

FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH III

October 13, 2024

Genesis 12:1-9

READ

Genesis 12:1-9

Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. As Genesis 11 ends, Abram has been in Haran for some time. What has been going on during this time (c.f., 11:31b; 12:5a)?
2. What is different with 12:1? (What changes?) Why is this significant?
3. If you, in Abram's sandals, had been on the receiving end of the promises in 12: 1-3, describe the effect they would have on you (and your faith).
4. Why do you suppose a life of separation is so important to God? (What is the bigger picture here?)

What bearing does the mention of the Canaanite inhabitants (v. 6b) have on this?

5. Verse 7 ups the ante on divine promises. What impact is this likely to have upon Abram?

6. In immediate response, Abram “built an altar . . . to the LORD” (v. 7b). What is the purpose of an altar?

What does an altar represent—especially in light of v. 6b?

7. Proceeding, or moving on, Abram “pitched his tent.” Ruminare on life in a tent versus life in a city (e.g., Ur or Haran). What does this mean to Sarai? (Take Hebrews 11:9-10, 13-16 into account.)

How have Abram’s outlook & priorities shifted?

8. Discuss the significance of Abram pitching his tent and building an altar between Bethel (“house of God”) and Ai (“heap of ruins”). (Bring Ephesians 4:22-24 to bear on the discussion.)

PERSONAL RESPONSE

In pursuing faith this week, I will not remain where I am by . . .

In pursuing faith this week, I will not stop where I choose by . . .

In pursuing faith this week, I will push forward to the greater God has for me by . . .