

Vayetzei (And He Left)

Numbers 6:24-26

YHVH Bless you and keep you; YHVH make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; YHVH lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

The Scripture is a chronicle of a people named Israel and Judah. It was written and preserved, by the very Oracle of YHVH and by His miraculous intervention to deliver the Birth Right to His promised seed line.

We take a step back looking at our previous lessons from Abraham to his (seed line) sons, their past and future.

As Abraham left the left Ur, because YHVH called him. Abraham obeyed unquestioningly the commands of YHVH, and received repeated promises and a covenant that his "seed" would inherit the land.

Genesis 13:15

for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.

The land pledged to Abraham was part of YHVH's provision for the Jewish people. After the Exodus from Egypt, the Jews were given the Promised Land, confirming YHVH's power to predict the future and fulfill His promises.

The prosperity promised to Abraham were set before him as he walked with YHVH seeing the territories and border lines.

Prosperity in Abraham's time involved doing what YHVH commanded him and then Abraham will acquire land and having many livestock.

YHVH's 's promise to make Abraham prosperous would virtually walk in those places. He would see the land promised to Abraham and his generations.

In Genesis 12:1-3, YHVH says to Abraham, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

This blessing included land that, at the time the promise was made, belonged to other people.

We have to understand that these lands belonged to YHVH and He is the rightful owner, "the earth is YHVH's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1).

As the Creator of the earth, YHVH has the right to do with it as He pleases. He can take land away or give it according to the counsel of His will (Psalm 135:6).

The land pledged to Abraham was part of YHVH's provision for the Abraham Covenant generations.

After the Exodus from Egypt, the Israelites were given the Promised Land, confirming YHVH's power to predict the future and fulfill His promises.

Giving the land to Abraham's descendants was, in part, a judgment on the sinful Canaanites. In Genesis 15:16 YHVH gives a timeframe for the transfer of the land, as well as a reason for it.

This bond between the People of Israel and their land was reaffirmed to succeeding generations through his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob: *The land that I assigned to Abraham and Isaac I assign to you and to your offspring to come.* (Genesis. 35:12)

"In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure." This statement clearly shows that YHVH had a reason taking the land from the Canaanites namely, their sin. At the edge of the Promised Land, Moses told the children of Abraham, "It is on account of the wickedness of these nations that YHVH is going to drive them out before you" (Deuteronomy 9:4).

Abraham did not inherit the land immediately because it was not time yet for judgment to fall. YHVH eventually took the land from the idolaters and turned it over to His children.

The prosperity promised to Abraham required a vast territory of land. The prosperity of Abraham involved not just acquiring land and having much livestock but to walk righteous before YHVH. YHVH's promise to make Abraham prosperous would virtually require giving him land that will be able to host all the promised seed.

The geographical portion of the Abrahamic Covenant was larger than imagined as the children of Abraham would be blessings, called the "Birthright," which was handed down thru the sons. These sons had to take wife's from their own people to keep the promised seed line pure.

As the historical basis for Israel's eventual settlement of the land would result these sons to leave and set out to find a wife within their families.

Though there were many nations living in Canaan when Israel crossed the Jordan River, YHVH's promise to Abraham was Israel's claim to the land.

In Genesis 15:18-21, YHVH further defined the borders of the land promised to Abraham: "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites."

The importance of our lesson is to follow instruction and commitment. To go forth and see the blessings of YHVH.

Genesis 17:1-9

Abram was ninety-nine years old when YHVH appeared to him again and said, "I am YHVH All-Powerful. If you obey me and always do right, I will keep my solemn promise to you and give you more descendants than can be counted." Abram bowed with his face to the ground, and God said: I promise that you will be the father of many nations. That's why I now change your name from Abram to Abraham. I will give you many of descendants, and in the future they will become great nations. Some of them will even be kings. I will always keep the promise I have made to you and your descendants, because I Am your Elohim and their Elohim. I will give you and them the land in which you are now a foreigner. I will give the whole land of Canaan to your family forever, and I will be their Elohim. Abraham, you and all future members of your family must promise to obey me.

The reasons for this transfer of land included the need to fulfill the punishment of the Canaanites' sin.

YHVH's chosen people had been given this land as their own birthright that eventually become the birthplace of the Messiah.

YHVH made a promise to Abraham that continued far beyond this patriarch's lifetime. "And YHVH said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: 'Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are, northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.

And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered. Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you."

And Abram believed in YHVH, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. ... On the same day YHVH made a covenant with Abram, saying: 'To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates."



His descendants would become numerous, like the stars in the sky.

Genesis 49, Jacob is blessing his sons, and, in verse 10, the Messianic promise is passed unto Judah. The book details the line of YHVH's promise. Returning to the beginning of the book provides a key for all that follows. In Genesis 3:15, the promise of enmity between the seed of woman and the evil one is first made.

Immediately, in Genesis 4 a contrast is drawn between Qayin and Havel. Genesis 6 draws a contrast between Noah and the sinful population around him. This contrast continues, and, in Genesis 21, we see this conflict between Ishmael and Isaac.

Isaiah 41:8 records YHVH calling His people the seed of Abraham His friend.

Isaac is the only begotten son of Abraham and Sarah. He is the seed of promise through whom the nations will be blest, and YHVH even calls on him to be sacrificed.

The narrative of Esau selling his birthright to Jacob, in Genesis 25, states that Esau despised his birthright. Isaac then refuses to take Jacob's blessing back after learning he was tricked, and does not give this blessing to Esau but, after Esau begs, gives him an inferior blessing. Esau took wife's from nations that were not permitted. He sold his birthright.

The disobedience of marrying these woman, grieved his mother as she remembered the Covenant made.

Deuteronomy 7:1-3

When YHVH your Elohim brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations—the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, seven nations larger and stronger than youDo not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons.

Isaiah 62:4

You will never again be called the Abandoned One, nor will your land be called Deserted. But you will be called My Delight Is in You, and your land My Beloved Wife, for YHVH finds His delight in you and He married your land.

Marriage is sacred to YHVH as a wife had to chosen. The men who obediently walked with YHVH kept their Covenant by keeping their promises not to take wifes from these nations.

Genesis 24:1-4

Abraham was now very old, and YHVH had blessed him in every way. One day Abraham said to his oldest servant, the man in charge of his household, "Take an oath by putting your hand under my thigh. I want you to swear by YHVH, the Elohim of heaven and the Elohim of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living,

Go instead to my homeland, to my relatives, and find a wife there for my son Isaac."

This became tradition for every son in the generation of Abraham to keep the commandments and walk in it.

Genesis 28:10

"And Jacob went out from Beersheba, and went toward Haran."

Isaac's wife Rebecca had a difficult pregnancy as the twin boys jostled within her. When she inquired of the Lord, He told her that two nations were in her womb and the elder (Esau) would serve the younger (Jacob).

Jacob's travels to Harran, his mother's homeland, to find a wife and to flee the murderous plot of his brother Esau.

Beersheba was a city in ancient Israel in the southern part of the land. To the south of Beersheba was the Negev Desert, so Beersheba marked the southernmost boundary of cultivated land in Israel.

As the last stop before the ancient wilderness, Beersheba became a point of departure for many spiritual journeys. Abraham, Hagar, Jacob, and Elijah all experienced lifechanging encounters with YHVH in association with Beersheba (Genesis 16:8; 21:17; 46:3-4; 1 Kings 19:3).

Beersheba also figures into the story of Abraham's son, Isaac. Following in his father's footsteps, Isaac moved into the land of the Philistines when there was a famine in Canaan (Genesis 26).

As Abraham had done, Isaac built an altar and called upon the name of YHVH. Isaac called the place Shevah, which means "oath" or "seven" In this way, Isaac perpetuated the name his father had given the place, and Beersheva became the name of the town that would later be built near the wells that Abraham and Isaac had named.

We experienced a turning point becomes a memorial in our hearts, much as Beersheba's altar, well, and tamarisk tree were to Abraham and Isaac.

When YHVH reveals His will to us or rescues us in some way, we can create a personal "Beersheba" in our hearts. Then, when times of doubt or conflict come, we can return there over and over in our hearts for assurance that God is fulfilling His plan.

Jacob was not a adventurer like his brother, Esau. He had a humble and quite personality from birth, preferring to be at home rather than out in the woods hunting for game.

The call to leave his home for another land (like the call of his grandfather Abraham and his father Isaac). His turning point started when he had to go forward, running to save his life, at his mother's request.

Jacob had just received an extraordinary blessing from his father Isaac of "heaven's dew and earth's richness, an abundance of grain and new wine" with a promise of nations serving and bowing down to him (Genesis 27:28–29).

So Jacob set out for Harran, much blessed. In return of his comfort, he spent his first night sleeping on the cold, hard ground without any kind of physical shelter and only stones for a pillow.

Genesis 28:10-22

Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of YHVH were ascending and descending on it. There above it[stood YHVH, and he said: "I am YHVH, the Elohim of your father Abraham and the Elohim of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

When YHVH send us forth, His plans are certainly greater than we could ever imagine. It is for us to be able to leave the comfort zone we got so used to in exchange for a blessing that YHVH already planned ahead of us. As Jacob and the Hebrew children were leaving Canaan to enter Egypt at Joseph's invitation, they came to Beersheba. YHVH spoke to Jacob in a dream, telling him four truths:

- I am God. (Genesis 46:3)
- Do not be afraid to go where I am leading you.
- My purposes for you are there, not here.
- I will go there with you. (Genesis 46:4)

It is clear through this Scripture that the Divine title deed to this land belongs to the seed of Jacob (whose name was later changed to Israel) and not the seed of his brother, Esau, who is the forefather of many of the Arabic people currently living in the Land.

It's also easy to see that some of these descendants of Esau still hate their "brother Jacob" and seek to kill his descendants.

Jacob awoke from his dream filled with awe, delighting in the presence of the One True God; and for that reason, he called the place Bethel or Beit–El (House of God). In truth, though, any place can become a "house of Elohim" when His holy Presence invades the space.

Lesson continue

Be blessed and stay blessed 🌷