

RUSSELL SANDERS

10-15-2020

ABRAHAM PART 2

ABRAM – HIS BEGINNINGS

Abraham was born Abram. His name Abram meant “father of height.” God did indeed take him to great heights, but later changed his name to Abraham to be more specific. Abraham means “father of multitudes.

Abram was the tenth generation from Noah. Ten is the number of completion, so the covenant with Noah was complete as God would make a new covenant promise with His chosen vessel, Abram. Abram was the grandson of Nahor and the son of Terah. Their homeland was in Chaldea (pr. Kal-dé ah) in the city of Ur. Chaldea was the southern portion of Babylon (present day Iraq).

Chaldea had an established reputation of spiritually gifted men who had “understanding” of heavenly matters. They knew how to understand meanings from the stars. They could interpret dreams. This heritage followed them for many centuries. Abram’s time was approximately 2000 B.C. to 1900 B.C., and we see the Chaldeans reputation intact even when Daniel was in Babylonian captivity in the 500’s B.C. Even though they were called the “wise men” due to their understanding of the times, they did not get their understanding from Yahweh (God).

Chaldean “wise men” were almost certainly the “wise men from the east” who visited the young child, Jesus, in Bethlehem. They had seen “His star” and knew a king out of their blood line had been born in Israel. This would also hint that Abram had grown up in a culture that had some spiritual sensitivity even though it did not come from Yahweh. God, however, had not revealed Himself to the world. He would call out Abram and chose this man to reveal Himself to mankind because the true knowledge of God had not passed down through Noah’s generations.

Abram was chosen for this purpose, that God would raise up a people called by His name, a people through which He would reveal Himself to the world. We will follow Abram along his journey. We will learn from the pitfalls of his failures and we will glory in his victories and triumphs of faith.