

# Genesis 1-11

- ▶ The foundation of the Bible, history and theology
- ▶ Great themes:
  - God
  - Creation
  - Man
  - The Fall
  - The Flood
  - The Dispersion at Babel
  - The hopeless estate of man
- ▶ The plan of salvation in primitive form
  - The Divine purpose
  - Seed of the woman
  - Clothing of animal skins
  - An acceptable sacrifice
  - Seth – appointed by God
  - Enoch walked with God – preached
  - Lamech's hope
  - Noah found grace
  - Mercy in wrath at the Flood
  - The Covenant with Noah

# The Plan of Salvation Presented to Abram

- ▶ The Promise
  1. Blessing – salvation
  2. A great nation – Israel
  3. Blessing for the nations
  4. The Seed – a future Child
  
- ▶ The Plan of God
  1. Unconditional – Galatians 3:15-29
  2. Progressive revelation
  3. The blessing experience under the curse
    - Life under the Promise of God
    - A faith driven life

# God's Covenant and Man's Devices

## Genesis 15-17

### ▶ Genesis 12-14

The Promise is given to Abram.

Arrival in the Promised Land

The departure to Egypt in the face of famine

The division of the land in the face of conflict

The military conquest

The lesson of Melchizedek

– Abram is blessed of the Most High God

– The role of Melchizedek

Abram refuses reward from Sodom

### ▶ Genesis 15-17

Blessing is by faith – Genesis 15

Blessing is by faith alone – Genesis 16

Blessing is by faith which works – Genesis 17

## Justification by faith – Genesis 15

- ▶ Genesis 15:6 – Abram justified by faith
  - Romans 4:1-3
  - Galatians 3:6-9
  - James 2:23
- ▶ What was it that Abram believed that God “counted it to him for righteousness”?
  - What do we believe to be justified?
    - Jesus is the Son of God
    - Jesus died on the cross for our sins
  - What did Abram believe?
    - The Promise – Genesis 12:1-3
    - A child for Abram – Genesis 15:1-5
- ▶ The faith of Abram (Genesis 15:1-6)
  - The Word of the LORD came to Abram
    - I am your shield – I am your great reward
  - Abram’s response
    - no offspring!
    - Eliezer was his heir
    - What will you give me?
  - The LORD’S answer
    - Abram shall have a son
    - Offspring like the stars in number
  - Abram believed God about the great reward
  - Abram’s reward:
    - John 8:56; Hebrews 11:10, 13, 16 (11:24-26)
  - The great reward
    - Hebrews 11:6
    - Isaiah 40:9-11; 62:11-12
    - Matthew 5:11-12; 6:1; Luke 6:35; Col. 3:23-24

▶ The Covenant Ceremony

The land promise re-affirmed

- Abram asks for evidence

The Covenant ceremony

- 3 dead animals and 2 dead birds
- Deep sleep for Abram
- The promise of God delayed
- The smoking torch
- The land defined.

Answer: Trust the faithfulness of God!

Misguided faith  
Justified by faith alone  
Genesis 16

- ▶ True faith of Abram and Sarai
- ▶ Misguided faith
  - The human plan
  - The consequences
  - The Angel of the LORD
  - The faith of Hagar
- ▶ Ishmael is born

Justified by faith that works  
The evidence of true faith  
Genesis 17

- ▶ The duty of Abram (17:1-2)  
“Walk before Me and be blameless.”
- ▶ The promise of God (17:4-8)  
father of many nations  
Abram is Abraham  
an everlasting possession
- ▶ The sign of the Covenant  
circumcision
- ▶ The offspring of Abraham and Sarah  
the promise re-affirmed  
Abraham circumcises his household

# The Blessing

- ▶ The Blessing is eternal salvation.
- ▶ The Blessing is received by faith.
- ▶ The Object of faith is the Seed Who saves.
- ▶ The Blessing comes by faith alone!
- ▶ The Blessing is demonstrated by obedience.