

The Transition to the Dispensation of Promise

- I. God deals with Abram while he was unsaved (Gen. 11:27-15:5).**
1. Abram leaves Ur.
 - 1) At this time Abram was an idolator (Josh. 24:2).
 - 2) Terah took Abram out of Ur (Gen. 11:31).
 - 3) While in Haran, God removes Abram to another land (Gen. 20:13; Acts 7:2-4).
 2. God's 1st Promise to Abram (Gen. 12:1-3).
 - 1) God will "show" him a land.
 - 2) Abram will become a great nation, cf. "family".
 - 3) Abram will have great notoriety.
 - 4) Abram will be blessed.
 - 5) All families will be blessed through Abram.
 - 6) No land, or seed mentioned.
 3. God's 2nd Promise to Abram (Gen. 12:7-9).
 - 1) Now in Canaan.
 - 2) Abram adds God to his Pantheon of gods.
 - 3) God promises Abram the land he can see for his seed.
 - 4) No length of time mentioned.
 - 5) God is demonstrating to Abram the need of a seed for inheritance of wealth and land.
 - 6) Abram leaves to another land, not having faith.
 4. A famine occurs (Gen. 12:10-20).
 - 1) Abram goes to Egypt for food.
 - 2) Abram passes Sarai off as his sister to perceived threat.
 - i. Sarai, at 70 + years is still a "dime."
 - ii. Sarai is Abram's half-sister (Gen. 20:11-12).
- II. Picking the worthless is a demonstration of grace (1 Cor. 1:26-29).**
1. God chooses:
 - 1) The unwise.
 - 2) Those with little influence.
 - 3) Not many "well born", those of low birth.
 - 4) Those considered not intelligent.
 - 5) Those without social status—strength.
 - 6) Those who have nothing to offer.
 - 7) Those rejected by the world.
 2. God choice illustrates:
 - 1) The shame of the world's wise.
 - 2) The shame of society's rulers—mighty.
 - 3) To destroy the world's values.