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ABRAHAM PART 12
THE PROMISE REAFFIRMED

Upon returning to Beth-el, a dispute between Abram's men and Lot's men caused them to separate. Lot and his clan went east to the Plain of Jordan and Lot settled in Sodom. Abram went west and settled in the Plain of Mamre (Hebron). Lot followed the way "that looked good" while Abram followed "the way of peace."

God again honored Abram by reaffirming His promise (Genesis 12:7) to give the land to his seed, his offspring. God expanded the promise. He told Abram in Genesis 13:14-17 to walk the land and God would give to him and his heirs everything he could see to the north, south, east, and west. It would remain with his heirs forever. Furthermore, his heirs would multiply so greatly that it would be impossible for man to number them.

Even though Abram had previously failed to follow in God's prescribed way, yet as Abram returned, God reaffirmed and expanded His promise. God had chosen Abram to have a plan with an expected end as spoken by the prophet Jeremiah more than 1,300 years later. Jeremiah 29:11 says, ***"For I know the thought that I think toward you...thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."*** Nowhere is this promise more clearly seen and demonstrated than in the life of Abraham (Abram).

In fact, the word of the Lord to Jeremiah even said in Jeremiah 1:5 (NKJV), ***"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I sanctified you."*** "Sanctified" means to be "set apart" for God's purpose.

Just as Abram, Jeremiah, and all others were known of God before conception, and set apart for His divine purpose, so also were you set aside for Him. He knew your spirit even before you were conceived in your mother's womb.

The quest in life is to find that purpose, that "expected end" which God had in mind for you. Seek His face diligently that He may lead you into it day by day. You may not know or "see" the end, but He will lead you into it...if you keep your heart sanctified unto him.