

Genesis: The Book of Beginnings

Focus	Four Great Events								Four Great Persons				
Divisions	1	2	3	4	5	9	10	11	12	25:19	27	37:2b	50
	Creation		Fall		Flood		Nations (Babel)		Abraham	Isaac	Jacob	Joseph	
Topics	Primeval History of Humanity								Patriarchal History of Israel				
	Beginning of the Human Race								Beginning of the Hebrew Race				
Locations	East (Eden to Ur)								West (Canaan to Egypt)				
Time	2,000 + years (20% of Genesis)								About 286 years (80% of Genesis)				

Author: Moses

Date written: after 1445 BC

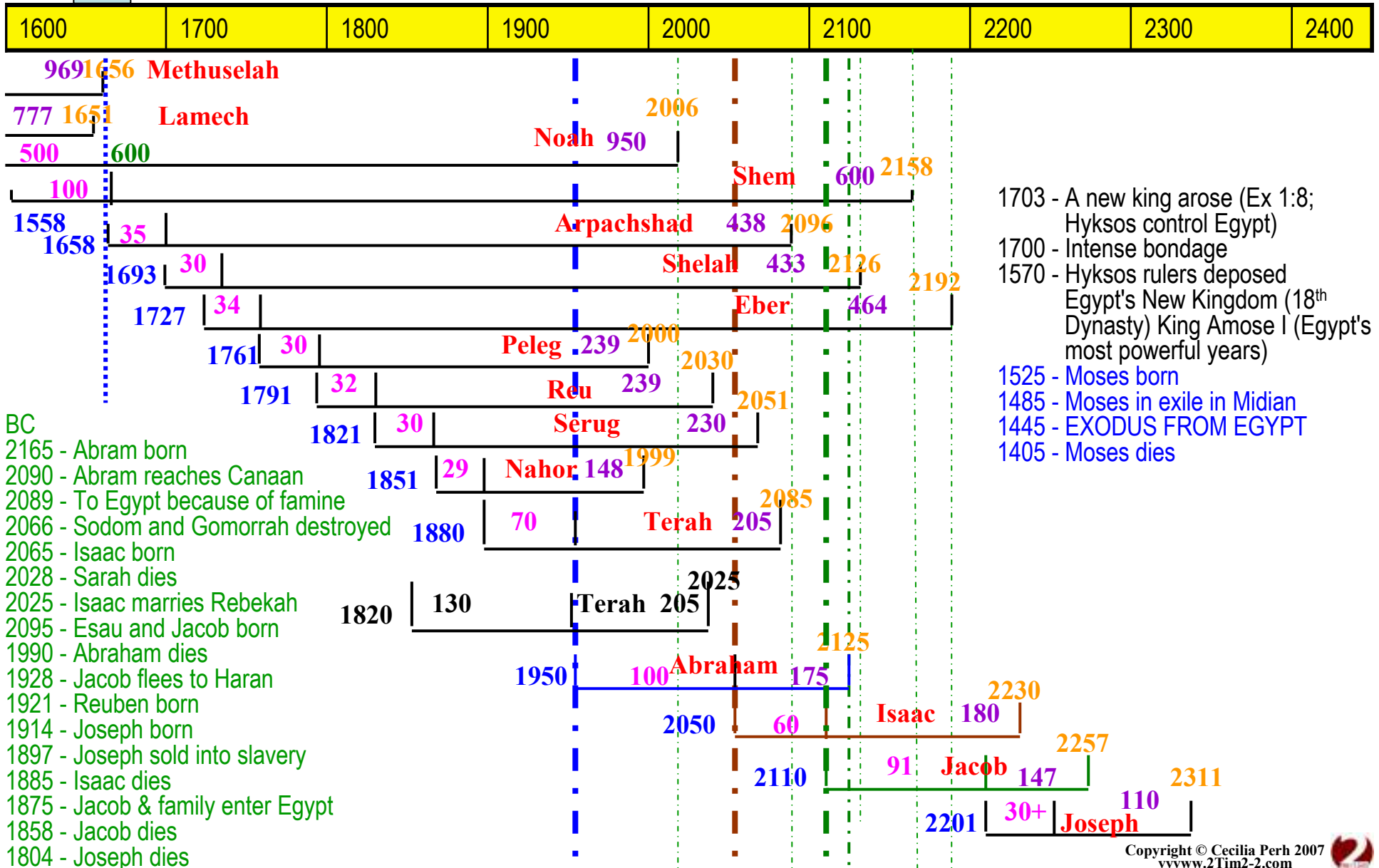
Theme: Israel's Origin & Early Years

Purposes: 1) to present the beginning of everything but God
 2) to record God's choice of Israel & His covenant plan for the nation
 3) to show how the sin of man is met by the redemption of God



Flood

The Generations of Shem and Terah (Genesis 11)



The Book of Genesis

1:1-2:3 – The Creation of the Heavens and the Earth

2:4-4:26 – The Generations of the Heavens and the Earth

5:1-6:8 – The Generations of Adam

6:9-9:29 – The Generations of Noah

10:1-11:9 – The Generations of Shem, Ham and Japheth

11:10-26 – The Generations of Shem

11:27-25:11 – The Generations of Terah

25:12-18 – The Generations of Ishmael

25:19-35:29 – The Generations of Isaac

36:1-43 – The Generations of Esau

37:1-50:26 – The Generations of Jacob



Genesis 22:1-19 – The Testing of Abraham



- ¹ Now it came about after these things, that **God tested Abraham**, and said to him, “**Abraham!**” And he said, “**Here I am.**”
- ² And He said, “**Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah; and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you.**”



Gill on Genesis 22:1

Gen 22:1 - And it came to pass after these things,.... according to ... **Aben Ezra** on Gen 22:4; makes mention of; but that is an age when it can hardly be thought he should be able to carry such a load of wood as was sufficient to make a fire to consume a burnt offering, Gen 22:6; the age of thirteen, which he fixes upon, is more likely: Josephus (c) says, that Isaac was twenty five years of age; and in this year of his age Bishop Usher (d) places this transaction, twenty years after the weaning of him, in A. M. 2133, and before Christ 1871; and near to this is the computation of a Jewish chronologer (e), who makes Isaac to be at this time twenty six years of age; but some make him much older: according to the Targum of Jonathan, he was at this time thirty six years old; and it is the more generally received opinion of the Jewish writers (f) that he was and with whom the Arabic writers (g) agree: so that this affair, after related, was thirty years after the weaning of Isaac and the expulsion of Ishmael, supposing Isaac to be then five years old. But, however this be, what came to pass was after many promises of a son had been given him, and those fulfilled; and after many blessings had been bestowed upon him; and when he seemed to be well settled in the land of the Philistines, having entered into an alliance with the king of the country; his family in peace, and his son Isaac, the son of the promise, grown up and a hopeful youth; the first appearance of which seemed to threaten the destruction of all his comforts, hopes, and expectations; and it was so:



Gill on Genesis 22:1

- **that God did tempt Abraham;** not to sin, as Satan does, for God tempts no man, nor can he be tempted in this sense; and, had Abraham slain his son, it would have been no sin in him, it being by the order of God, who is the Lord of life, and the sovereign disposer of it; but he tempted him, that is, he tried him, to prove him, and to know his faith in him, his fear of him, his love to him, and cheerful obedience to his commands; not in order to know these himself, which he was not ignorant of, but to make them known to others, and that Abraham's faith might be strengthened yet more and more, as in the issue it was. The Jewish writers observe, that Abraham was tempted ten times, and that this was the tenth and last temptation:
- **and said unto him, Abraham:** calling him by his name he well knew, and by that name he had given him, to signify that he should be the father of many nations, Gen_17:5; and yet was going to require of him to slay his only son, and offer him a sacrifice to him:
- **and he said, behold, here I am;** signifying that he heard his voice, and was ready to obey his commands, be they what they would.



Gill on Genesis 22:2

upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of; for there were several of them adjoining to, or pretty near each other, which afterwards went by different names, as Mount Sion, Deu 4:48; the hill Acra; Mount Calvary, Luk 23:33; and Mount Moriah, 2Ch 3:1; supposed to be the mount intended; and so Aben Ezra says it was the place where the temple was built, and where was the threshing floor of Araunah, 2Ch 3:1.



Genesis 22:1-19 – The Testing of Abraham



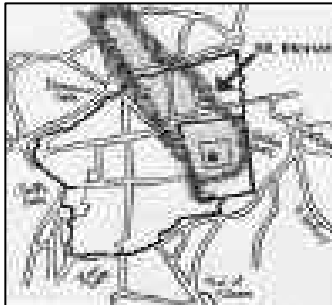
³ **So** Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ **On the third day** Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, **“Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go yonder; and we will worship and return to you.”**



⁶ And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. **So** the two of them walked on together.

⁷ And Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, **“My father!”** And he said, **“Here I am, my son.”** And he said, **“Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”**

⁸ And Abraham said, **“God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.”** **So** the two of them walked on together.



Mount Zion, Jerusalem, from the Hill of Evil Counsel Engraved by J. Redaway after a picture by W. H. Bartlett, published in *The Christian in Palestine*, about 1847. Steel engraved print with recent hand color.



Romans 4:16-22

¹⁶ **For this reason** *it is* by faith, that *it might be* in accordance with grace, **in order that** the promise may be certain to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, **but** also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ (as it is written, “A father of many nations have I made you”) in the sight of **Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist.** ¹⁸ In hope against hope he believed, **in order that** he might become a father of many nations, according to that which had been spoken, “**So shall your descendants be.**” ¹⁹ And without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; ²⁰ **yet,** with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief, but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹ and being fully assured that what He had promised, He was able also to perform. ²² **Therefore** also it was reckoned to him as righteousness.



Hebrews 11:17-19

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac; and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; ¹⁸ *it was he* to whom it was said, “In Isaac your descendants shall be called.”

¹⁹ He considered that God is able to raise *men* even from the dead; from which he also received him back as a type.

Genesis 22:4-5 – Abraham’s Certainty of Isaac’s Resurrection

⁴ **On the third day** Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, “**Stay here with the donkey, and I and the lad will go yonder; and we will worship and return to you.**”



Genesis 22:1-19 – The Testing of Abraham

⁹ Then they came to the place
of which God had told him;
and Abraham built the altar there,
and arranged the wood,
and bound his son Isaac,
and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.

¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand,
and took the knife to slay his son.

¹¹ **But** the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven,
and said, “**Abraham, Abraham!**” And he said, “**Here I
am.**” ¹² And he said, “**Do not stretch out your hand
against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know
that you fear God, since you have not withheld your
son, your only son, from Me.**”



Genesis 22:1-19 – The Testing of Abraham

¹³ Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and **behold, behind *him* a ram caught in the thicket by his horns**; and **Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.** ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of that place **The LORD Will Provide**, as it is said to this day, **“In the mount of the LORD it will be provided.”**



¹⁵ Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶ and said, **“By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸ And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”**



Brad Strand - It is interesting to note that up until around 400 years ago those who refused to believe the Bible laughed at such verses as Genesis 22:17. They mocked the very idea that the stars in the universe could be as “innumerable” as the sands upon the seashore. **In fact, up until the invention of the telescope in Holland by Hans Lippershey in 1608 and Galileo’s improved design in 1610 only around 2,500 stars could be seen with the naked eye.** Then came Palomar’s telescope with its 500 tons of glass and steel and its 200-inch optical eye unblinking into the vastness of space. **Now billions upon countless billions of stars could be seen! Within our very own Milky Way galaxy there are estimated to be more than 100 billion stars.** Palomar’s telescope has discovered at least 200 million more galaxies outside our own with at least 100 billion stars in each of them, totaling over twenty-quintrillion stars. However, just recently the radio telescope, which makes use of radio waves as a means of studying the universe, has been invented placing Palomar’s figures much too low. **The most distant galaxies we can now see are 10-12 billion light-years away.** In fact, at this point in our history and technology we can see no further. **Thus, we are surrounded by a “horizon” that we cannot look beyond – a horizon set by the distant that light can travel (i.e., 186,000 mps) over the age of the universe.** **According to the elitist astronomers, the horizon describes the visible universe – a region some 28 billion light-years in diameter.** And there is every reason to think that the universe extends a long way beyond the part of the universe we can see. In fact, a variety of observations suggest that **our visible patch may be a small fraction – maybe an infinitely small fraction – of the whole universe.** **It has now been estimated by scientists that “there are as many stars in the heavens as there are grains of sand upon our seashores.”** **Nice of humanity to finally catch up with the Word of God, eh!**



Hebrews 6:11-20

The Call to Spiritual Maturity (6:1-12)

¹¹ And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence **so as** to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹² **that** you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

The Cornerstone of Spiritual Security (6:13-20)

¹³ **For** when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, ¹⁴ saying, “**I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply you.**” ¹⁵ **And thus**, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

God's Promise to Abraham (6:13-15)

¹⁶ **For** men swear by one greater *than themselves*, and with them an oath *given* as confirmation is an end of every dispute. ¹⁷ In the same way **God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,** ¹⁸ **in order that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie,** we may have strong encouragement, we who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us.

God's Oath to Abraham (6:16-18)

¹⁹ This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, ²⁰ where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

God's Son who Entered the Veil (6:19-20)



¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to **Beersheba**; and Abraham lived at **Beersheba**.

In First Testament times, the only good north-south road through the central mountain range passed through or near **Shechem**, Bethel, **Jerusalem**, **Bethlehem** and **Hebron** – and then it divided. One branch went southeast toward **Arad**, the other southwest toward "the well of the oath," in Hebrew "**Beer** (well) **sheva** (oath)." This well lay at the point where the starkest part of the **Negev** desert begins, that is, where the rainfall drops to below eight inches annually. In Biblical parlance, here was the southern extreme of Israelite land: "from **Dan** to Beersheba." (Judges 20:1. **2 Samuel 24:2, 15**.)

The well was a place for taking oaths. The Bible remembers two. The first, between Abraham and **Abimelech**, plays not only on the word **sheva** as "oath," but also on **sheva** as the number seven. The **second oath** was sworn between Isaac and the same Abimelech.

The well occupied a junction. While marking the southwest extreme of the Shechem-Hebron road where the desert starts, it also lay in an east-west basin formed by riverbeds. Along this basin, to the west, stand today the tells of the Negev cities from the **Middle Bronze** period and **the Iron Age (I and II)**. South of this basin, the desert becomes wider, drier and more mountainous. One day's journey into it was almost too much for **Elijah**.





"Abraham's well" in Beersheba

Engraving by WM Thomson, 1880

Note the marks left by ropes in the mouth of the well

Genesis 22:20-24 – Nahor’s Descendants

20 Now it came about after these things, that

it was told Abraham, saying, “Behold,

= queen
Milcah also has borne children to your

brother Nahor: ^{= snorting} 21 **Uz** ^{= wooded} his first-born and ^{= contempt} **Buz**
= raised of God

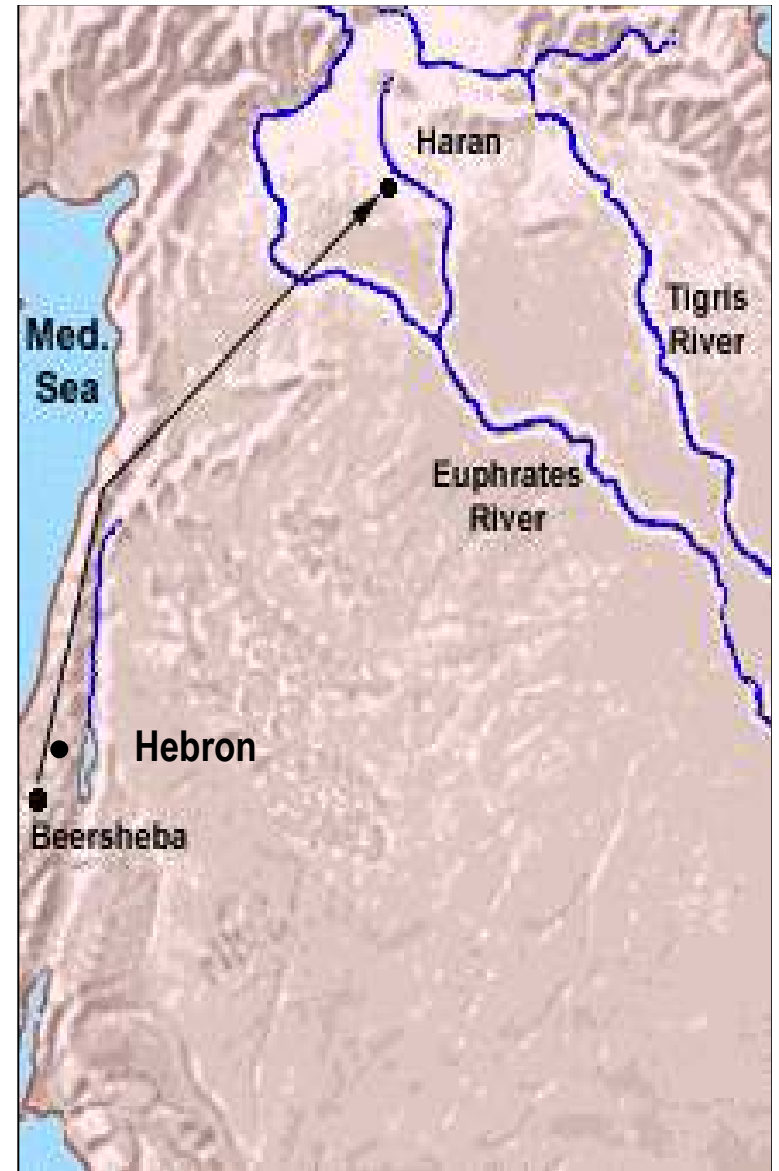
his brother and ^{= exalted} **Kemuel** the father of Aram

22 and ^{= increase} **Chesed** and ^{= vision} **Hazo** and ^{= flame of fire} **Pildash** and
^{= weeping} **Jidlaph** and ^{= God destroys, or man of God or dweller in God} **Bethuel**.” 23 And **Bethuel**

= ensnarer
became the father of **Rebekah**: these eight

Milcah bore to Nahor, Abraham's brother.

24 And his concubine, whose name was ^{= elevated} **Reumah**, also bore ^{= a slaughter} **Tebah** and
^{= burning} **Gaham** and ^{= dugong} **Tahash** and ^{= oppression} **Maacah**.



Genesis 23 – The Purchase of a Burial Place for Sarah

ca. 2028 b.c.

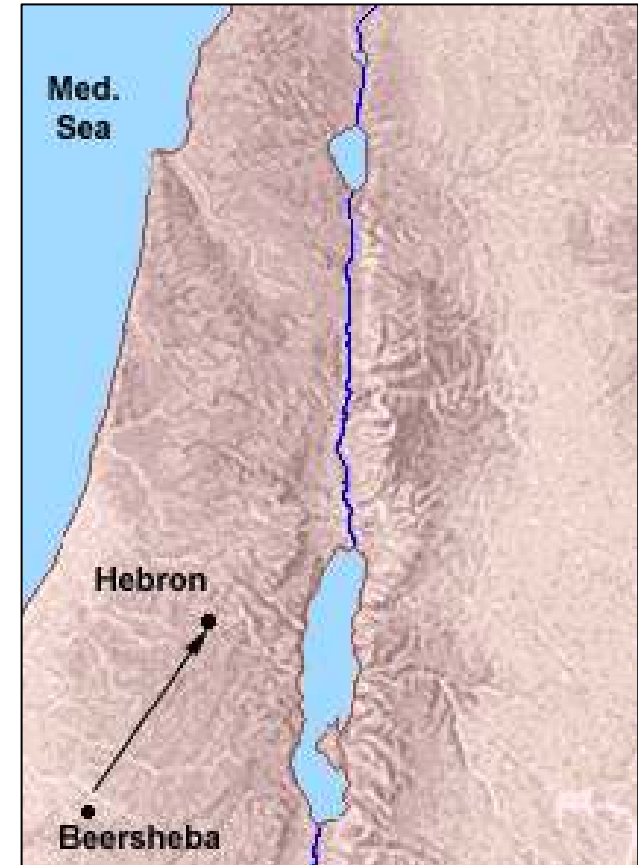
v1-2 The Death of Sarah

¹ Now Sarah lived one hundred and twenty-seven years; *these were* the years of the life of Sarah.

² And Sarah died in Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan; and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her.

v3-8 The Request of Abraham

³ Then Abraham rose from before his dead, and spoke to the sons of Heth, saying, ⁴ **“I am a stranger and a sojourner among you; give me a burial site among you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight.”**



Abraham and Isaac bury Sarah in Hebron

A distinctively large grove of trees owned by Mamre the Amorite (14:13) located ca. 19 mi. SW of Jerusalem at Hebron whose elevation exceeds 3,000 feet. (John F. MacArthur, Jr)

Genesis 23 – The Purchase of a Burial Place for Sarah

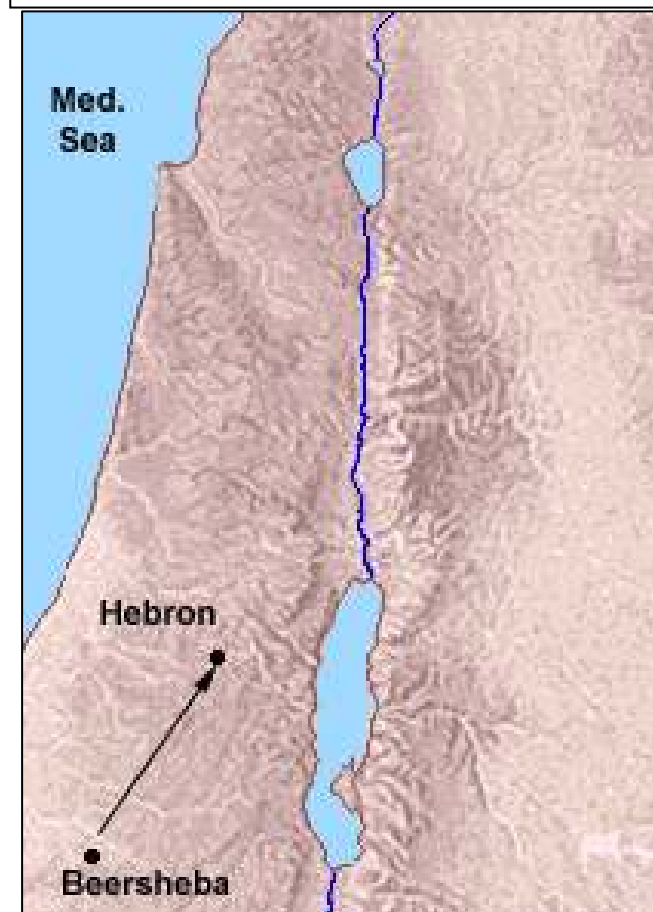
ca. 2028 b.c.

v3-8 The Request of Abraham

⁵ And the sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, ⁶ “Hear us, my lord, you are a mighty prince among us; bury your dead in the choicest of our graves; none of us will refuse you his grave for burying your dead.”

⁷ So Abraham rose and bowed to the people of the land, the sons of Heth. ⁸ And he spoke with them, saying, “If it is your wish *for me to bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and approach Ephron the son of Zohar for me,* ⁹ that he may give me the cave of Machpelah which he owns, which is at the end of his field; for the full price let him give it to me in your presence for a burial site.”

A distinctively large grove of trees owned by Mamre the Amorite (14:13) located ca. 19 mi. SW of Jerusalem at Hebron whose elevation exceeds 3,000 feet. built an altar. (John F. MacArthur, Jr)



Abraham and Isaac bury Sarah in Hebron

The Cave of Machpelah is the world's most ancient Jewish site and the second holiest place for the Jewish people, after [Temple Mount](#) in [Jerusalem](#). The cave and the adjoining field were purchased — at full market price — by [Abraham](#) some 3700 years ago. [Abraham](#), [Isaac](#), [Jacob](#), [Sarah](#), [Rebecca](#), and [Leah](#) are all later buried in the same Cave of Machpelah. These are considered the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Jewish people. The only one who is missing is [Rachel](#), who was buried near [Bethlehem](#) where she died in childbirth.

The double cave, a mystery of thousands of years, was uncovered several years ago beneath the massive building, revealing artifacts from the Early Israelite Period (some 30 centuries ago). The structure was built during the [Second Temple Period](#) (about 2,000 years ago) by [Herod](#), King of Judea, providing a place for gatherings and Jewish prayers at the graves of the Patriarchs.



This uniquely impressive building is the only one that stands intact and still fulfills its original function after thousands of years. Foreign conquerors and invaders used the site for their own purposes, depending on their religious orientation: the [Byzantines](#) and [Crusaders](#) transformed it into a church and the [Muslims](#) rendered it a mosque. About 700 years ago, the Muslim [Mamelukes](#) conquered Hebron, declared the structure a mosque and forbade entry to Jews, who were not allowed past the seventh step on a staircase outside the building.



Upon the liberation of [Hebron](#) in 1967, the Chief Rabbi of the [Israel Defense Forces](#), the late Major-General Rabbi Shlomo Goren, was the first Jew to enter the Cave of Machpelah. Since then, Jews have been struggling to regain their prayer rights at the site, still run by the Muslim Waqf (Religious Trust) that took control during the Arab conquest. Many restrictions are imposed on Jewish prayers and customs at the Tomb of the Patriarchs despite the site's significance, primacy and sanctity in Jewish heritage and history.

Over 300,000 people visit Ma'arat HaMachpelah annually. The structure is divided into three rooms: Ohel Avraham, Ohel Yitzhak, and Ohel Ya'akov. Presently Jews have no access to Ohel Yitzhak, the largest room, with the exception of 10 days a year.





Machpelah Interior

The cenotaphs of Abraham and Sarah were added after the city moved to surround this complex in 8th c. A.D.

All the cenotaphs were in their present position by the 10th c. A.D.

The Mamluks gave the cenotaphs of Jacob and Leah their present form in the 14th c.

Cenotaph of Isaac

Three major rooms make up the Machpelah. In the center are Abraham and Sarah. On the east side are Isaac and Rebekah; the Jewish people are allowed to visit here only ten days a year. On the west side are the cenotaphs of Jacob and Leah. Rachel was buried near Bethlehem.

The pulpit (minbar) was made in 1091 for a mosque in Ashkelon and donated by Saladin in 1191.



v10-16 The Price

¹⁰ Now Ephron was sitting among the sons of Heth; and Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the sons of Heth; *even* of all who went in at the gate of his city, saying, ¹¹ **“No, my lord, hear me; I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it. In the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you; bury your dead.”**

¹² And Abraham bowed before the people of the land. ¹³ And he spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the land, saying, **“If you will only please listen to me; I will give the price of the field, accept *it* from me, that I may bury my dead there.”**

¹⁴ Then Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, ¹⁵ **“My lord, listen to me; a piece of land worth four hundred shekels of silver, what is that between me and you? So bury your dead.”**

¹⁶ And Abraham listened to Ephron; and Abraham weighed out for Ephron the silver which he had named in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred shekels of silver, commercial standard.



Genesis 23 – The Purchase of a Burial Place for Sarah

ca. 2028 b.c.

v17-20 The Purchase

17 So Ephron's field, which was in Machpelah, which faced Mamre, the field and cave which was in it, and all the trees which were in the field, that were within all the confines of its border, were deeded over ¹⁸ to Abraham for a possession in the presence of the sons of Heth, before all who went in at the gate of his city.

19 And after this, Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field at Machpelah facing Mamre (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan. **20** So the field, and the cave that is in it, were deeded over to Abraham for a burial site by the sons of Heth.



english.aljazeera.net/.../8/7/1_225858

[1_5.jpg](#) - Tues, Aug 7, 2007

Israel evicts Hebron settlers

Israeli security forces have removed about two dozen Jewish settlers and supporters from two Palestinian properties they took over last year in an abandoned Palestinian market in the West Bank city of Hebron.

Hundreds of Israeli border guards moved in at dawn on Tuesday to evict the settlers from the buildings they had been occupying.

A police spokesman said 14 police officers and 12 settlers were injured during scuffles, with settlers throwing stones and showering soldiers with urine.

Five people were arrested during the operation, police said.

Settler leaders said the eviction was a criminal act and insisted that their protest was peaceful.

"This is a crime against justice and against Jewish history," said Noam Arnon, a spokesman for the Hebron settlers.

"I am sure we will return. Hebron has a long history and we will return."



Israeli settlers had barricaded themselves into buildings in Hebron [Reuters]



english.aljazeera.net/.../8/7/1_225858_1_5.jpg - Tues, Aug 7, 2007

Settlers as victims?

Jacky Rowland, Al Jazeera's Jerusalem correspondent, said: "The settlers are defying the authorities and they are keen to portray themselves as the victims. "Within a matter of weeks, the settlers will probably find a way to reoccupy the houses."

The two settler families that took over the structures said they were once owned by Jews.

About 650 Israelis live illegally in heavily guarded enclaves in Hebron, home to about 180,000 Palestinians, and have long sought to expand the Jewish presence in the biblical city.

Settlers in Hebron are among the most militant in the West Bank, territory Israel has occupied since the 1967 Middle East war.

Soldiers sentenced

The Israeli army said on Monday it sentenced several soldiers to one month's imprisonment for refusing to take part in the forced removal of the settlers.



english.aljazeera.net/.../8/7/1_225858 _1_5.jpg - Tues, Aug 7, 2007

"Of the dozen soldiers - 10 ordinary ranks and two officers - tried for 'refusing to obey orders', several were sentenced to four weeks in military prison," a military spokesman said.

The soldiers, most of them religious, told their commanding officers that they would refuse to join in the operation to evacuate the Hebron market, an army spokesman said.

"A number of soldiers from the Kfir regiment training base protested before their commanders this (Monday) morning over the task they had been given," the army said.

General Gadi Shamni, the head of the central army command, ordered the court martial of "two company commanders and some 10 soldiers, who will be removed from their unit", the army said in another statement.

Zvi Handel, an ultra-nationalist opposition legislator, expressed support for the insubordinate soldiers.

"I am proud that we have soldiers who think before obeying illegal orders and refuse to be part of a political game," he said.



BREAK TIME



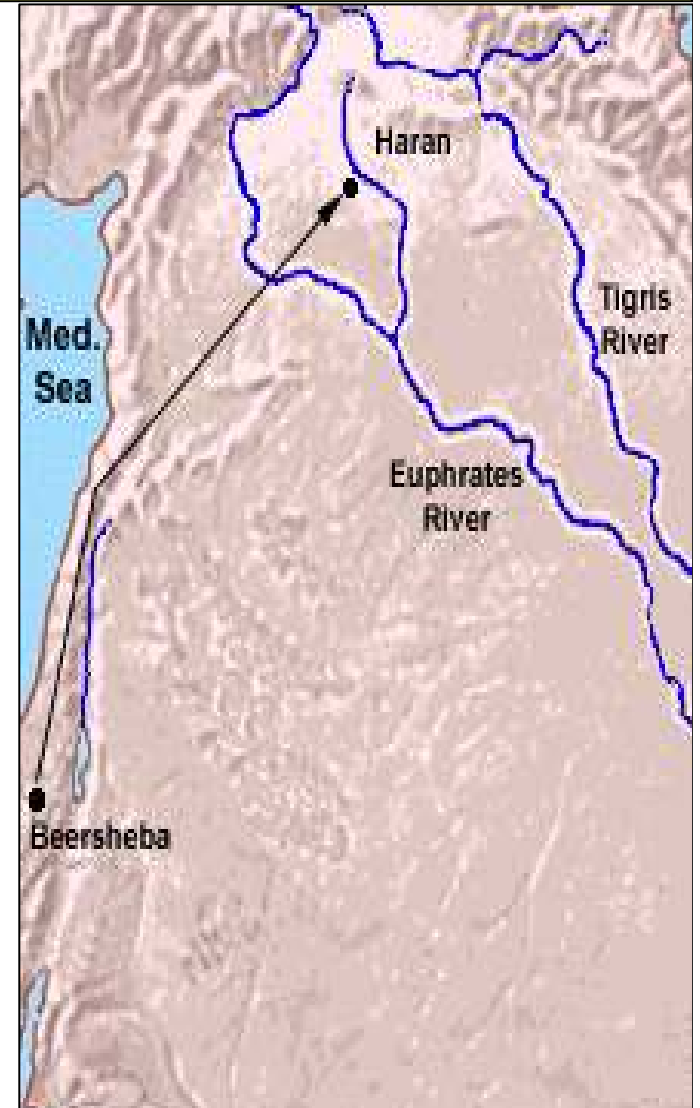
Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

v1-9 - The Servant Sent

¹ Now Abraham was old, advanced in age; and the LORD had blessed Abraham in every way. ² And Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he owned, “Please place your hand under my thigh, ³ and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, ⁴ but you shall go to my country and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”

⁵ And the servant said to him, “Suppose the woman will not be willing to follow me to this land; should I take your son back to the land from where you came?”

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old



Abraham sends his servant to Haran



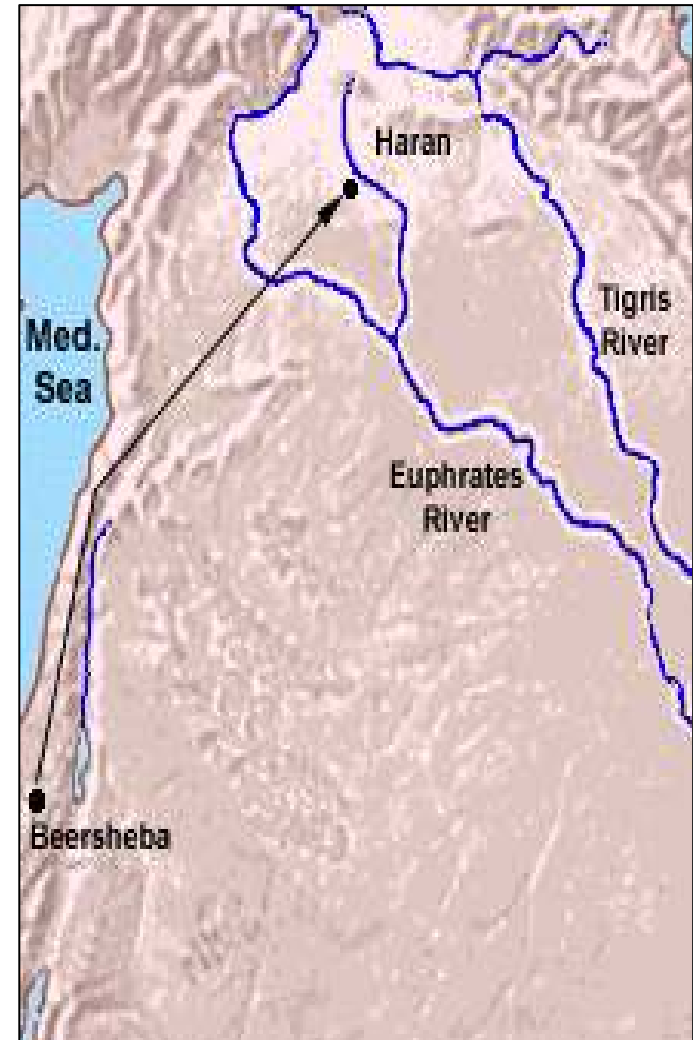
Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v1-9 - The Servant Sent

6 Then Abraham said to him, “Beware lest you take my son back there! **7** The LORD, the God of heaven, who took me from my father's house and from the land of my birth, and who spoke to me, and who swore to me, saying, ‘**To your descendants I will give this land,**’ He will send His angel before you, and you will take a wife for my son from there. **8** **But** if the woman is not willing to follow you, then you will be free from this my oath; only do not take my son back there.”

9 **So** the servant placed his hand under the thigh of Abraham his master, and swore to him concerning this matter.



Abraham sends his servant to Haran



Brad Strand on Genesis 24:4

The Genesis 24 account of what led up to the marriage of Isaac and Rebekah offers us a beautiful example of how **GOD THE FATHER** can lead two people together. The Scriptures offer proven principles that apply to both young and old, first-time marriages, or even second marriages. These five principles, if followed, can direct a person to the right partner for life:

1) Learn to date only Christians (i.e., people who agree with you spiritually - Gen 24:1-4; I Cor 7:39 & II Cor 6:14-18),

2) Learn to be content with your singleness (See Phil 4:10-13) until the **FATHER** (i.e., the LORD God - vs 7) decides otherwise (See Gen 24:5-7 & Prov 19:14),

3) Learn to date Christians who possess character (See - Gen 24:10-14 & Prov 31:30). Marriage is not so much finding the right person as it is being the right person (See - Heb 13:4),

4) Learn to date Christians who understand commitment (See Gen 24:50-58 & Mt 19:3-8). No vow (i.e., marriage vow) is foolish if kept (See Eccl 5:1-6). Divorce should never be an option,

5) Learn to date Christians who understand God's kind of love (See Gen 24:67; II Jn 1:6). God's kind of love is not "puppy love." The problem with "puppy love" is that it often leads to a dog's life.



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac v10-14 - The Servant's Prayer

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

¹⁰ Then the servant took ten camels from the camels of his master, and set out with a variety of good things of his master's in his hand; and he arose, and went to Mesopotamia, to the city of Nahor. ¹¹ And he made the camels kneel down outside the city by the well of water at evening time, the time when women go out to draw water. ¹² And he said, “**O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, please grant me success today, and show lovingkindness to my master Abraham.** ¹³ **Behold**, I am standing by the spring, and the daughters of the men of the city are coming out to draw water; ¹⁴ now may it be that the girl to whom I say, ‘Please let down your jar **so that I may drink,**’ and who answers, ‘Drink, and I will water your camels also’; - *may she be the one whom Thou hast appointed for Thy servant Isaac; and by this I shall know that Thou hast shown lovingkindness to my master.*”



Camels can actually drink up to 32 gallons (146 liters) of water at one time. But they don't often do that unless they have gone without water for a very long time.

During cooler months, camels can sometimes go 6 months without drinking water. In very hot weather, they may go a week or more. When camels finally do drink, they may take in enormous amounts of water. When the weather is hot, a camel may drink as much as 35 gallons in as little as six minutes. A really thirsty camel may drink more than 50 gallons in one day.



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

v15-27 - The Prayer Answered

¹⁵ And it came about before he had finished speaking, that behold, **Rebekah** who was born to Bethuel the son of Milcah, the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor, came out with her jar on her shoulder. ¹⁶ And the girl was very beautiful, a virgin, and no man had had relations with her; and she went down to the spring and filled her jar, and came up. ¹⁷ Then the servant ran to meet her, and said, **“Please let me drink a little water from your jar.”** ¹⁸ And she said, **“Drink, my lord”**; and she quickly lowered her jar to her hand, and gave him a drink. ¹⁹ Now when she had finished giving him a drink, she said, **“I will draw also for your camels until they have finished drinking.”** ²⁰ **So** she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, and ran back to the well to draw, and she drew for all his camels.

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old



Rebekah = ensnarer



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

²¹ Meanwhile, the man was gazing at her in silence, to know whether the LORD had made his journey successful or not. ²² Then it came about, when the camels had finished drinking, that the man took a gold ring weighing a half-shekel and two bracelets for her wrists weighing ten shekels in gold, ²³ and said, “Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room for us to lodge in your father's house?”

²⁴ And she said to him, “I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.” ²⁵ Again she said to him, “We have plenty of both straw and feed, and room to lodge in.”

²⁶ Then the man bowed low and worshiped the LORD. ²⁷ And he said, “Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not forsaken His lovingkindness and His truth toward my master; as for me, the LORD has guided me in the way to the house of my master's brothers.”



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v28-32 – The Servant Welcomed

28 Then the girl ran and told her mother's household about these things.

Laban = white

29 Now Rebekah had a brother whose name was Laban; and Laban ran outside to the man at the spring. **30** And it came about that when he saw the ring, and the bracelets on his sister's wrists, and when he heard the words of Rebekah his sister, saying, **“This is what the man said to me,”** he went to the man; and behold, he was standing by the camels at the spring. **31** And he said, **“Come in, blessed of the LORD! Why do you stand outside since I have prepared the house, and a place for the camels?”**

32 **So** the man entered the house. Then Laban unloaded the camels, and he gave straw and feed to the camels, and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him.



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v33-49 – The Servant's Story

³³ **But** when *food* was set before him to eat, he said, “I will not eat until I have told my business.” And he said, “**Speak on.**”

³⁴ So he said, “I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ And the LORD has greatly blessed my master, so that he has become rich; and He has given him flocks and herds, and silver and gold, and servants and maids, and camels and donkeys. ³⁶ Now Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master in her old age; and he has given him all that he has. ³⁷ And my master made me swear, saying, ‘You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; ³⁸ **but** you shall go to my father's house, and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son.’ ³⁹ And I said to my master, ‘Suppose the woman does not follow me.’ ⁴⁰ And he said to me, ‘The LORD, before whom I have walked, will send His angel with you to make your journey successful, and you will take a wife for my son from my relatives, and from my father's house; ⁴¹ then you will be free from my oath, when you come to my relatives; and if they do not give her to you, you will be free from my oath.’



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v33-49 – The Servant's Story

⁴² “**So** I came today to the spring, and said, ‘O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now Thou wilt make my journey on which I go successful; ⁴³ **behold**, I am standing by the spring, and may it be that the maiden who comes out to draw, and to whom I say, “Please let me drink a little water from your jar”; ⁴⁴ and she will say to me, “You drink, and I will draw for your camels also”; let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.’ ⁴⁵ Before I had finished speaking in my heart, behold, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder, and went down to the spring and drew; and I said to her, ‘Please let me drink.’ ⁴⁶ And she quickly lowered her jar from her *shoulder*, and said, ‘**Drink, and I will water your camels also**’; **so** I drank, and she watered the camels also.

⁴⁷ “Then I asked her, and said, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ And she said, ‘**The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him**’; and I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her wrists. ⁴⁸ And I bowed low and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had guided me in the right way to take the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. ⁴⁹ **So** now if you are going to deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, let me know, that I may turn to the right hand or the left.”



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v50-61 – The Servant Returns with the Bride!

⁵⁰ Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, “The matter comes from the LORD; so we cannot speak to you bad or good. ⁵¹ Behold, Rebekah is before you, take *her* and go, and let her be the wife of your master's son, as the LORD has spoken.”

⁵² And it came about when Abraham's servant heard their words, that he bowed himself to the ground before the LORD. ⁵³ And the servant brought out articles of silver and articles of gold, and garments, and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave precious things to her brother and to her mother. ⁵⁴ Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night.

When they arose in the morning, he said, “Send me away to my master.”

⁵⁵ But her brother and her mother said, “Let the girl stay with us a few days, say ten; afterward she may go.”

⁵⁶ And he said to them, “Do not delay me, since the LORD has prospered my way. Send me away that I may go to my master.”



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v50-61 – The Servant Returns with the Bride!

⁵⁷ And they said, **“We will call the girl and consult her wishes.”**

⁵⁸ Then they called Rebekah and said to her, **“Will you go with this man?”**

And she said, **“I will go.”**

⁵⁹ **Thus** they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse with Abraham's servant and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

**“May you, our sister,
Become thousands of ten thousands,
And may your descendants possess
The gate of those who hate them.”**

⁶¹ Then Rebekah arose with her maids, and they mounted the camels and followed the man. **So** the servant took Rebekah and departed.



Genesis 24 – Looking for a Bride for Isaac

ca. 2025 b.c. (3 years after Sarah's death), Abraham about 140 years old

v62-67 – Rebekah Meets Isaac

⁶² Now Isaac had come from going to Beer-lahai-roi; **for** he was living in the Negev.

⁶³ And Isaac went out to meditate in the field toward evening; and he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, camels were coming.

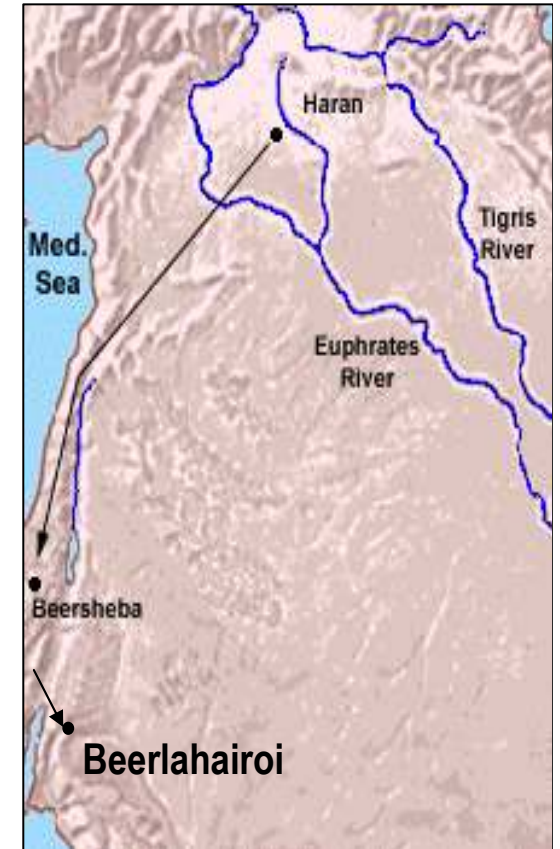
⁶⁴ And Rebekah lifted up her eyes, and when she saw Isaac she dismounted from the camel. ⁶⁵ And she said to the servant, **“Who is that man walking in the field to meet us?”**

And the servant said, **“He is my master.”**

Then she took her veil and covered herself.

⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.

⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and he took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her; thus Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.



*Abraham's servant brings
Rebekah to Isaac in
Beerlahairoi*



Genesis 25:1-6 – The Sons of Abraham & Keturah

= incense

¹ Now Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah.

² And she bore to him Zimran and Jokshan and Medan and Midian and Ishbak and Shuah.
= musician = snarer = contention = strife
= he releases = wealth

³ And Jokshan became the father of Sheba and Dedan.
= “seven” or “an oath” = low country

And the sons of Dedan were Asshurim and Letushim and Leummim.
= guided: blessed = hammered = peoples

⁴ And the sons of Midian were Ephah and Epher and Hanoch and Abida and Eldaah.
= gloomy = a calf = dedicated = my father
= God has known

All these were the sons of Keturah.

⁵ Now Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac; ⁶ but to the sons of his concubines, Abraham gave gifts while he was still living, and sent them away from his son Isaac eastward, to the land of the east.



Genesis 25:7-11 – The Death of Abraham

The death of Abraham (175 years)
(This event took place when Isaac was 75 & Jacob and Esau were 15 years old)

ca. 1990 b.c.

⁷ And these are all the years of Abraham's life that he lived, one hundred and seventy-five years. ⁸ And Abraham breathed his last and died in a ripe old age, an old man and satisfied *with life*; and he was gathered to his people.

⁹ Then his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, facing Mamre, ¹⁰ the field which Abraham purchased from the sons of Heth; there Abraham was buried with Sarah his wife. ¹¹ And it came about after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac; and Isaac lived by Beer-lahai-roi.

= he laughs = God will hear

= "double" or "portion"

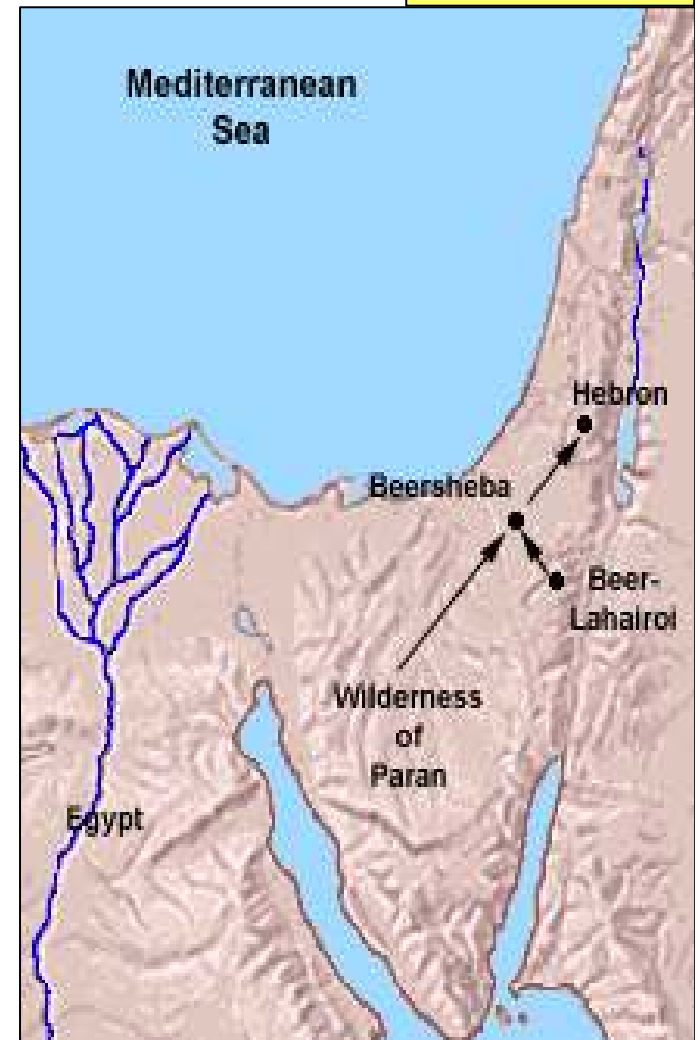
= fawn-like = tawny = descendant of Heth

= "strength" or "fatness"

= terror = father of a multitude

= noblewoman

= well of the living one who sees (s. Gen 16:14)



**Isaac and Ishmael bury Abraham
in Hebron**



Genesis 25:12-18 – The Generations of Ishmael

¹² Now these are *the records* of the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's maid, bore to Abraham; ¹³ and these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the first-born of Ishmael, and Kedar and Adbeel and Mibsam ¹⁴ and Mishma and Dumah and Massa, ¹⁵ Hadad and Tema, Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah. ¹⁶ These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages, and by their camps; twelve princes according to their tribes.

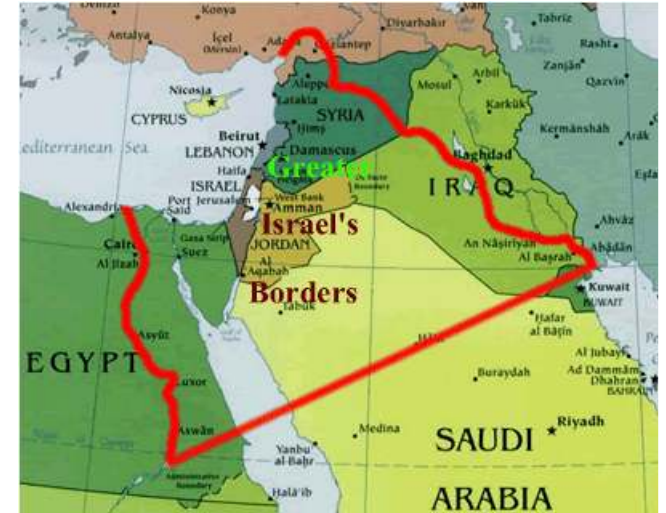
ca. 2079-1942 B.C.

¹⁷ And these are the years of the life of Ishmael, one hundred and thirty-seven years; and he breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people. ¹⁸ And they settled from Havilah to Shur which is east of Egypt as one goes toward Assyria; he settled in defiance of all his relatives.



Isaiah 60:1-8 – The Glorified Zion

- 1 "Arise, shine; **for** your light has come,
And the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- 2 "**For behold**, darkness will cover the earth,
And deep darkness the peoples;
But the LORD will rise upon you,
And His glory will appear upon you.
- 3 "And nations will come to your light,
And kings to the brightness of your rising.
- 4 "Lift up your eyes round about, and see;
They all gather together, they come to you.
Your sons will come from afar,
And your daughters will be carried in the arms.
- 5 "Then you will see and be radiant,
And your heart will thrill and rejoice;
Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you,
The wealth of the nations will come to you.



Isaiah 60:1-8 – The Glorified Zion

6 "A multitude of camels will cover you,

Midian = Keturah's 4th son

The young camels of Midian and Ephah;

Ephah = Midian's 1st son

All those from Sheba will come;

Sheba = 1st son of Jokshan (Keturah's 2nd son)

They will bring gold and frankincense,

And will bear good news of the praises of the LORD.

7 "All the flocks of Kedar will be gathered together to you,

Kedar = Ishmael's 2nd son

The rams of Nebaioth will minister to you;

They will go up with acceptance on My altar,

Nebaioth = Ishmael's 1st son

And I shall glorify My glorious house.

8 "Who are these who fly like a cloud,

And like the doves to their lattices?

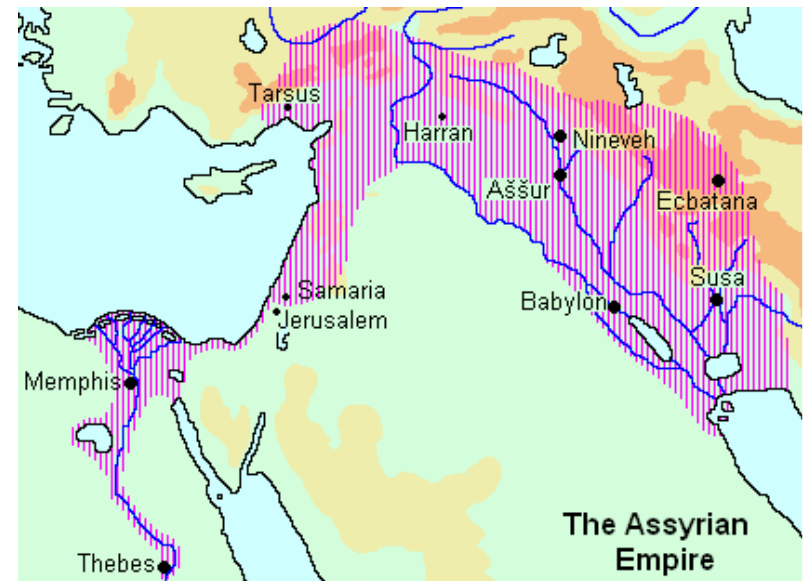


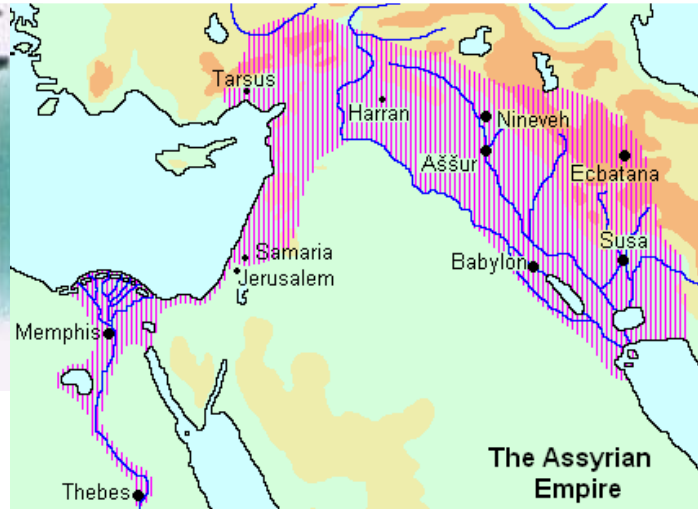
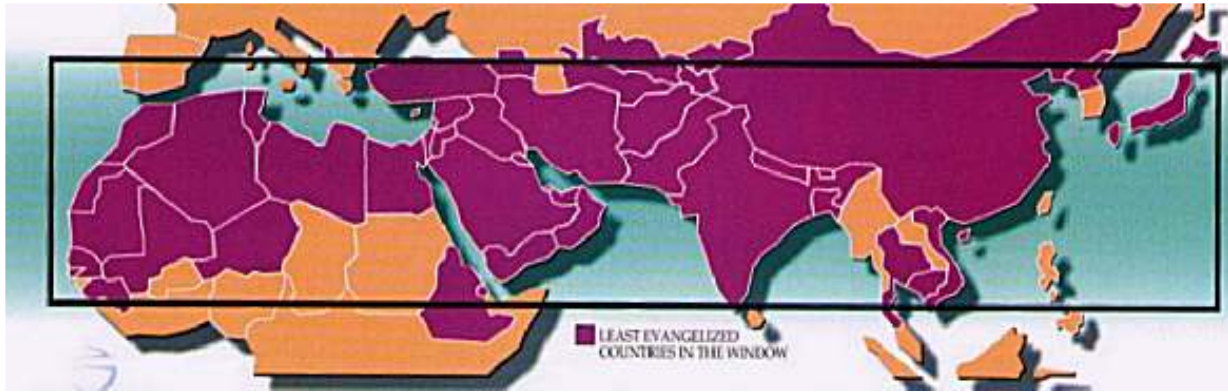
Isaiah 19:19-25

19 In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a pillar to the LORD near its border. **20** And it will become a sign and a witness to the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt; for they will cry to the LORD because of oppressors, and He will send them a Savior and a Champion, and He will deliver them. **21** Thus the LORD will make Himself known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day. They will even worship with sacrifice and offering, and will make a vow to the LORD and perform it. **22** And the LORD will strike Egypt, striking but healing; so they will return to the LORD, and He will respond to them and will heal them. **23** In that day there will be a highway from Egypt **to Assyria,**

and the Assyrians will come into Egypt and the Egyptians **into Assyria,** and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians.

24 In that day Israel will be the third party with Egypt **and Assyria,** a blessing in the midst of the earth, **25** whom the LORD of hosts has blessed, saying, "Blessed is Egypt My people, **and Assyria the work of My hands,** and Israel My inheritance."





Three line of descendants from Abraham, fathered from three women namely Hagar, Sarah and Keturah, overwhelmingly comprise the indigenous peoples of the Middle East. But, who are they, how are they geographically defined and what is God’s prophetic plan for them?



Arab Nations Blessed in Prophecy

“And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: 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 [the Arabs].” (Genesis 17:20)