

THE GLORY OF GOD - 2025

Week 4 – JROC - Abraham's Response to the Glory of God

February 2, 2025

Understanding God's purpose for His creation leads to understanding God's purpose for the universal flood!

WHY did God create the world? For His glory!

Prov. 16:4 - *The Lord has made all for Himself,*

Rom. 11:36 - *For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.*

WHY did God create man?

Rev. 4:11 - *You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created. Man was created to glorify God!*

When we read about “man” in the early chapters of Genesis (Gen. 1-Gen. 11) – about what type of man are we reading? Gentiles? Jews?

How about “mankind”?

WHY did God send the universal flood?

God took merciful action to stop humanity's headlong cascade into evil (Gen. 6:5). *...every intention of the thoughts of man's heart was only evil continually.*

We need to know from Scripture that God doesn't take pleasure in the death of the wicked.

Eze. 33:11 - *As I live, 'says the Lord God, 'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways!*

II Pet. 3:9 - *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

Genesis highlights how the wickedness unleashed by the Fall caused God sorrow and grief (Gen. 6:1-7).

Was sin eradicated through the flood? No! The Nephilim were destroyed (II Pet. 2:4-5). The “one blood” of Acts 17:26 (*And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth*), is that of Adam through Noah. All physical characteristics of the whole race were present in the genetics of Noah, his sons, and their wives.

We read of the depravity of man in Genesis 9 through Genesis 11.

In Genesis 9 we read that Noah planted a vineyard, drank of the wine and was drunk and became uncovered/naked in his tent. Noah’s son, Ham, saw the nakedness of his father and seemingly took delight in it and told his brothers. Noah cursed Canaan, one of Ham’s sons.

In Genesis 11 we read the first attempt at globalism – one world! What had God told man to do from the time when Adam and Eve inhabited Eden? *Be fruitful and multiply!*

Gen. 11:1-9 - *Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. ² And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. ³ Then they said to one another, ‘Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.’ ⁴ And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a*

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tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.’ ⁵ But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. God then said. . . ⁷ ‘Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.’ ⁸ So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. ⁹ Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Had God’s plan been thwarted? NO! God’s plan is ALWAYS – PLAN A!!! God’s initial plan for creation will be restored. And...

Hab. 2:14 - *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord....* which will occur in the Millennial Kingdom which leads into the Eternal State (the new heavens and the new earth; the New Jerusalem)

But what about in Noah’s day moving toward Abraham’s day? The earth was not filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.

Gen. 10:1– *Now this is the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.* We read of 70 nations coming from Noah’s three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

And regarding SHEM'S descendants, we read...

Gen. 11:27- 31 - *This is the genealogy of Terah: Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Haran begot Lot. ²⁸ And Haran died before his father Terah in his native land, in Ur of the Chaldeans. ²⁹ Then Abram and Nahor took wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai ³⁰ But Sarai was barren; she had no child. ³¹ And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans (modern day Iraq) to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there.*

Where does this take us? To Genesis 12. God promised to create a great nation! Here we read the beginning of the history of Israel (Genesis 12-Revelation 22 [Isa. 2:2; Isa. 66:22]; Zech.; Eze. 40-48; and many other passages! Cross reference). For the first 2,000 years from creation there was mankind. No Jews, no Gentiles. Mankind! In 2,000 BC, God created the nation of Israel.

Gen. 12:1-3 - *Now the Lord **had** said to Abram: 'Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.* To whom is God speaking in Gen. 12:1-3? Abram! An idol worshipper? And Who will be carrying out the blessings and the curses? GOD!

But - what's happening to the one story/one narrative of the Bible? IT CONTINUES! God's plan is ALWAYS...PLAN A!!!

*Now the Lord **had** said to Abram....* Where do we read about God having said to Abram...Get out of your family, from your father's house?

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Acts 7:2-3 - *The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, ³ and said to him, 'Get out of your country and from your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you.'*

The Glory of God REVEALED HIMSELF (because God's glory cannot be contained) to Abram who was a pagan/a heathen!! How do we know that Abram was a pagan?

Josh. 24:2 - *Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods.*

God REVEALED Himself. Did Abram from Ur of the Chaldeans respond?

Gen. 11:31 - And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there.

We already read from Genesis 10 that **70 nations** were birthed from Noah's three sons. WHY in Genesis 12 are we reading about a new "great nation"?

Before the children of Israel entered the land of promise, Moses, in Deut. 32, told the nation of Israel, *When the Most High (When God) divided their inheritance* (Israel's inheritance; Israel's land) *to the nations, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the boundaries of the peoples* (the Gentiles) *according to the number of the children of Israel.* (WHY??) *For the Lord's portion is His people;* (SO??) *Jacob* (whose name was changed to Israel) *is the place of His inheritance.* Throughout the OT we see the children of Israel connected to the land – which God had promised them. God set the boundaries of the **70 nations** according to the number of the children of Israel...which was **70**!?? How is the number of the children of Israel 70?

Gen. 46:27 - *All the persons of the house of Jacob who went to Egypt were **seventy**.*

Ex. 1:5 - *All those who were descendants of Jacob were **seventy** persons.*

Is this significant?

In reading Deut. 32:8-9, it appears that God ordained a plan whereby the nations (70 nations) and Israel (70 persons going down to Egypt) would be connected. HOW?

Deut. 32:1 - *Give ear, O heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.* All of creation was called to be an audience to hear the message to Israel because the truth Moses was about to proclaim concerned the whole universe.

When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the children of Israel. For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the place of His inheritance.

God chose Israel to accomplish His purposes for the world! God intended Israel to be a channel of blessing to the nations (Gen. 12:3; Gen. 18:18; Isa. 19:24-25; Isa. 42:6; Rom. 11:12, 15). God set the boundaries of the Gentiles according to the children of Israel because the Israelites were chosen to be God's instrument of blessing for the world!

CONSIDER: Joshua 2:9-11; I Sam. 17:45-46.

The nation of Israel was to be a light to the nations.

What's happening, though, to the one story/one narrative of the Bible? IT CONTINUES! God's plan is ALWAYS...PLAN A!!!