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2023

Summer Conference

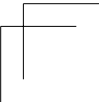
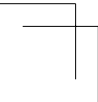
Lecture note

**Let Us Understand God's Redemptive Administration
for Abraham and Be Blessed with Him**

Gen 12:1-4, Rom 4:16-24, Gal 3:7-9

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Yeoju Pyungkang Cheil Conference Center

 대한예수교장로회
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Lecture note

Let Us Understand God's Redemptive Administration
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Gen 12:1-4, Rom 4:16-24, Gal 3:7-9

Lecture 1 | Rev. James Park

The Flow of Redemptive History from Shem to Abraham

Genesis 9:26, 10:21; Matthew 22:32

Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, but the genealogy of the spiritual firstborn to whom Jesus Christ comes is continued through Shem. We can know through Noah's confession that Noah's faith is connected to Shem.

Genesis 9:26 He also said, "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant.

Therefore, Shem passed on his faith to his descendants, and his faith reached Eber.

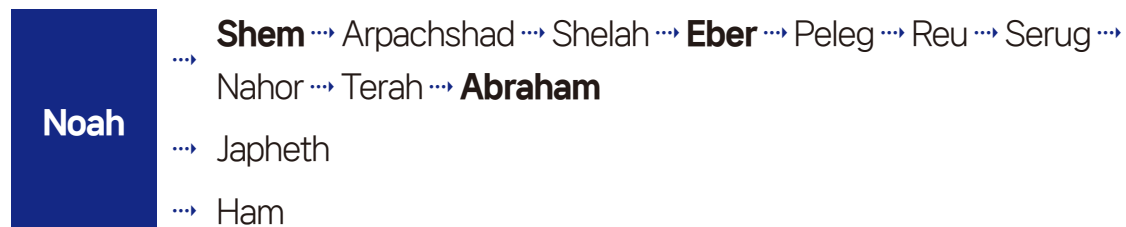
Genesis 10:21 Also to Shem, the father of all the children of Eber, and the older brother of Japheth, children were born.

Ultimately, Eber's faith reached Abraham.

Genesis 14:13 Then a fugitive came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and these were allies with Abram.

In this way, the flow of redemptive history after Noah appeared through the works of separation in the genealogy of Shem, and Noah's faith continued through Shem and Eber to Abraham.

Here, we see the commonalities in the faith of Shem, Eber, and Abraham.



1. They All Attained Reputation for Faith

(1) Shem's name means "name, honor, or fame."

Shem lived for the honor of God. Shem is especially known for his role in protecting his father's honor. Shem kept his father's name from defamation, but Ham dishonored his father, so his descendants were cursed.

Genesis 9:22 Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside.

"Told" is *nagad* (נָגַד) in Hebrew, which means "to oppose boldly, inform, declare, expose," but furthermore, "to accuse, gossip, betray" (Job 17:5). It is also used in the sense of "explaining." However, in the original Hebrew text, it occurs in the Wayyiqtol (waw-consecutive + imperfect) and Hiphil stem of *nagad*. This implies that as soon as Ham saw his father, he exposed his father by endlessly adding his own interpretations and exaggerations to inform the world to disgrace his father. Consequently, in the new era after the judgment of the flood, Shem attained the glorious title of "God of Shem," as the firstborn of faith and successor to Noah's faith.

Genesis 9:26–27 He also said, "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant. ²⁷ "May God enlarge Japheth, And let him dwell in the tents of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant."

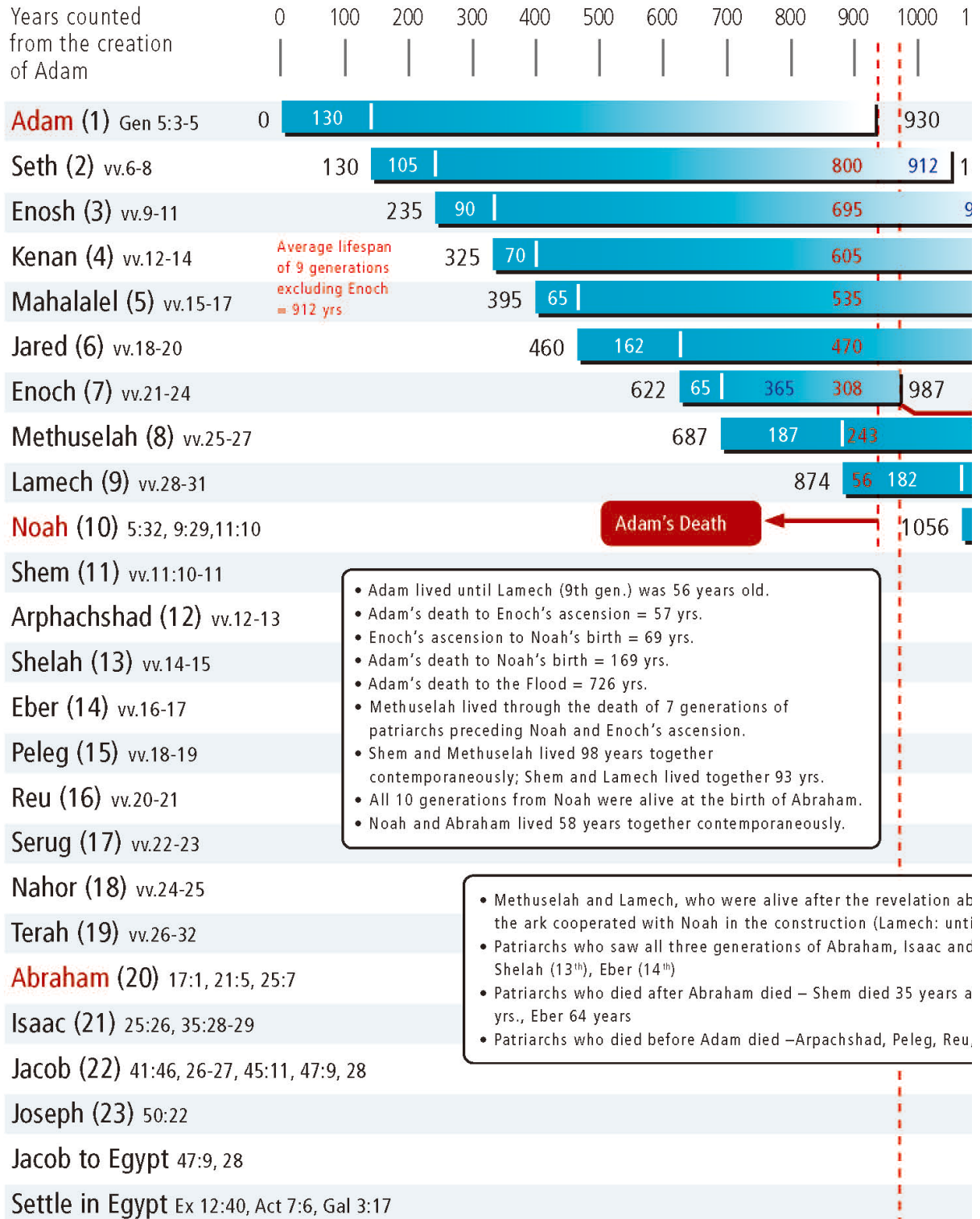
Shem was blessed with a long life by honoring his father.

Malachi 4:2 "But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall.

Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you.

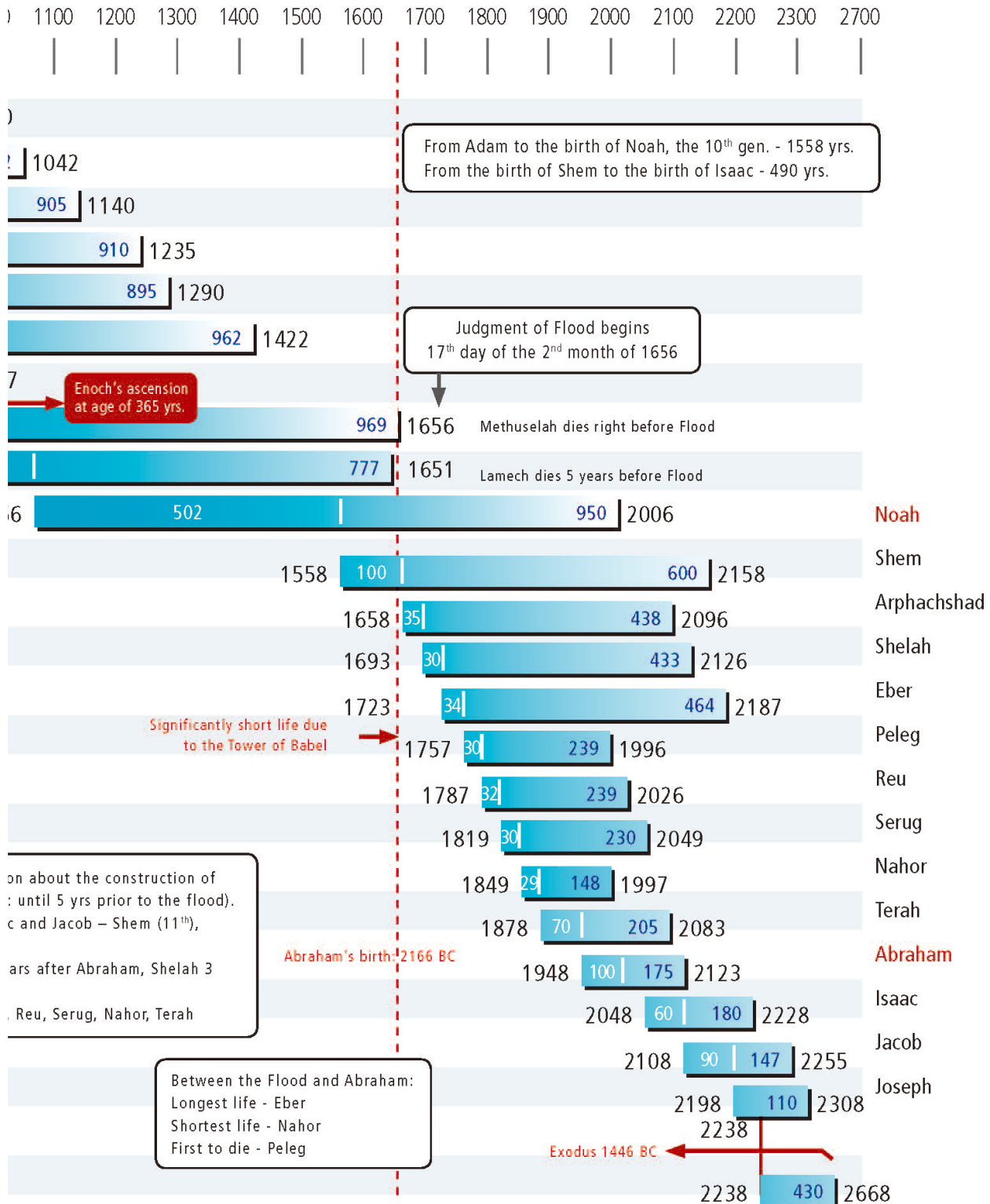
Indeed, Shem experienced the flood at the age of 98 and lived to be 600 years old. He lived a long life through both the pre-flood and post-flood years, and he lived contemporaneously with 15 patriarchs from Methuselah to Jacob. Specifically, Shem lived 35 years longer than Abraham and lived 50 years contemporaneously with Jacob. Thus, Shem's faith directly or indirectly influenced Shem's descendants.

Reference 1 Chronology of the Patriarchs



Basis of the Calculations

1Kgs 6:1 480th year after the sons of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the 4th year of Solomon's reign over Israel Solomon became king in 969 BC, and began the construction of the temple in 966 BC.
 Year of Exodus: 966 + 480 = 1446 BC



* The years are based only on biblical accounts and estimations may vary slightly.

(2) Eber gained the fame of being the first king of the kingdom of Ebla.

The “God of Shem” continued to be the “God of the descendants of Eber.” The Bible testifies that Eber inherited Shem’s faith, exalting only God’s name and never defaming his father’s name.

Genesis 10:21 Also to Shem, the father of all the children of Eber, and the older brother of Japheth, children were born.

When the tower of Babel movement broke out, and many people betrayed God, Eber crossed the Euphrates River from Mesopotamia. Afterward, Eber established a faith community called “Ebla Kingdom” and continued his orthodox faith in God the Creator.



On the contrary, Genesis 11:4 testifies that the people who built the tower of Babel were boasting and making a name for themselves rather than exalting the name of God.

Genesis 11:4 They said, “Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top will reach into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”



Reference: From interpreting some clay tablets excavated in the Aleppo region where the Ebla kingdom was located, it was confirmed that Eber was the founder and first king of the Ebla kingdom. The Ebla kingdom was a civilized city-state with advanced arts and learning and conquered the area at the time (Won Yong-guk, *Archaeological Dictionary*).

(3) Abraham was blessed with “a great name.”

Genesis 12:1–3 Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father’s house, To the land which I will show you; ² And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; ³ And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

In Genesis 12:2, God said, “I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.” Here, by saying, “make your name great,” God bestows a great name on Abraham. In Genesis 17:4–5, Abram received a new name, “Abraham.” Abram means “exalted father, noble father,” whereas Abraham, the name God gave him at the age of 99, means “father of multitudes, father of many nations.” This implies that Abraham became a new central figure according to God’s administration in redemptive history.

Genesis 17:4–5 “As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, And you will be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵ “No longer shall your name be called Abram, But your name shall be Abraham; For I will make you the father of a multitude of nations.

Also, Abraham received the honor and blessing of being God’s friend. In the Bible, Abraham is called God’s “friend” in three places.

2 Chronicles 20:7 “Did You not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel and give it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever?”

Isaiah 41:8 “But you, Israel, My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, Descendant of Abraham My friend,

James 2:23 and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS,” and he was called the friend of God.

The promise of a great name was ultimately fulfilled when Jesus Christ came as a descendant of Abraham.

Matthew 1:1 The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Galatians 3:7 Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham.

Galatians 3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

The greatest name in the world is the name of God. But since God's name is given to Abraham and his descendants, Abraham's descendants also have the greatest name in the world.

Revelation 14:1 Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

Revelation 22:4 they will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads.

2. They All Crossed the Rivers of Sin

(1) Shem crossed the flood waters and entered the dawn of the new era.

Shem is Noah's firstborn, but the genealogy in Genesis 10 lists Noah's sons in the order of Japheth, Ham, and Shem. This is to focus on Shem and his descendants, who will become the center of redemptive history.

The Bible says that the era of Noah, when God pronounced the judgment of the flood, was a time of complete depravity to the point that God lamented and regretted having created men (Gen 6:5-7). The Bible also warns that the days of the Son of Man will be like the days of Noah.

Matthew 24:38-39 "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,³⁹ and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.

Shem's genealogy in Genesis 11 begins with the election of "Shem" among Noah's three sons and concludes with the emergence of "Abraham," the starting point of redemptive history.

(2) Eber crossed the Euphrates River.

In the historical backdrop of Eber's life was the emergence of Nimrod, who corrupted the godly descendants. Genesis 10:8-10 testifies that Nimrod's kingdom began with Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar, implying that Nimrod was a leader in building the tower of Babel.

Genesis 10:8–10 Now Cush became the father of Nimrod; he became a mighty one on the earth.⁹ He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD."¹⁰ The beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

Nimrod, the grandson of Ham and the son of Cush, was "the mighty one on the earth," that is, a tyrant who oppressed people and opposed God. He was called "a mighty hunter before the Lord," for he hunted the souls of men and defied God. As he became a hero with great power, he served as a symbol of the Antichrist.

Ezekiel 13:18–23 and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Woe to the women who sew magic bands on all wrists and make veils for the heads of persons of every stature to hunt down lives! Will you hunt down the lives of My people, but preserve the lives of others for yourselves?"¹⁹ "For handfuls of barley and fragments of bread, you have profaned Me to My people to put to death some who should not die and to keep others alive who should not live, by your lying to My people who listen to lies." ' " ²⁰ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, I am against your magic bands by which you hunt lives there as birds and I will tear them from your arms; and I will let them go, even those lives whom you hunt as birds."²¹ "I will also tear off your veils and deliver My people from your hands, and they will no longer be in your hands to be hunted; and you will know that I am the LORD."²² "Because you disheartened the righteous with falsehood when I did not cause him grief, but have encouraged the wicked not to turn from his wicked way and preserve his life,²³ therefore, you women will no longer see false visions or practice divination, and I will deliver My people out of your hand. Thus you will know that I am the LORD."

Nimrod became the founder of Babel, and the tower of Babel manifested the height of human arrogance to challenge God's authority and become like God. But God destroyed the evil schemes of men by confusing their language and scattering them across the face of the earth.

Psalms 33:10 The LORD nullifies the counsel of the nations; He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

Eber shunned the sin of building the tower of Babel. The kingdom of Nimrod contrasts with the kingdom of Eber. During the days of Eber, the tower of Babel movement occurred, and many people betrayed God and turned against Him.

Eber left the sinful land where people built the tower of Babel, crossed the Euphrates River, and moved to Aleppo. There, he established the kingdom of Ebla, a nation that believed in God and continued the orthodoxy of faith in God the Creator.

Just as Shem was blessed with longevity, Eber also lived the longest years among Shem's direct descendants born after the flood. According to Genesis 11:16-17, Eber lived another 430 years after giving birth to his son Peleg at 34, so we can calculate that Eber lived to be 464 years old.

Specifically, Eber lived 64 years longer than Abraham and lived contemporaneously with Isaac for 139 years. Thus, Eber was still alive for another three years when Jacob fled from his older brother Esau to Paddan-Aram at 76 in 1930 BC. After Eber's death, Jacob stayed in Paddan-Aram for another 17 years before returning to Canaan.



Eber's longevity was a blessing that resulted from strictly shunning the sin and defending his faith during the apostasy movement of the Babel tower. On the contrary, his son Peleg became the person with whom a sudden decrease in lifespan by 200 years began. The life expectancy rapidly cut in half is directly related to the "sin" of building the tower of Babel.

Proverbs 10:27 The fear of the LORD prolongs life, But the years of the wicked will be shortened.

Psalm 55:23 But You, O God, will bring them down to the pit of destruction; Men of bloodshed and deceit will not live out half their days. But I will trust in You.

The shortened lifespan of Eber's descendants is a curse received as a result of not crossing the river with their ancestors but mixing with the descendants of Ham and agreeing to build the tower of Babel (Gen 10:6-10; 11:1-9).

(3) Abraham crossed the Euphrates twice.

Abraham lived in Ur of the Chaldeans, crossed the Euphrates River, and went to Haran to live. From Haran, he crossed the Euphrates again to enter the land of Canaan (Gen 11:31-32; 12:1-4).

① The first calling (Ur of the Chaldeans)

Acts 7:2-3 And he said, "Hear me, brethren and fathers! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, ³ and said to him, 'LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY AND YOUR RELATIVES, AND COME INTO THE LAND THAT I WILL SHOW YOU.'

Genesis 11:31-32 Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans in order to enter the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran, and settled there. ³² The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran.

Like Eber, Abraham left Ur of the Chaldeans and crossed the Euphrates River. Then he met Eber and other ancestors of faith and inherited their faith. His faith was renewed through such spiritual sharings and fellowships of faith.

② The second calling (Haran)

When Abraham lived in Haran, he received the second calling, and he obeyed God's word and left his hometown, relatives, and his father Terah's house to enter the promised land of Canaan at the age of 75.

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Abraham, the seventh descendant of Eber, carried on the tradition of faith, which had been cut off after Eber. As a result, "the God of Shem" became "the God of Eber" and now "the God of Abraham." In Genesis 14:13, people called Abraham "a Hebrew," which means "the one who crossed the river" and also the "son of Eber."

Genesis 14:13 Then a fugitive came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and these were allies with Abram.

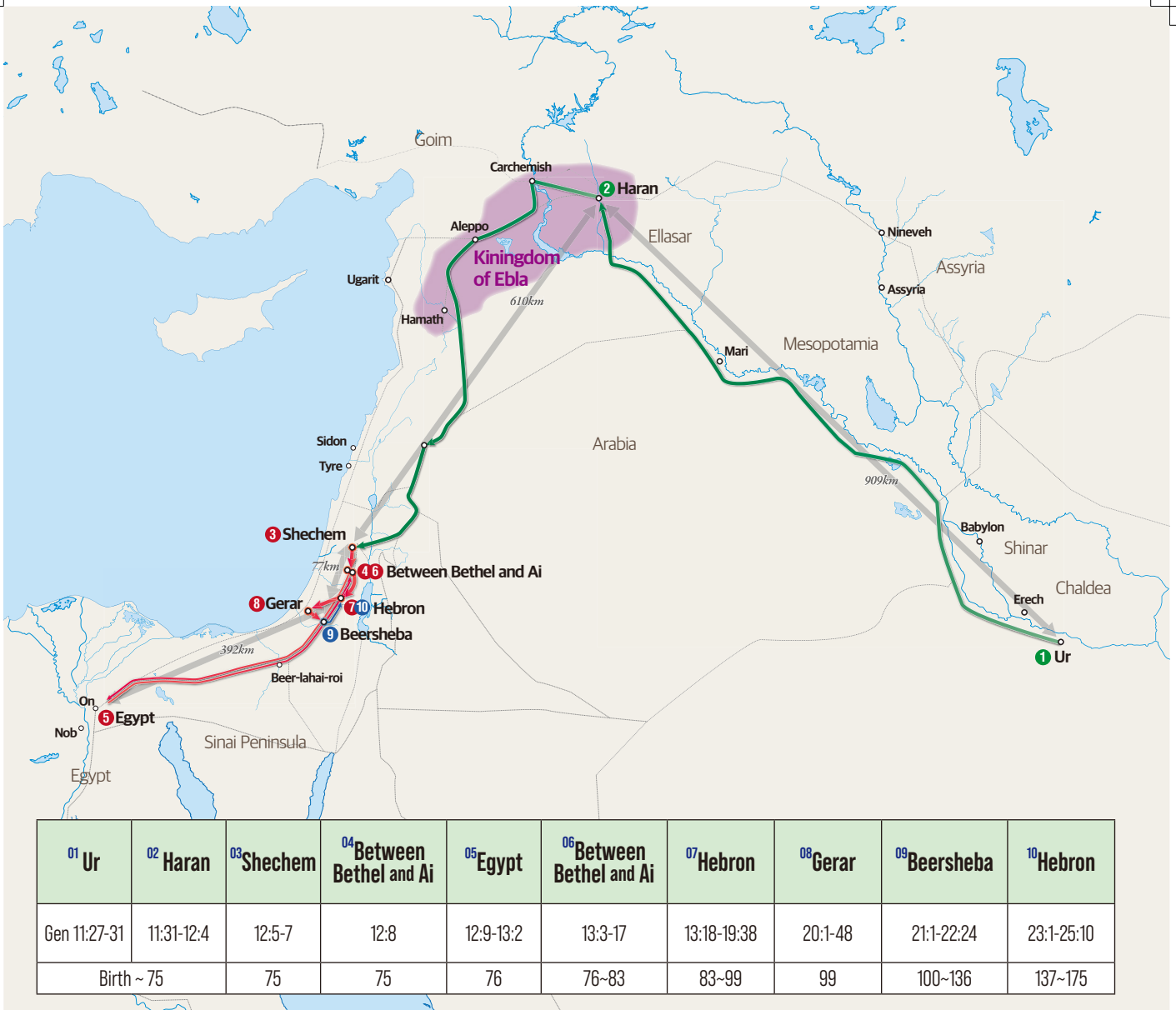
In Conclusion, the Saints of the Last Days Must Also Become Spiritual Hebrews

The Euphrates River is the boundary of the land of Canaan. Therefore, crossing the Euphrates means completely separating ourselves from the world.

Genesis 15:18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates:

Revelation 9:13-15 and 16:12 state that God's judgment will be poured out on the Euphrates in the last days. Also, in Jeremiah 51:61-64, the scroll proclaiming the fall of Babylon was thrown into the middle of the Euphrates. Therefore, in the last days, those who cross the Euphrates by faith can escape the great tribulation poured upon the river. Only when we become spiritual Hebrews by crossing the Euphrates River can we overcome the end-time plagues and enter heaven, our spiritual Canaan.

"Euphrates" means "storehouse of heaven." Just as a seed that is sown sprouts and grows into the grain and goes into the storehouse, whereas the chaff is thrown into the fiery furnace at the time of harvest, those who cross the Euphrates and escape from the land of sin, like



Eber and Abraham, will enter heaven as grain. But those who do not cross over and are still buried in the sins of the world and build the tower of Babel are the chaff that will fail to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 3:12 “His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

Lecture 2 | Missionary Vicky Park

Passing On Faith Across Generations

Genesis 5:28–32

Noah was a special person who lived at the turning point of two eras, before and after the flood. Even though many people lived in that era, faith was properly passed on to only one man, Noah. As a result, Noah became a spiritual stepping stone to pass on the faith of the pre-flood generation to the post-flood generation.

1. The Six Patriarchs Who Passed on Their Faith to Noah

By the time Noah was born, Adam and Seth had already died, and Enoch had been transfigured. Thus, Noah received faith from a total of six patriarchs.

- **Enosh**
- **Kenan**
- **Mahalalel**
- **Jared**
- **Methuselah**
- **Lamech**

All these six patriarchs saw Adam in the first half of their lives, witnessed the transfiguration of Enoch, and met Noah in the second half of their lives. Even though there was a long gap between Adam, Enoch, and Noah, these six patriarchs became a bridge of faith across generations and played an important role in ensuring that the history of redemption would not be cut off.

(1) Adam's Faith

The generations preceding Noah all lived contemporaneously with Adam and heard directly from Adam about the garden of Eden. Among them, Lamech, Noah's father, was the

last patriarch who lived 56 years contemporaneously with Adam.

Genesis 5:28–29 Lamech lived one hundred and eighty-two years, and became the father of a son. ²⁹ Now he called his name Noah, saying, “This one will give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands arising from the ground which the LORD has cursed.”

Noah was the first descendant born after Adam’s death. Hence, Noah never met Adam directly, but he received Adam’s faith through the six patriarchs who served as stepping stones for his faith.

(2) Enoch’s Faith

The six patriarchs not only passed down the faith of Adam but also the faith of Enoch. The patriarchs passed unto Noah the faith of Enoch, who walked with God, and the words of his prophecy and his transfiguration that they had witnessed.

Genesis 6:9–10 These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ Noah became the father of three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Genesis 5:21–24 Enoch lived sixty-five years, and became the father of Methuselah. ²² Then Enoch walked with God three hundred years after he became the father of Methuselah, and he had other sons and daughters. ²³ So all the days of Enoch were three hundred and sixty-five years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God; and he was not, for God took him.

2. Those Who Failed to Inherit Faith

Noah had other siblings.

Genesis 5:30 Then Lamech lived five hundred and ninety-five years after he became the father of Noah, and he had other sons and daughters.

But none of Noah’s siblings entered the ark.

Genesis 7:7 Then Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him entered the ark because of the water of the flood.

Even though the channel of salvation was right next to them, Noah’s siblings did not believe

and failed to receive salvation.

Noah's brothers weren't the only ones who existed at the time. The brothers of Lamech, Noah's father, and the brothers of Methuselah, Noah's grandfather, must have been alive when the ark was built. However, they neither participated in building the ark nor boarded the ark.

People lived contemporaneously with Adam and Enoch, yet they failed to inherit their faith and did not receive salvation. On the other hand, Noah did not live contemporaneously but still inherited faith across the generations and received salvation.

3. Noah Passed On the Faith That He Had Inherited

Noah, who came out of the ark, became the second ancestor of the human race since all mankind after the flood are descendants of Noah. As the founder of a new human race, Noah now had to serve as a stepping stone for faith, passing on his inherited faith to his descendants. Finally, this faith was passed down to Abraham, who lived 58 years contemporaneously with Noah.

(1) Righteousness

Genesis 6:9 These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.

Genesis 7:1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time.

2 Peter 2:5 and did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a preacher of righteousness, with seven others, when He brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

Genesis 15:6 Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

(2) Blameless

Genesis 6:9 These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless

in his time; Noah walked with God.

Genesis 17:1 Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.

(3) Reverence/Fear

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Genesis 22:12 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.”

The faith and redemptive history of our forefathers of faith continue to this day and to us, who are spiritual descendants of Abraham (Gal 3:7, 29).

Conclusion: Until the Second Coming of the Lord Is Fulfilled on This Earth, the Genealogy of Godly Descendants Must Continue

Each of us must become a spiritual stepping stone so that the transmission of faith can continue without interruption in the coming generations. I hope that we will all inherit the faith that has been passed down from generation to generation, and that we will also pass it on, so that our stepping stones of faith will be laid up to the eternal kingdom of heaven.

Lecture 3 | Rev. Jong-Keun Lee

Abraham, the First Gateway in the History of Redemption

Romans 4:16

“By selecting one man, Abraham, God opened the first gateway to the coming of the promised seed of the woman (Gen 3:15).” (History of Redemption Series (HRS), Book 10 (Kor), p.20)

In the dictionary, “gateway” is defined as ❶ an entrance at the borderline, ❷ an entry that may be closed by a gate to block an enemy, ❸ a passageway into a border. Hence, a gateway is an entrance that one must pass to enter something.

“Therefore, Abraham is a crucial figure in the history of redemption by God, who is trying to save all mankind (Luke 3:34; Gal 3:16; Heb 2:16). Indeed, those who do not know Abraham cannot know the beginning of the New Testament, and those who want to receive blessings without knowing Abraham are foolish not knowing the principle of God’s blessing.” (HRS 10 (Kor), p.3)

The book of Genesis is the introduction of the entire 66 books of the Bible as well as the prophecies about the endtime.

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning [*me-resith*: the first], And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, ‘My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure’;

^{Ref} **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning [*be-resith*] God created the heavens and the earth.

1. The Book of Genesis Consists of Ten Genealogies, Which Summarize the Vast History of Redemption

(1) Moses recorded the book of Genesis from the redemptive-historical perspective.

❶ The Scripture was written by those inspired by the Holy Spirit (2 Tim 3:16).

2 Peter 1:20–21 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own

interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

② Moses wrote down and relayed the Words He had received from God (Exod 24:3-4).

Acts 7:38 “This is the one who was in the congregation in the wilderness together with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and who was with our fathers; and he received living oracles to pass on to you.

③ The people of Israel could not obey because they did not receive the Word of life by faith.

Hebrews 4:2 For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit [*ophelio*: help, be useful] them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard.

(2) Moses recorded the extensive redemptive history into ten genealogies.

① Moses compressed the vast history in the form of the genealogies in Genesis.

② Genealogy is a record of birth (life).

The Hebrew word for genealogy is *toledoth*, which means “the beginning, start.” It is derived from the Hebrew verb, *yalad*, meaning “begat.”

③ There are ten toledoths in the book of Genesis.

Ref. “Ten Genealogies in Genesis” (HRS 1, p.45-46, HRS 10 (Kor), p.18)

.....
1 Genealogy of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1–2:4; 2:4–4:26)

Genesis 2:4 This is the account [*toledoth*] of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

2 Genealogy of Adam’s family (Gen 5:1–6:8)

Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the generations [*toledoth*] of Adam.

3 Genealogy of Noah’s family (Gen 6:9–9:29)

Genesis 6:9 These are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Noah.

4 Genealogy of Noah's sons (Gen 10:1–11:9)

Genesis 10:1 Now these are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the sons of Noah.

5 Genealogy of Shem (Gen 11:10–26)

Genesis 11:10 These are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Shem.

6 Genealogy of Terah (Abraham) (Gen 11:27–25:11)

Genesis 11:27 Now these are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Terah.

7 Genealogy of Ishmael (Gen 25:12–18)

Genesis 25:12 Now these are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Ishmael, Abraham's son.

8 Genealogy of Isaac (Gen 25:19–35:29)

Genesis 25:19 Now these are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Isaac, Abraham's son.

9 Genealogy of Esau (Gen 36:1–37:1)

Genesis 36:1 Now these are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Esau (that is, Edom).

10 Genealogy of Jacob (Gen 37:2–50:26)

Genesis 37:2 These are the records of the generations [*toledoth*] of Jacob.

(3) The Genesis genealogies capture the faith of those who wait for the promised seed.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

This is seen in the genealogies of Adam and Shem among the ten genealogies.

① Adam's genealogy lists the direct descendants from Shem (Adam) to Noah (Gen 5:1-32). These patriarchs inherited Adam's faith in the one and only God the Lord.

② Shem's genealogy lists the direct descendants from Shem(Noah) to Abraham (Gen 11:10-26).

“The godly descendants of Seth and Shem continued faithfully to run their respective legs in the course of redemptive history and pass down the baton to the succeeding generations even through the tears, the agony, the loneliness, and the pain of being forsaken by the world.” (HRS 1, p.48)

2. Abraham Is the Center of the Genesis Genealogies

“The history of Genesis goes back to the beginning when God created all things in the universe. In terms of characters, it encompasses the extensive history of redemption of about 2,300 years from Adam to Joseph. Among these characters, Abraham is the one who succeeds Adam and Noah and opens a new horizon in God’s redemptive history.” (HRS 10 (Kor), p.13)

(1) The Genesis genealogies can be divided into primeval history (Gen 1-11) and patriarchal history (Gen 12-50), with Abraham in between.

① The primeval history summarizes the core history of God’s redemptive history that we must know (HRS 10 (Kor), p.15)

It records the redemptive history of about 2,023 years from 4114 BC, when Adam was created, until 2091 BC, when Abraham was 75 years old.

② The patriarchal history narrates how God’s kingdom began with one man, Abraham, and expanded through his descendants (HRS 10 (Kor), p,17).

It records the redemptive history of about 285 years from 2091 BC, when Abraham was 75 years old, until 1806 BC when Joseph died at the age of 100.

(2) The Genesis genealogies capture the long redemptive history of awaiting one man, Abraham.

“There are 20 generations in the genealogy of Seth: ten generations from Adam to Noah and another ten immediately following Noah, from Shem to Abraham.

First, God’s administration for the coming of the Messiah flows through this genealogy.

Second, this genealogy introduces Noah (the tenth generation from Adam) and Abraham (the tenth generation from Shem). These two central figures in the history of redemption are

the presages of the Savior who would come to save humankind from judgment.” (HRS 1, p.90; Matt 24:37; Gal 3:16).

② Noah’s genealogy (Gen 5) reflects God’s wait for Noah.

In Noah’s time, some people of faith continued to believe in God, but the world was too evil (Gen 6:5, 11-12). So after God found Noah, He had him build an ark to save those who followed God’s Word.

Genesis 5:29 Now he called his name Noah, saying, “This one will give us rest from our work and from the toil of our hands arising from the ground which the LORD has cursed.”

The characteristics of Noah’s faith

a. Noah found favor in the eyes of God (Gen 6:8).

b. Noah walked with God (Gen 6:9).

c. Noah obeyed the Word of God (Gen 6:22).

Genesis 6:22 Thus Noah did [*yaas*]; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did [*asa*].

d. God acknowledged Noah’s reverence.

Hebrews 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned by God about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, by which he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Noah was an important figure in redemptive history between Adam and Abraham.

Genesis 9:28–29 Noah lived three hundred and fifty years after the flood.²⁹ So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years, and he died.

③ Terah’s genealogy (Gen 11) reflects God’s earnest wait for Abraham.

After the flood, a new seed spread through Noah’s family, forming many peoples and nations. However, they forgot the judgment of God, who judged them with water because of their sins, and built the tower of Babel to challenge God again.

On the other hand, some people inherited Noah’s faith and tried to fill the earth and multiply according to God’s good plan. However, the wave of polytheism and humanism swept the world at the time, influencing even Noah’s descendants.

Joshua 24:2 Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘From ancient times your fathers lived beyond the River, namely, Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, and they served other gods.

Two hundred ninety-two years after the flood, Abraham was born as the son of Terah in Ur of the Chaldeans. He lived contemporaneously with Noah for 58 years. He obeyed God’s Word and left Ur of the Chaldeans, emerging as a central figure in redemptive history.

3. The Genesis Genealogies Are the Genealogies of Separation to Find One Man, Abraham

(1) Separation between the lines of Seth and Cain

① Adam’s genealogy continues with Cain, who killed Abel and left God’s presence. This genealogy begins with God’s absence (Gen 4:16-24).

Cain’s line: Cain - Enoch - Irad - Mehujael - Methusael - Lamech - Jabal, Jubal, Tubal Cain

a. The beginning of Cain’s line

Genesis 4:16 Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

b. The characteristics of Cain’s line

The genealogy of Cain's line consists of people who ruled the world with success, selfishness, and violence.

c. The fate of Cain’s line

Although they attained fame in this world and became pioneers in many fields, they became those who hindered and challenged God’s redemptive history.

Even today, God rebukes those who pursue the life of Cain’s line as those who have gone “the way of Cain” (Jude 1:11).

Jude 11 Woe to them! For they have gone the way of Cain, and for pay they have rushed headlong into the error of Balaam, and perished in the rebellion of Korah.

② God continued redemptive history through Shem, another seed (descendant) given to Adam in place of Abel (Gen 5:1-32).

Seth-Enosh-Kenan-Mahalalel-Jared-Enoch-Methuselah-Lamech-Noah-Shem, Ham, Japheth

a. The beginning of Seth's line

Genesis 5:3 When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.

b. The characteristics of Seth's line

People in Seth's line strove to walk with God by living God-centered, worship-centered, and Word-centered lives.

c. The fate of Seth's line

God remembered every patriarch in the line of Seth.

(2) Separation between the lines of Shem and Ham

① To continue redemptive history amid the rapidly spreading unbelief after the flood, God separated Shem's line and Ham's line.

Genesis 9:26 He also said, "Blessed be the LORD, The God of Shem; And let Canaan be his servant.

Genesis 10:21 Also to Shem, the father of all the children of Eber, and the older brother of Japheth, children were born.

Nimrod, the son of Cush, led the line of Ham and gathered rebellious forces who were dissatisfied with the judgment of the flood and challenged God (Gen 10:6-12).

② Shem's line was further separated between Eber (godly descendant), who crossed the Euphrates River, and Peleg (ungodly descendant), who remained in Ur of the Chaldeans.

Genesis 10:25 Two sons were born to Eber; the name of the one was Peleg, for in his days the earth was divided; and his brother's name was Joktan.

Eber and his godly descendants crossed the Euphrates River and established the kingdom of Ebla near Haran. Many years later, Terah left Ur of the Chaldeans with his family and settled in Haran (Gen 11:31-32).

(3) Separations in Abraham's life

God found one man, Abraham, and He required separation from Abraham to establish him as the father of faith.

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you;

- ① The first separation: from his home country, relatives, and father's house (Gen 12:1; Acts 7:2-4)

Separation from the world, which is the first step in the journey of faith

a. Separation from Ur of the Chaldeans (Acts 7:2-4)

Ur of the Chaldeans is Abraham's home country and the land of his relatives.

Have we left our Ur of the Chaldeans?

b. Separation from Haran

Haran was where Abraham's relatives and father's house were.

Matthew 10:37 "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

- ② The second separation: from Lot (Gen 13)

Separation from a secular, indecisive life

Lot represents those with worldly greed.

Genesis 13:9-10 "Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me; if to the left, then I will go to the right; or if to the right, then I will go to the left." ¹⁰ Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the valley of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go to Zoar.

We cannot serve both God and wealth.

Luke 16:13 "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

- ② The third separation: from Ishmael (Gen 21)

This is the phase of self-denial, where one gives up his plans and strength before the great

will of God.

Genesis 17:18 And Abraham said to God, “Oh that Ishmael might live before You!”

③ The fourth separation: from Isaac (Gen 22)

This is the phase of dedicating our greatest, most precious possession to God.

Genesis 22:12 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.”

Through separation, God established Abraham as the father of faith and the father of the multitudes.

What might be the separation that God requires of us today?

2 Corinthians 6:17–18 “Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,” says the Lord. “AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. ¹⁸ “And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,” Says the Lord Almighty.

In Conclusion, Genesis Genealogies Make Us Abraham’s Heir

(1) Who are the true descendants of Abraham?

① Through Genesis, Moses reminds the Israelites, who were journeying in the wilderness toward God’s promised land, that they are the descendants of Abraham.

“God established the Israelites in the wilderness as the people of God’s kingdom and gave them the book of Genesis to teach them their identity and origin” (HRS 10 (Kor), p.13).

② Not by flesh and blood but by faith, we become Abraham’s descendants.

Romans 4:16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed 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,

③ Who are Abraham’s descendants today?

John 8:39 They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, do the deeds of Abraham.

The true descendants of Abraham confess that they are real sinners and repent before God (Luke 19:9).

Acts 11:18 When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, “Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life.”

(2) What are Abraham’s inheritances?

What inheritances are promised to Abraham’s descendants?

Galatians 3:18 For if the inheritance [*klēronomia*: heir] is based on law, it is no longer based on a promise; but God has granted it to Abraham by means of a promise.

This inheritance is equivalent to the Hebrew word, *nahala* (allotted land), in the Old Testament. Thus, it ultimately refers to the kingdom of God.

Ephesians 5:5 For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance [*klēronomia*] in the kingdom of Christ and God.

Abraham’s inheritance is the kingdom of God that God bestowed upon us through Jesus.

Galatians 3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s descendants, heirs according to promise.

We’ve all become the descendants (children) of Abraham through Jesus. We’ve also received the kingdom of God by His grace. Let us live to repay this unforgettable grace of God.

“God’s history of redemption that began with Abraham also ends with Abraham. From this perspective, Abraham is like the passageway throughout the entire redemptive history of God” (HRS 10 (Kor), p.384).

Lecture 4 | Missionary Ju-Young Park

Abraham's Well, Beersheba

Genesis 21:22-34, 26:1-33

Beersheba was one of the main dwelling places of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen 21:32-33; 22:19; 26:23-25; 28:10; 46:1). It is the southernmost region of the land of Canaan. The name of this border city refers to the southern boundary of the land Canaan that was promised to Abraham (Judg 20:1; 1 Sam 3:20; 1 Kgs 4:25).

Abraham's well was in Beersheba (Gen 21:25, 30-31).

A well is made by digging the ground to find a stream flowing through the ground. Once found, it is used as a facility to store water. In Palestine, where water is scarce, wells were valued like life, and digging a well was the most important and biggest venture in one's life. Once a well was found, it became a wonderful inheritance for generations.

1. Abraham's Well, Beersheba

(1) Perpetual ownership is established.

2063 BC, Abraham 103 years old, Isaac 3 years old

When Abimelech the king of Gerar came to make a covenant with him (Gen 21:22-23), Abraham rebuked him for Abimelech's servants had taken away his well previously.

Genesis 21:25–26 But Abraham complained to Abimelech because of the well of water which the servants of Abimelech had seized. ²⁶ And Abimelech said, "I do not know who has done this thing; you did not tell me, nor did I hear of it until today."

To make a covenant with Abimelech (Gen 21:27), Abraham gave seven ewe lambs separately as proof that he had dug a well.

Genesis 21:30–31 He said, "You shall take these seven ewe lambs from my hand so that it may be a witness to me, that I dug this well." ³¹ Therefore he called that place Beersheba, because there the two of them took an oath.

Beersheba (בְּאֵר־שֶׁבַע) is a compound word of *Beer* (בְּאֵר), meaning “well,” and *Sheba* (שֶׁבַע), meaning “seven” or “oath.” Thus it means “seven wells, the well of an oath.”

(2) He planted a tamarisk tree.

Genesis 21:33 Abraham planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Everlasting God.

The tamarisk tree has a strong vitality and a very long lifespan, symbolizing that the covenant made in Beersheba is eternal.

Abraham’s securing of the well at Beersheba was a sign that Abraham’s descendants would later possess the land of Canaan in the future.

(3) They remained there for a long time until Isaac was grown up.

Until 2030 BC (estimated), until Abraham 136 years old (estimated),
until Isaac 36 years old (estimated)

Genesis 21:34 And Abraham sojourned in the land of the Philistines for many days.

Genesis 22:19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham lived at Beersheba.

2. Damage and Restoration of Abraham’s Well

Genesis 26:18 ... for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham; ...

(1) Isaac reaped a hundredfold in the famine.

Isaac encountered a great famine and tried to go down to Egypt. However, after receiving confirmation from God concerning the promised land and descendants promised to Abraham (Gen 26:1-5), Isaac stayed in Gerar (Gen 26:6).

As a result of Isaac obeying the Word and protecting the Promised Land, God blessed him with a hundredfold harvest (Gen 26:12). In this way, Isaac became prosperous and finally became rich, and the Philistines envied him (Gen 26:13-14).

Genesis 26:12–14 Now Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. And the

LORD blessed him, ¹³ and the man became rich, and continued to grow richer until he became very wealthy; ¹⁴ for he had possessions of flocks and herds and a great household, so that the Philistines envied him.

(2) The Philistines damaged Abraham's well.

Genesis 26:15–16 Now all the wells which his father's servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines stopped up by filling them with earth. ¹⁶ Then Abimelech said to Isaac, "Go away from us, for you are too powerful for us."

(3) Isaac restored Abraham's well.

Genesis 26:18 Then Isaac dug again the wells of water which had been dug in the days of his father Abraham, for the Philistines had stopped them up after the death of Abraham; and he gave them the same names which his father had given them.

Here, "again" is the Hebrew word *shuv* (שׁוּב), which means "return, recover." This indicates that Isaac restored it like the well at the time of Abraham.

When Isaac dug the ground, he must have thoroughly repented by "breaking up the fallow ground of his own heart." In such a restoration movement of faith, he regained the pure faith as in the days of his father (Ref. Hos 10:12; Jer 4:4).

Isaac's restoration of Abraham's well primarily shows his respect for his father, and ultimately proves him as the heir of the covenant following his father's faith to inherit the land of Canaan.

3. Isaac Continued to Dig New Wells

(1) He dug in the valley and obtained a spring source (Esek).

Genesis 26:19 But when Isaac's servants dug in the valley and found there a well of flowing water,

Genesis 26:18 records "Isaac dug again" when he tried to restore the wells that had been dug in the time of Abraham. However, verse 19 only says, "he dug," implying that Isaac dug a new well himself.

In “well of flowing water,” the “flowing water” (מַיִם חַיִּים , *mayim heim*) means “water of life, flowing water, springing water.” This shows that Isaac discovered another water line flowing from Abraham’s well.

Genesis 26:19 (NLT) Isaac’s servants also dug in the Gerar Valley and discovered a well of fresh water.

The herdsmen of Gerar fought with the herdsmen of Isaac.

Genesis 26:20 the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with the herdsmen of Isaac, saying, “The water is ours!” So he named the well Esek, because they contended with him.

Isaac avoided fighting and kept digging new wells.

Proverbs 20:3 Keeping away from strife is an honor for a man, But any fool will quarrel.

(2) Another well was dug (Sitnah).

Genesis 26:21 Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over it too, so he named it Sitnah [שִׂטְנָה , hostile, contention].

(3) He moved away and dug another well (Rehoboth).

Genesis 26:22 He moved away from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it; so he named it Rehoboth [רְחֹבֹתַי ; large area], for he said, “At last the LORD has made room for us, and we will be fruitful in the land.”

Isaac longed for the fulfillment of the covenant concerning the land and tried to expand the territory of the covenant descendants and secure many wells for their prosperity.

In humility, Isaac continued to dig the well.

Matthew 5:5 “Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

Here, “meekness” is *praus* (πραυς) in Greek, and this word means “humble” or “tamed.”

(4) They went up to Beersheba and dug a well.

Genesis 26:23 Then he went up from there to Beersheba.

It says that he “went up” (עָלָה , *alah*) because it was a holy place in redemptive history, where God made a covenant with Abraham (Gen 21:33; 22:15-19).

After receiving the confirmation of God's covenant with his father Abraham, Isaac dug a well (Gen 26:24-25). As a result, the Philistines, who had been persecuting Isaac, came to Isaac on their own, offered a peace alliance, and made a covenant (Gen 26:26-28). And on that day, a spring of water gushed out of the well.

Genesis 26:32–33 Now it came about on the same day, that Isaac's servants came in and told him about the well which they had dug, and said to him, "We have found water." ³³ So he called it Shibah; therefore the name of the city is Beersheba to this day.

Abraham's descendants must continue digging wells. No matter what kind of persecution and challenges we face, if we believe in God's covenant and continue to dig a well with patience and perseverance to the end, we will be guaranteed great blessings and victories.

Conclusion: Beersheba Symbolizes the Seven Spiritual Churches That Will Appear in the Last Days (Rev 1:20; 2:1)

Revelation 1:20 "As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Revelation 2:1 "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:

The book of Revelation is a letter sent by Jesus Christ to the seven churches in Asia Minor (Rev 1:1, 4, 11). The message contains not only praise but also rebuke. However, when we repent and work hard to dig into the Word, we will become a perfect church and a well with the spring of the Word so that we will never thirst for eternity. In this way, the land of the gospel, the church of our Lord, will continue to grow and prevail every day (Acts 2:47; 6:7).

Lecture 5 | Rev. Samuel Kim

God Who Is Greater Than All

John 10:29

The introduction of Book 3 of the History of Redemption Series, “The Unquenchable Lamp of the Covenant,” is about God, who is greater than all.

In other words, it reminds us that the lamp of redemptive history to be fulfilled on this earth is not a lamp of this earth, but a lamp directly given by God, who is greater than all and forms and governs the universe.

Explaining how great God is while introducing the genealogy of Jesus emphasizes the great love of God, who has no father or mother and has nothing to do with the genealogy of fallen humans and yet came in human form to meet and save us who are so small.

Psalm 145:3 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised, And His greatness is unsearchable.

1. The Vast Universe

(1) The size of the Sun and the Earth

Earth is merely a planet in the solar system. It is not a star like the Sun.

The radius of the Sun is about 100 times that of the Earth, its weight is 330,000 times, and its volume is 1.3 million times (the Sun is big enough to fit 1.3 million Earths in it).

The Sun is only one of the 6,000 stars we can see with the naked eye.

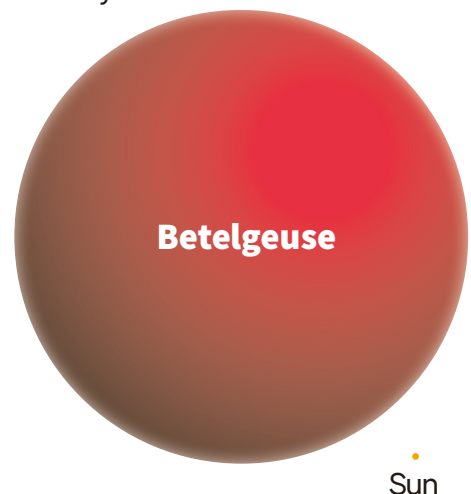
(2) Other stars

Betelgeuse

- 427 light-years from us
- Its diameter is twice the Earth’s orbit around the Sun
- 512 million Suns can fit into Betelgeuse.

Mu cephei

- It can fit 2.7 quadrillion Earths



Canus Majoris and other bigger stars are being discovered.

Isaiah 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, Not one of them is missing.

(3) Galaxy

Each galaxy contains about 300 billion stars.

There are at least 178 billion galaxies (that mankind can calculate) in this universe.

There are about 200 billion stars in the galaxy where our Earth and the Sun are (a planet like the Earth is not a star; only a luminous body like the Sun can be called a star).

One of the galaxies that are most clear and easy to observe in our sky is the Whirlpool Galaxy. It is about 31 million light-years away.

Speed of light = 186,000 miles per second (671 million mph = 1.08 billion km/hr)

→ You can fly 31 million years at this speed to reach that galaxy.

(Ex: It only takes 8 minutes for the sunlight to reach the Earth.)

- 1 light year is 5.9 trillion miles.



We exist on a planet so small that it is invisible.

Job 5:9 Who does great and unsearchable things, Wonders without number.

That great God came to us who are so small and lowly. How thankful is this!

Why? God chose this little planet out of so many stars and planets, and He chose us out of so many people on this planet!

Nevertheless, based on human standards, people judged the Lord, the Creator of the entire universe, as fake, heretical, illegitimate, and so forth.

How miraculous is that such a great God came to this little us! Yet, even that was not enough, and humans killed Him on the cross.

2. The Undeniable Existence of God: The Perfect Order and Harmony of the Universe

(1) God Who Created Something from Nothing

In the 20th century, astronomer Edwin Hubble discovered that the universe is expanding. Rewinding the process mathematically, he calculated that everything in the universe, including matter, energy, space, and even time, actually had a beginning. Science has never been able to find the starting point or explain it beyond these theories.

British scientist Edmund Whittaker attributed the beginning of our universe to “Divine will constituting Nature from nothingness.” He said that the origin of the universe can only be explained by the creation account in Genesis 1:1.

Another similar statement came from agnostic George Smoot, the Nobel Prize-winning scientist in charge of the COBE experiment, “There is no doubt that a parallel exists between the big bang as an event and the Christian notion of creation from nothing.”

(2) The Glory of God Proclaimed in the Heavens

(“The Eternally Unquenchable Lamp of the Covenant,” pg. 27)

The entire universe is not in chaos, but is a world of complete order and perfect harmony under one God. This is so because the vast universe was created on the basis of perfect and precise design, and all things were arranged accurately in their own place according to the divine administration of God’s providence for salvation (Ps 103:19; Prov 3:19; Jer 10:12). It can be said that such orderly movement and beautiful harmony is a testimony to God’s greatness, faithfulness, and goodness for the salvation of fallen mankind.

Nehemiah 9:6 “You alone are the LORD. You have made the heavens, The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them And the heavenly host bows down before You.

Psalms 19:1 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

Philippians 2:5–8 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied

Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

3. The Great God Came to This World

(1) God who so loved us

Psalm 113:5–6 Who is like the LORD our God, Who is enthroned on high, ⁶ Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in heaven and in the earth?

Psalm 8:4 What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him?
 (“The Eternally Unquenchable Lamp of the Covenant,” pg. 28-29)

God, who is greater than all, gave His love to save us. His love is immeasurable, for it is infinite. The greatness of God reflected through the enormous universe is not irrelevant to us. It is deeply linked to our life—the very platform where the history of salvation for mankind is taking place. Beholding the heavenly bodies in the night sky is sufficient in itself to cause amazement and astonishment. However, what is even more unbelievably inspirational is having God, who created the great universe and keeps all movements and activities in order, give special attention to mankind—we who are as insignificant as dust—by bestowing the grace of salvation upon us.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.

(2) The reason He came to us

(“The Eternally Unquenchable Lamp of the Covenant” pg. 34-36)

The reason Jesus—who is one with Father greater than all—came to this world can be summed up in one word: COVENANT.

The word covenant is defined as “an agreement or promise usually under seal between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action.” A covenant is usually ratified when it is beneficial to both parties. However, God’s covenant is a pronouncement of God’s unilateral grace. This promise of God is unchangeable (Heb 6:17) and faithful (Rom 3:3; 1 Cor 1:9; 10:13; 2 Cor 1:18; 1 Thes 5:24; 2 Thes 3:3; 2 Tim 2:13; Titus 1:9; 3:8; Heb 11:11; 1 Pet 4:19; 1

Jn 1:9). When His people keep the covenant, God will surely fulfill that covenant and respond with lovingkindness and truth (Ps 103:17–18).

Psalm 25:10 All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness and truth To those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

In other words, the covenant embodies God’s love to restore the broken relationship with man after the Fall.

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

After His resurrection, Jesus—the God greater than all—spoke the following words to His disciples and ascended to heaven.

John 20:21–23 So Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ “If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained.”

Matthew 28:19–20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

(3) Other events in which God appeared (His manifestation) to men besides the Incarnation

· Melchizedek, whom Abraham met

- **The angel/God with whom Jacob wrestled**

- **Another strong angel whom Apostle John met**

Conclusion: We Are the Children of the Great God

(1)

(2)

(3)

Lecture 6 | Rev. Bong-Joon Hong

The Two Stone Tablets of the Covenant

Deuteronomy 10:1-5

The Ten Commandments that God inscribed on the two tables of stone were called the “words of the covenant” (Exod 34:28; Deut 4:13), and the two stone tablets on which the words of the covenant were written were called the “stone tablets of the covenant” (Deut 9:9, 11, 15). Also, the ark in which the tablets of the covenant were kept is called the “Ark of the Covenant.”

1. The Three 40-day Prayers of Moses

While climbing Mt. Sinai 8 times, Moses fasted and prayed for 40 days on the 6th and 8th ascents and interceded for 40 days on the 7th ascent.

1) Moses' first 40 day-fasting prayer (the 6th ascent of Mt. Sinai)

From the 8th of the 3rd month to the 17th of the 4th month in the first year of the Exodus (1446 BC)

He did not eat bread or drink water for 40 days and nights as he prayed to God with all his strength (Exod 24:15-18; Deut 9:9,11). After the 40 days and nights, God wrote the Ten Commandments with His hand on both sides of two stone tablets He had made (Exod 24:12; 31:18; 32:15-16). But when the Israelites saw that Moses was slow to come down, they made an idol in the shape of a calf and worshiped it (Exod 32:5-10). In anger, Moses shattered the two tablets of the testimony by throwing them down the mountain. He then burned the golden calf, ground it into powder, sprinkled it on water, and made the Israelites drink it (Exod 32:5-20)

- ❶ On Mt. Sinai: Full of God's Word and grace
- ❷ At the foot of Mt. Sinai: Idolatry of the golden calf

* Golden calf: 1) Gold – a symbol of materialism 2) Calf – god of abundance

2) Sin and corruption at the foot of Mt. Sinai

① Spiritual fall - “Make us a god who will go before us” (Exod 32:1)

② Lie - “I threw it into the fire, and this calf came out” (32:24)

Exodus 32:4 He took this from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool and made it into a molten calf;...

③ Physical fall - “They ate and drank and rose up to play” (Exod 32:6)

* play: (פִּזְזוּ, *tsahaq*)

Genesis 19:14 Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, and said, “Up, get out of this place, for the LORD will destroy the city.” But he appeared to his sons-in-law to be jesting.

Genesis 39:14, 17 she called to the men of her household and said to them, “See, he has brought in a Hebrew to us to make sport of us; he came in to me to lie with me, and I screamed.

④ “Your people have corrupted themselves” (Exod 32:7)

a. “My people ↔ “Your people”

Originally, Israel was “the people of God,” but after they sinned, God referred to them as “your people,” not “My people.”

- “My people” (Exod 22:25)

- “Stiff-necked people” (Exod 32:9)

b. Corrupt (שָׁחַת, *shahat*)

Genesis 6:12 God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth.

3) Moses’ 40-day intercession (7th ascent of Mt. Sinai)

From the 18th of the 4th month to the 28th of the 5th month in the first year of the Exodus (1446 BC)

Breaking the two tablets of the Ten Commandments meant breaking the covenant. Accordingly, Moses went up to Mt. Sinai in the 7th ascent and prayed for 40 days, which eventually moved the heart of God and made Him change His will (Deut 10: 10-11).

4) Moses' second 40-day fasting prayer (the 8th ascent of Mt. Sinai)

From the 30th of the 5th month to the 10th of the 7th month in the first year of the Exodus (1446 BC)

God had Moses prepare two stone tablets like the first ones, and He wrote the Ten Commandments on the tablets, the same as on the former tablets, and gave them to Moses (Exod 34: 1, 28). Here, the “tablet” is the Hebrew word *luah*, and refers to a plate that is thin enough for Moses to move when going up and down the mountain.

2. Moses Cut the Two Tablets of Stone and Prepared the Ark

Before Moses made his 8th ascent of Mt. Sinai, God commanded Moses to cut and bring two stone tablets and to make a wooden ark to store them.

1) “Cut out for yourself two tablets of stone like the former ones” (Deut 10:1)

He told Moses to carve them into the same shape (Exod 34:1) God Himself had made them at first (Exod 32:15-16).

- Stone tablets were prepared by man
- Words were written by God

❶ The model of the stone tablet is “the first ones.”

The “tablets of stone” on which God’s words were written must be made as identical as the ones God first made. As such, they can't be made in the shape that we want or desire.

Hebrews 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

❷ Cutting a stone is preparing the foundation of character through refinement and training.

* Stone tablets: tablets to engrave the Word on

1 Timothy 4:7-8 But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; ⁸ for bodily discipline is only of little profit,

but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

Daniel 12:10 “Many will be purged, purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand.

1 Peter 1:7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

③ Engraving the Word with the Spirit on the refined character (tablets of the heart)

2 Corinthians 3:3 being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2) “And make an ark of wood for yourself” (Deut 10:1)

This implies that even though the first two stone tablets were broken, the second stone tablet will be safely stored in a wooden ark. The ark was made of shittim wood (acacia wood). It was made by Bezalel (Exod 37:1), but it was made under the supervision of Moses according to God’s revelation.

3. The Second Two Tablets of the Testimony

1) “I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets” (Deut 10:2)

On these tablets, God wrote the Words that were on the first tablets and gave them to Moses (Exod 34:1; Deut 10:4). Since the Ten Commandments are a covenant given by God to man, even if the two tablets of stone are broken, the contents written on them will never break or change but remain the same yesterday, today and forever (Mal 3:6; Heb 13:8).

2) Transformation of Moses After Receiving the Two Stone Tablets

① His face shone

Exodus 34:29 It came about when Moses was coming down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the testimony were in Moses’ hand as he was coming down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because of his speaking with Him.

② The glory on Mt. Sinai moved to the tabernacle

Exodus 40:34–35 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. ³⁵ Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

③ He saw God face to face

Exodus 34:34–35 But whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with Him, he would take off the veil until he came out; and whenever he came out and spoke to the sons of Israel what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the sons of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face shone. So Moses would replace the veil over his face until he went in to speak with Him.

④ The difference between Moses and the people – a veil

2 Corinthians 3:15–17 But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; ¹⁶ but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

⑤ God's people with unveiled face

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Conclusion – The Redemptive Administration of the Two Stone Tablets

First, the broken tablets of stone – warns us that the covenant relationship with God can be severed due to our sins.

Second, cut out for yourself two stone tablets and come up – through the process of taking responsibility for your sins and repenting, God once again grants the opportunity for forgiveness and salvation.

Third, when we receive the Words engraved on the stone tablets, we enter the world of God's glory.

Just as Moses' face shone as he came down with the second stone tablets, we, too, enter the world of God's glory when we meet God and receive the Word.

Lecture 7 | Missionary Hyun-Mi Suh

Who Are the True Sons of Abraham?

Galatians 3:7-8, Romans 11:25-29

When Jesus Christ came to this earth, Abraham's physical descendants, Israel, did not accept Jesus and crucified Him. After the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, the gospel was spread worldwide, and Gentiles who believed in Jesus became the spiritual descendants of Abraham in the history of redemption. However, the Bible says that when the fullness of Gentiles comes in the last days, Israel will finally repent and return.

By understanding God's administration of redemption as revealed in the history of salvation of Abraham's physical and spiritual descendants, may we all imitate Abraham and become his true sons who do "the deeds of Abraham" (John 8:39) for the consummation of redemptive history.

1. "Sons of Abraham" and Genealogy

(1) Meaning of "sons of Abraham"

① Isaac, the son of promise

Abraham initially considered his servant Eliezer his heir (Gen 15:2-3), and he also gave birth to his son Ishmael through his maidservant Hagar in his human method (Gen 16:2, 16). However, God clearly said that only Isaac, born through Abraham's wife Sarah, was the successor of the covenant (Gen 17:19).

Romans 9:7-8 nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED." ⁸ That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the children of the promise are regarded as descendants.

② The people of Israel

Abraham's descendants prospered through Isaac's son Jacob and Jacob's twelve sons, and they entered Egypt, where they grew into a huge nation (Exod 1:7). And when they returned to the land of Canaan, they established a nation called Israel.

1 Kings 4:20 Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand that is on the seashore in abundance; they were eating and drinking and rejoicing.

③ Jesus Christ

Galatians 3:16 Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as referring to many, but rather to one, “And to your seed,” that is, Christ.

Genesis 22:17–18 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 “In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”

“seed”: *zarakha* (זָרַחְךָ) – male singular

Matthew 1:1 The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

(2) “Sons of Abraham” and the importance of genealogy

The chosen people of Israel identified themselves as the “sons of Abraham.” Genealogy confirms one’s roots. That is why it was so important for Israel to record and preserve genealogies. Since genealogy is a sign of one’s nationality, failing to be enrolled in the genealogy meant a curse.

Ezekiel 13:9 “So My hand will be against the prophets who see false visions and utter lying divinations. They will have no place in the council of My people, nor will they be written down in the register of the house of Israel, nor will they enter the land of Israel, that you may know that I am the Lord GOD.

* Genealogies during the period of exile

Genealogy is important because it indicates where one belongs. For this reason, genealogy became especially important when the Israelites returned from captivity in Babylon. First Chronicles 9, Ezra, and Nehemiah list multiple genealogies and names of the returnees from captivity. To rebuild Israel and prepare to receive the coming Messiah as the son of Abraham, they had to ensure their national identity.

Therefore, through a careful investigation, they reorganized their genealogies and excluded those who could not verify their place in the genealogy.

Ezra 2:59–60 Now these are those who came up from Tel-melah, Tel-harsha, Cherub, Addan and

Immer, but they were not able to give evidence of their fathers' households and their descendants, whether they were of Israel: ⁶⁰ the sons of Delaiah, the sons of Tobiah, the sons of Nekoda, ⁶¹ 652.

Ezra 2:61–63 Of the sons of the priests: the sons of Habaiah, the sons of Hakkoz, the sons of Barzillai, who took a wife from the daughters of Barzillai the Gileadite, and he was called by their name. ⁶² These searched among their ancestral registration, but they could not be located; therefore they were considered unclean and excluded from the priesthood. ⁶³ The governor said to them that they should not eat from the most holy things until a priest stood up with Urim and Thummim.

It was by God's inspiration that they reorganized the genealogy at this time.

Nehemiah 7:5 Then my God put it into my heart to assemble the nobles, the officials and the people to be enrolled by genealogies. Then I found the book of the genealogy of those who came up first in which I found the following record:

As the sons of Abraham who belong to Christ, may all of our names be written in the Book of Life and never fade.

Galatians 3:29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

Revelation 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

Revelation 3:5 'He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

2. The Physical and Spiritual Descendants of Abraham and Their Salvation

(1) Abraham's sons who killed Jesus

The Israelites took pride in being Abraham's descendants.

John 8:33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, 'You will become free'?"

But, they did not receive Jesus, who came as the son of Abraham.

John 1:11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

To the Jews who said, “Our father is Abraham,” Jesus made a shocking declaration, saying, “If you are Abraham’s children, do the deeds of Abraham . . . this Abraham did not do . . . Your father is the devil.”

John 8:37–44 “I know that you are Abraham’s descendants; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. ³⁸ “I speak the things which I have seen with My Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from your father.” ³⁹ They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, do the deeds of Abraham. ⁴⁰ “But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do. ⁴¹ “You are doing the deeds of your father.” They said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father: God.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me. ⁴³ “Why do you not understand what I am saying? It is because you cannot hear My word. ⁴⁴ “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:47 “He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God.”

The Jews also had religious zeal, but the problem was that they did it “in their own way” rather than “according to God’s will.”

Romans 10:2–3 For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. ³ For not knowing about God’s righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Matthew 22:29 But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God.

They did not know the Bible accurately and became arrogant. Consequently, they condemned the Lord Jesus who came according to the Word and crucified Him.

Acts 13:26–28 “Brethren, sons of Abraham’s family, and those among you who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent. ²⁷ “For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither Him nor the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning Him. ²⁸ “And though they found no ground for putting Him to death, they asked Pilate that He be executed.

Furthermore, they said the blood of Jesus' death should fall upon themselves and their descendants. True to their rebellious and irresponsible words, Jerusalem was trampled in great horror, and their descendants suffered to this day.

Matthew 27:25 And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!"

Luke 21:24 and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

Israel, who were chosen first, had to accept Jesus and become the central figure in redemptive history to save the world. Yet, they failed to fulfill that mission and were severely punished, and the lampstand of the mission was passed on to the Gentiles (Ref-Rev 2:5).

(2) The gospel that was preached to Abraham

Despite Israel's failure, God did not stop the history of redemption but delivered the gospel to the Gentiles so that the number of people who were saved could be filled.

Matthew 28:19–20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Acts 13:46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

Romans 11:25 For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery—so that you will not be wise in your own estimation—that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in;

It was God's predestined plan for those who believed in Jesus to become descendants of Abraham. Although we are not descendants of Abraham by blood, it is entirely by God's grace that we can become Abraham's spiritual descendants through faith in Jesus and be blessed along with Abraham.

Galatians 3:7–8 Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham. ⁸ The Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "ALL THE NATIONS WILL BE BLESSED IN YOU."

Romans 4:16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed 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,

Hence, God warns the saints who believed in Jesus and were saved never to be arrogant.

Romans 11:20–21 Quite right, they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear; ²¹ for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.

Matthew 7:21–23 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. ²² “Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ “And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’

We must never think that we are standing (1 Cor 10:12). Let us receive the grace of God, who upholds the humble to the end (Jas 4:6).

(3) Salvation for all Israel

Romans 9-11 speaks of the time when Israel will surely return.

Romans 11:1 I say then, God has not rejected His people, has He? May it never be! For I too am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

Romans 11:26–29 and so all Israel will be saved; just as it is written, “THE DELIVERER WILL COME FROM ZION, HE WILL REMOVE UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB.” ²⁷ “THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS.” ²⁸ From the standpoint of the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but from the standpoint of God’s choice they are beloved for the sake of the fathers; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

For the consummation of redemptive history, the physical descendants of Abraham must also repent and believe in Jesus and be saved together with the spiritual descendants of Abraham.

The restoration of Israel is one of the surest signs of the end time that Jesus spoke of.

Matthew 24:32–33 “Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; ³³ so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door.

Not only must Israel be restored as a nation, but they must repent and believe in Jesus to be saved and become true descendants of Abraham.

For the Jews to return, the fulness of the Gentiles must come. To bring that time forward, we must do our best to spread the message of the history of redemption to all nations.

Psalm 47:9 The princes of the people have assembled themselves as the people of the God of Abraham, For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is highly exalted.

Conclusion: If You Are a Descendant of Abraham, Do the Deeds of Abraham

If we are true sons of Abraham, we must bear fruit by following the deeds of Abraham.

John 8:39 They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, do the deeds of Abraham.

(1) Repentance

When God rebuked Abraham, Abraham did not miss the opportunity to repent.

After Abraham gave birth to Ishmael at the age of 86, God remained silent for 13 years, then appeared to Abraham at the age of 99 and severely rebuked him.

Genesis 17:1 Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.

It is not easy to deny that our choices and decisions were wrong. However, when we realize our mistake, we must immediately repent and turn around.

(2) Prayer

Abraham was a man of prayer. His intercession was especially powerful.

Genesis 18:27–28 And Abraham replied, “Now behold, I have ventured to speak to the Lord, although I am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ “Suppose the fifty righteous are lacking five, will You destroy the whole city because of five?” And He said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.”

Genesis 19:29 Thus it came about, when God destroyed the cities of the valley, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot lived.

We must pray without giving up to evangelize our family, relatives and neighbors, and pass on the right faith to our children. When we pray to save souls, God will surely think of us and bless us to save our families, children, and all others we hope to evangelize.

(3) God-fearing faith

Abraham truly feared God in the final stage of his faith.

Genesis 22:12 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.”

Abraham could do this because he believed that nothing belonged to him. This was the faith in God’s absolute sovereignty. It is the belief that everything is within God’s sovereignty, and even life and death can be entrusted to Him. God recognized this kind of faith and gave him the blessing of “Jehovah-Jireh” (Gen 22:14), and He blessed him in every way (Gen 24:1).

Psalms 34:9 O fear the LORD, you His saints; For to those who fear Him there is no want.

We can summarize Abraham’s life and character of faith in one word—“faithfulness.”

Nehemiah 9:8 “You found his heart faithful before You, And made a covenant with him To give him the land of the Canaanite, Of the Hittite and the Amorite, Of the Perizzite, the Jebusite and the Girgashite— To give it to his descendants. And You have fulfilled Your promise, For You are righteous.

Faithfulness is establishing the right relationship with God. Our faithfulness is manifested when we worship with all our heart and soul.

Genesis 12:7–8 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him.⁸ Then he proceeded from there to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

If we are sons of Abraham, we must resemble our father, Abraham. I believe that God’s plan of redemption, which saves Abraham’s physical and spiritual descendants, will be fully accomplished when we do Abraham’s deeds and build his descendants by passing on the faith, just as we’ve learned from him.

Lecture 8 | Rev. Andrew Pak

Such Was the Appearance of the Glory of the Lord

Ezekiel 1:28

Ezek chapter 1, God shows Ezekiel a vision. Today's text describes this vision as: "such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord."

What is the appearance of the glory of God?

Hebrews 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Jesus is the glory of God.

There are four parts to this vision God showed to Ezekiel.

Vision of the 4 living beings	Vision of the 4 wheels	Vision of the likeness of the expanse	Vision of the throne above the expanse
Ezek 1:4-14	Ezek 1:15-21	Ezek 1:22-25	Ezek 1:26-28

1. Vision of the Four Living Beings

Living beings = cherubim = seraphim

Ezekiel 10:20 These are the living beings that I saw beneath the God of Israel by the river Chebar; so I knew that they were cherubim.

(1) The Four Faces of the Four Living Beings

Ezekiel 1:10 As for the form of their faces, each had the face of a man; all four had the face of a lion on the right and the face of a bull on the left, and all four had the face of an eagle.

① Face of a man symbolizes wisdom

Man was created in God's image, so godly wisdom was in man originally.

Proverbs 9:10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

② Face of the lion symbolizes courage

Proverbs 28:1 The wicked flee when no one is pursuing, But the righteous are bold as a lion.

③ Face of the bull symbolizes faithfulness and sacrifice

An ox works hard all its life and is faithful to its master. When it dies, its entire body is given as a sacrifice offering to God. God searches for such a faithful worker.

Isaiah 1:3 “An ox knows its owner, And a donkey its master’s manger, But Israel does not know, My people do not understand.”

④ Face of the eagle symbolizes swift speed and faith

Eagle is the king of the birds and is very swift.

Job 9:26 “They slip by like reed boats, Like an eagle that swoops on its prey.

Isaiah 40:31 Yet those who wait for the Lord Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

The most noticeable appearance of the four living beings was their human form.

Ezekiel 1:5 Within it there were figures resembling four living beings. And this was their appearance: they had human form.

(2) The Four Living Beings and Jesus Christ

Ezekiel 1:7 Their legs were straight and their feet were like a calf’s hoof, and they gleamed like burnished bronze.

Ezekiel 1:16 The appearance of the wheels and their workmanship was like sparkling beryl, and all four of them had the same form, their appearance and workmanship being as if one wheel were within another.

Ezekiel 1:24 I also heard the sound of their wings like the sound of abundant waters as they went, like the voice of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army camp; whenever they

stood still, they dropped their wings.

Daniel 10:6 His body also was like beryl, his face had the appearance of lightning, his eyes were like flaming torches, his arms and feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a tumult.

Revelation 1:14–15 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. ¹⁵ His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

	Feet/Leg	Voice / Sound	Body / Wheel
Jesus Christ	burnished bronze (Rev 1:15)	sound of a tumult, sound of many waters (Dan 10:6, Rev 1:15)	beryl (Dan 10:6)
Four living beings	burnished bronze (Ezek 1:7)	Sound of their wings: sound of abundant waters, the voice of the Almighty, sound of an army camp (Ezek 1:24)	beryl (Ezek 1:16)

(3) Four Living Beings and Saints

“The characteristics of the four living beings are the intelligence of a man, the courage of a lion, the patience and faithfulness of a bull, and the swiftness and insight of an eagle. This shows the original noble nature of human beings, restored to the dwelling place of God, in the highest state of honor that human beings created in the image of God should originally have.”

“God called Ezekiel and showed him the four living beings to show him what kind of duty and mission that he needed to fulfill.”

Ezek 1:10	Man	Lion	Bull	Eagle
Rev 4:7	Man	Lion	Calf	Eagle
Ezek 10:14	Man	Lion	Cherub	Eagle

A representative characteristic of the living beings is the faithfulness of the bull.

1 Corinthians 4:1–2 (NIV84) So then, men ought to regard us as servants of Christ and as those

entrusted with the secret things of God. ² Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

2. Vision of the Four Wheels

Ezekiel 1:15 Now as I looked at the living beings, behold, there was one wheel on the earth beside the living beings, for each of the four of them.

The wheels display the living beings' mode of movement on earth.

Ezekiel 1:16 The appearance of the wheels and their workmanship was like sparkling beryl, and all four of them had the same form, their appearance and workmanship being as if one wheel were within another.

① The appearance of the wheels was like sparkling beryl

Beryl was a precious stone and in the Ancient Near East, it was carried by those who had been victorious in battle. Thus, it is a symbol of victory over the world or conquest of the world.

John 16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

1 John 5:4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.

② It is the Spirit that moves the living beings

Ezekiel 1:20 Wherever the spirit was about to go, they would go in that direction. And the wheels rose close beside them; for the spirit of the living beings was in the wheels.

③ Wheel within a wheel

If human history is the outer wheel, the inner wheel that controls the outer wheel is God's redemptive history. The redemptive history moves human history toward its consummation.

3. Vision of the Likeness of the Expanse

Ezekiel 1:22 Now over the heads of the living beings there was something like an expanse, like the awesome gleam of crystal, spread out over their heads.

Expanse: (רָקִיעַ) *raqia* – “heaven” that was created on the second day of Creation

The appearance of the expanse is like a crystal.

Revelation 4:6 and before the throne there was something like a sea of glass, like crystal; and in the center and around the throne, four living creatures full of eyes in front and behind.

In order for saints to approach the throne of God, we must first be cleansed by the blood of Christ.

James 1:6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

4. Vision of the Throne Above the Expanse

Ezekiel 1:26 (ESV) And above the expanse over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness with a human appearance.

Sitting on the throne was a HUMAN appearance.

Ezekiel 1:27 Then I noticed from the appearance of His loins and upward something like glowing metal that looked like fire all around within it, and from the appearance of His loins and downward I saw something like fire; and there was a radiance around Him.

The commonality in both upper and lower body appearance is that they were both “like fire.”

Ezek 8:2 states he also looked like “glowing metal.”

“Glowing metal” – Lava, a substance that emits strong light like amber among gems (Metal

that has been refined by fire)

Revelation 1:15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters.

Conclusion: The Appearance of God's Glory Is the Image of Immanuel, Who Is with the Saints Undergoing Refinement in Fire

Isaiah 48:10 “Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

Hebrews 5:8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.

Jesus was with them in the furnace of Babylon.

Daniel 3:25 He said, “Look! I see four men loosed and walking about in the midst of the fire without harm, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods!”

Ezekiel 11:16 “Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God, “Though I had removed them far away among the nations and though I had scattered them among the countries, yet I was a sanctuary for them a little while in the countries where they had gone.” ’

He was with them in the iron furnace of Egypt.

Exodus 3:2 The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.

Deuteronomy 4:20 “But the LORD has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, from Egypt, to be a people for His own possession, as today.

Lecture 9 | Rev. Chun-Gook Lee

The 144,000 Who Sing a New Song

Revelation 14:1-5

In the era of the Church, the period of grace, the only standard of salvation under heaven is Jesus Christ.

Acts 4:12 “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

However, the standard of salvation before Jesus’ First Coming and His return will inevitably differ. From the beginning of the history of redemption to its completion, the Bible speaks of the three periods in terms of the salvation of humankind.

Old Testament	New Testament (First Coming)	Last Days (Second Coming)
Preparation for salvation	Salvation began – Salvation of souls	Salvation perfected – the salvation of body, soul, spirit & transfiguration
Period of cultivating the ground (Gen 3:23)	Time to sow (Matt 13:37)	Time to harvest (Matt 13:39) – The end of age
Period of Law (John 1:17)	Time of grace	Time of the Word (Rev 19:13)
Period of servants	Time of the Son	Time of the Father
First Adam (1 Cor 15:45,47)	Second Adam (1 Cor 15:47)	Last Adam (1 Cor 15:45)

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Romans 8:23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

Genesis 3:23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken.

Matthew 13:37 And He said, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man,

Matthew 13:39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.

John 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

Revelation 19:13 He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

1 Corinthians 15:45 So also it is written, “The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL.” The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

1 Corinthians 15:47 The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven.

God’s history of redemption is rapidly approaching completion, and the 144,000 who sing a new song appear as the key to completing the final puzzle with the Lord’s second coming in the end-time.

The meaning of the end-time

- ❶ The end-time means the end of the age, and its core is the Lord’s second coming.
- ❷ The whole time after Jesus’ passing has the possibility of the Second Coming, and therefore can be considered the “end-time.”
- ❸ Everyone faces an end-time (personal end or cosmic end).
- ❹ The end-time means the completion of the history of redemption.

1. Mount Zion

- ❶ The Lamb and the 144,000 stand together.
- ❷ On the foreheads of the 144,000 are the names of the Lamb and the Father.
- ❸ Sounds come from heaven: the sound of many waters, loud thunder, playing harps
- ❹ 144,000 sing a new song.

2. Composition of 144,000

(1) Those selected from among the 12 tribes – the inwardly (spiritual) tribe

Revelation 7:4 And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

(2) The firstborn assembly : $12 \times 12 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 144,000$

$3 \times 4 = 12$ (12 tribes: representatives of the Old Testament saints)

$3 \times 4 = 12$ (12 disciples: representatives of the New Testament saints)

100,000 (full number)

Revelation 7:9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

3. Qualifications for the 144,000

(1) Those who have the name of the Lamb and the Father on their foreheads

① Name of the Lamb: Spirit of resurrection - the grace of calling God Father

Galatians 4:6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

② Name of the Father: Spirit of transfiguration - the power of the Word to live without seeing death both physically and spiritually

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Two types of seals

Seal of the Spirit: heart

2 Corinthians 1:22 who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.

Seal of God: forehead

Revelation 7:2–3 And I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, having the seal of the living God; and he cried out with a loud voice to the four angels to whom it was granted to harm the earth and the sea, ³ saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees until we have sealed the bond-servants of our God on their foreheads.”

Revelation 14:1 Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads.

(2) Those who do not defile themselves with women and have chastity: spiritual purity

Revelation 14:4 These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

① Woman: World (spiritual state)

Revelation 17:1 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, “Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters,

② Those who have chastity of faith: virgins, daughters, chaste virgins

2 Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

(3) Those who follow the Lamb wherever it leads: obedience

Revelation 14:4 These are the ones who have not been defiled with women, for they have kept themselves chaste. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These have been purchased from among men as first fruits to God and to the Lamb.

① Why can they follow?

a. Because they know the voice of the Lord.

John 10:4 “When he puts forth all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him

because they know his voice.

b. Because they can discern the true pasture.

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

② “Following” means a life of bearing one’s cross.

Our God leads us sometimes to the place of glory and sometimes to the place of suffering and refines us in the iron furnace. Hence, we must “deny ourselves and take up our cross” to follow the Lord “wherever He leads us.”

Mark 8:34 And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

(4) Those who have no lies in their mouths and are blameless.

① Lies – the characteristics of the devil

John 8:44 “You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

② Those without blemish

2 Peter 3:14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless,

4. Mission of the 144,000

(1) The 144,000 learn the new song

Revelation 14:3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth.

Praise is a prayer with a melody. And prayer should be based on the Word and fulfill God’s will. In other words, the new song is a new word, a new lesson different from the previous one. It is the word of redemptive history.

Mark 1:27 They were all amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.”

(2) The 144,000 sing a new song

The new song of the 144,000 is the mission to spread the last gospel.

① Lyrics of the new song: Worthy is the Lamb to break the seals

Revelation 5:9 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

② The new song is likened to the sound of seven thunders, the sound of heaven, the sound of many waters, a great thunder, the sound of harps

Revelation 10:3–4 and he cried out with a loud voice, as when a lion roars; and when he had cried out, the seven peals of thunder uttered their voices. ⁴ When the seven peals of thunder had spoken, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Seal up the things which the seven peals of thunder have spoken and do not write them.”

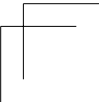
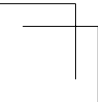
Revelation 14:2 And I heard a voice from heaven, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder, and the voice which I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps.

Conclusion: The 144,000 Are Those with the Mission to Preach the Last Gospel

Revelation 14:3 And they sang a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and the elders; and no one could learn the song except the one hundred and forty-four thousand who had been purchased from the earth.

Let us all become a faithful and sensible servant who gives food at the proper time and blessed by the Master.

Matthew 24:45–46 “Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ “Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.





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