

RUSSELL SANDERS

10-16-2020

ABRAHAM PART 3

ABRAM – THE JOURNEY BEGINS

Abram's story begins in Genesis 11:27 with his birth at approximately 2,000 B.C. Terah was living in Chaldea (Kal-de' ah) where his three sons were born and raised. Abram appears to be the eldest among his brothers Haran and Nahor. At age 70, Terah left Chaldea's city of Ur to take his family to the land of Canaan. Haran died before leaving Chaldea, but Haran's family went with Terah. However, Terah never made it to Canaan. He settled about halfway there, stayed, and named the place Haran after his deceased son.

Terah took with him Abram, his wife Sarai, and Haran's son Lot. Nahor remained behind in Chaldea, which was a part of Mesopotamia. (Babylon/Iraq). Terah remained in Haran for the remainder of his life. It would appear that Abram was with his father about 40 years in that place before God called him out. Forty is the number of preparation for the next era of time about to be entered. During the preparation time in Haran, Abram became very wealthy, amassing great herds of livestock and a large number of servants, many of whom would later prove to be capable fighters and warriors against Abram's enemies. Abram would need these people and resources as he comes into the land where God would lead him.

Abram was 75 years old when he left Haran with his wife Sarai, their servants, and livestock, along with his nephew Lot. Lot also had much livestock and a family to take on the journey. Abram's first mistake was taking Lot and his family with him contrary to God's instruction. God had told Abram in Genesis 12:1, ***"Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred and from thy father's house unto a land that I will show thee."*** Abram left the country and his father's house, but he took his kindred (Lot's entire household, livestock, and wealth) with him, contrary to God's instruction. At a later time, upon arriving at their destination in Canaan, Lot became a problem to Abram.

Abram had only partially obeyed God. He was rewarded for that obedience. But the incomplete obedience is a form of disobedience. We can learn here from Abram. It says in James 4:17 (NKJV) ***"Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin."*** Abram knew God had told him to leave his kindred, yet he took his kindred with him.

God desires that we obey Him completely, not just partially. He rewards complete obedience to His will and to His way. It might not always seem most reasonable to your thinking, but do not try to "second guess" God. Trust Him and obey in every aspect. He knows what He is doing, even when you don't.