

Title: The Promise of Blessings

Text: Genesis 12:2-3

Take your Bibles and let's turn to the book of Genesis, chapter 12.

~~Now, last Sunday,~~ ^{This Morning} we looked at the tremendous need of the believer to separate himself from the world, and secondly, to submit himself unto God, if we are to receive the blessings of God. And we saw this in the example of Abaraham.

Now, ^{Tonight} ~~today~~, I want to look at this ~~same~~ issue of blessings. Because ^{That's one when we fulfill the promise} when we have separated and submitted ourselves unto God, then God promises fantastic blessings.... ^{of course, are a part of Abraham.}

Genesis chapter 12 beginning at Vs 2 (Read Vs 2 and 3)

Prayer

O.K. what were the blessings that came to Abraham, ~~and will come to us,~~ when ~~he~~ ^{himself} separated and submitted ~~ourselves~~ unto God.

(1) Number one, the plan for a great nation.

God said to Abraham, "I will make you a great nation."

And the whole nation of Israel is the marvel; and one of the great mysteries of the world. God made them great. He has been with them all the way through the years. God has blessed them and prospered them in many unusally ways.

And the truth of the matter is that this covenant to A^rraham has not yet been completely fulfilled. God is going to make the nation of Israel greater than it has ever been in the past. And even today, it is a drop in the bucket in comparison to what God is going to do. "I will make you a great nation."

Now, I don't know whether or not God will make you into a great nation - Best, he might. If that is his will for your life. Maybe it is referring to great influence in the lives of others because of submission to his will.

(2D) Secondly, we have the provision of all of Abraham's needs.

In Vs 2, it says, "I will bless you." ~~What~~ ^{what} more could we add? "The Lord, I, will bless you!" Don't worry Abraham about a thing. I will provide for all of your needs. I will bless you

(3D) Third, he had the prominence of his name.I will make your name great. And for this, you must go back, again, to chapter 11 ~~remember~~ ^{remember} what ~~I shared last week.~~ ^{Tam} Back to chapter 11, please, and notice in Vs 4. When the people under Nimrod tried to rebell against God and build this tower of Babel. In vs 4 of chapter 11 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; lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

Here the people said, "let us make us a name."

And God said to Abraham, "I will make your name great." Only God can do that.

(4D) The fourth blessing is the power and effectiveness of one man's life.

God said, "you shall be a blessing.:"....Not only will I bless you, but you are going to be a blessing to a lot of people. What more could we ask? You want a powerful life and an effective life? You want an abundant and fruitful life? You will be a blessing.....WHY?...Because you have ~~got~~ ^{gotten} out of the country, you have got out of your fathers house and you came into a land that I will show you. Submission to my will, will result in the greatest blessings.

*Blessed
To merge
For they
shall
receive many*

(5D) Then number five, in Vs 3, is ^{prospective} ~~prosperative~~ of others. Everyone who comes into your life and blesses you, says God, Vs 3..."I will bless them that bless you."

And I read in the Bible that even in the future coming tribulation period, those who will treat Israel like brothers are going to be rewarded. All the way through history, those who have blessed the nation of Israel will be blessed. What a tremendous promise. Even if it is a cup of cold water given in the name of Jesus Christ to one of his suffering brethren the Bible says it will be rewarded.....

(6D) And the sixth promise is protection from others. God said, "and the one who curses you I will curse." Every person who has raised his hand against Abraham and his seed, has suffered the tremendous consequences of the judgement of God. Curse him that curses thee....And a lot of people have tried. They tried in the days of Abraham. They have tried it in our day. But God has made his promise and covenant with his people. "The one who curses you I will curse."

(7D) Then finally, I want you to center in on that last phrase. Here we have the purpose of all people. "And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." *— This has been fulfilled —*

Will you take your Bibles and turn to Galations chapter 3. Galations chapter 3. " In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Through this one man, the Bible says that God will bless the world. And Galation chapter 3:8-9 tells us how.....

We read: "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'ALL THE NATIONS SHALL BE BLESSED IN YOU.' So then those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer.".....

Every person who has put his faith in the line of Abraham, the ~~line of Shem~~, is one of the children of Abraham...And receives the promise which is given in Genesis chapter 12.

Now, look down in the same chapter to Vs 16: "Now the promises ^{were} ~~were~~ spoken to Abraham and to his seed¹. He does not say, 'AND TO SEEDS,' as referring to many, but rather to one, 'AND TO YOUR SEED,' that is, Christ."

So, when God said to Abraham, "in thee shall all families be blessed" it was not through the multitude of the Jewish people which has been a result of the blessing of God, but no...through one seed, the Messiah, Jesus Christ, himself. Through him the whole world would be blessed. And God's purpose for all people ^{is now} ~~would be~~ fulfilled.

Vs 29 of this same chapter: "And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise."

Now, look at Vs 29 of the same chapter and let's read through Vs 5 of chapter 4.

(Read 3:29-4:5)

What a fanastastic promise.....The Bible tells us that for a long time people were like children under guardians. They were kept under managers and under the bondage of the law. But when the fulness of time came, God's whole plan and covenant to Abraham centered in a little child that was born of a woman.

And Jesus is the complete fulfillment in the fulness of God's time for the whole world. ^{He} is the complete fulfillment of the promise given to Abraham, IN THEE SHALL ALL FAMILIES OF THE WORLD BE BLESSED. And when the fulness of time came, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman to redeem us. What a fantastic passage.

Now, turn over to ^{Luke} ~~Luke~~ chapter one, please. Luke chapter 1.... Zacharias who was the husband of Elizabeth the sister of Mary. Zacharias makes a tremendous statement in Luke chapter 1 in relationship to this covenant which God had given to the people. "IN THEE ABRHABM ^{SHALL} ~~SHOULD~~ ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE WORLD BE BLESSED.

(Read Luke 1:67-80)

Who is he talking about?....He is talking about John the Baptist. What was John the Baptist purpose?....He was to prepare the way of the Lord. Well, ~~why~~ why was that important to Zacharias?...It was that the great covenant promised to Abraham was now fulfilled....THAT ALL FAMILIES OF THE WORLD SHOULD BE BLESSED THROUGH ONE SEED, JESUS CHRIST THE MESSIAH.

Let us close with a word of prayer