Out To A Land He Did Not Know
- Godly Lifestyle
- Consistently Heard From God
- Established Places of Worship
- Discipled Those Who Followed Him
- Persisted In The Promises
- Passed Severe Tests / Crises of Faith



What Abraham Did Not Do

- Compromise with the culture by living in Sodom or Gomorrah
- Create an secular style 'organization' in order to 'do the job'
- Engage in 'meddling' at the local level
- Establish a permanent long-term missions base
- Impose home base (Ur) values and ideas on the surrounding culture



Prophetic Critique

- The missionary is called to bring God's unchanging Word to changing and often sinful human cultures
- This will involve clearly defining sin for the people of that culture (see Paul's lists of sins)
- This will involve a 'prophetic critique' of the sinful attitudes, actions, and unjust systems in that society
- Thus many of the missionaries in the Bible were also classified as prophets!



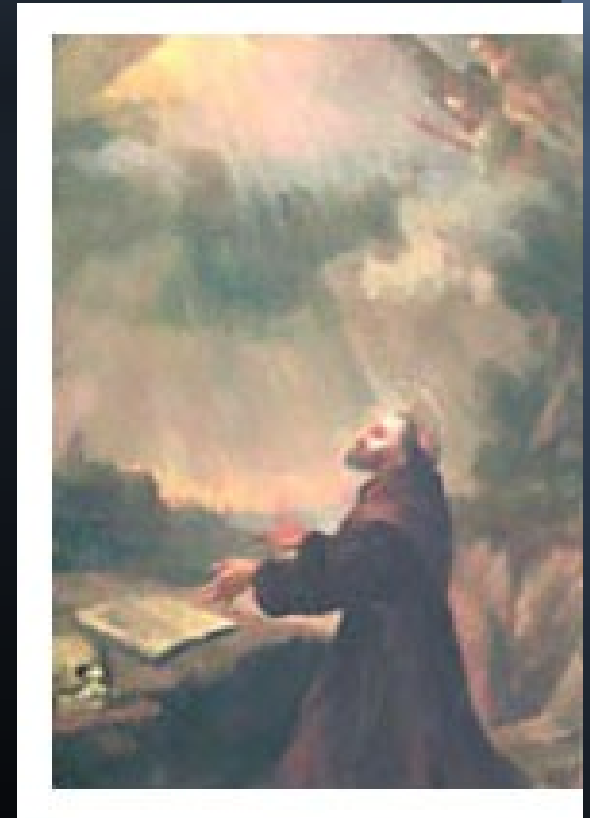
Some Missionary Prophets

- Elijah
- Elisha
- Jonah
- Ezekiel
- Daniel
- Barnabas (Acts 13:1)
- Silas (Acts 15:32)



Jonah – Missionary To Nineveh

- Sovereignly Called
- Rebelled & Chastised
- Repented
- Preached
- City-Wide Revival
- Mercy From God
- The Significance Of Sinners



Lessons From Jonah

- A universal God
- A sovereign Providence
- A merciful God
- A universal faith
- A 'non-religious' faith
- Repentance and obedience as the key objectives of mission

