

Genesis 12:10-20 Devotions

☐ Monday - Test of Faith.

Genesis 12:10

“Now there was a famine in the land; so Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land” (Gen. 12:10). God brought Abram to the promised land (Gen. 12:1-9), and then sent a severe famine (Gen. 12:10-20). Should Abram stay in the land or go to Egypt? Christian, “Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). Read Romans 14:23

☐ Tuesday - Female Beauty & Piety.

Genesis 12:11, 14

At sixty-five Sarah was still a strikingly beautiful woman (Gen. 12:11, 14); this in a day when people apparently aged more slowly and lived twice as long as today (~125-175 years). But external beauty is only skin deep; true beauty is on the inside. Christian woman, “Let your adornment not be merely external ... but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.” (1 Pet. 3:3-4). “For God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Sam. 16:7). Read Proverbs 31:30

☐ Wednesday - Sister Wives?

Genesis 12:11

Abraham and his wife Sarah had different mothers, but the same father (Terah), which means that Abraham married his half-sister (Gen. 20:12). Eww, gross right, but was it weird 4000 years ago? To answer that question we need to look back even further: Adam and Eve were created genetically perfect. They were as “evolved” as the human race would ever be. But God warned them if they ate the forbidden fruit they would surely die (Gen. 2:17); yet they ate and they died. Yes, that day they died spiritually (Eph. 2:1), and set into motion the gradual genetic decay and eventual death of their physical bodies. Adam and Eve’s children intermarried (only option) and for many centuries the negative genetic effect of marriage between close relatives was almost imperceptible. Yet within 2500 years after Creation, degenerative mutations had accumulated to such an extent in the human race that it was necessary for God to introduce laws forbidding brother-sister (and close relative) marriage (Deut. 27:22). So then, what about Abraham and Sarah? They lived five hundred years before genetic degradation required such a law, and so they suffered neither the moral nor physical consequences. Read Romans 5:12-14

☐ Thursday - Situational Ethics.

Genesis 12:11-13

The Bible says, “Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord” (Prov. 12:22). But is it ever OK to lie? How about to protect the innocent? The Hebrew midwives lied to Pharaoh to save the Hebrew baby boys, and Rahab lied to protect the Hebrew spies. But here Abram tells a half-truth to protect himself, and puts Sarah’s safety and purity in jeopardy. Read Exodus 1:15-21, Joshua 2:3-5

☐ Friday - First Deliverance Out Of Egypt.

Genesis 12:17

“But the Lord struck Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram’s wife. 500 years later God would strike Pharaoh and Egypt with plagues to deliver His people once again (Exodus 7-12), not because they were perfect people, but because they were His people. Read 2 Peter 2:9