

3 God's mission to all people

Gen 12:1-8; Exo 19:4-6; Deu 19:1-9; 1 Pet 2:9-12

Key verse

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1 Pet. 2:9)

Getting started

“A sovereign God has literally brought the mission fields of the world to our urban centres. By 2056 the majority of Americans will be non-European, non-white. Many of those flooding into our country (just as in Australia) are Muslims, Buddhists, Sikhs and Hindus.” How does this statement make you feel?

Going deeper

Read Genesis 12:1-8

1) Discuss the promises God makes to Abram...

What does God actually promise?

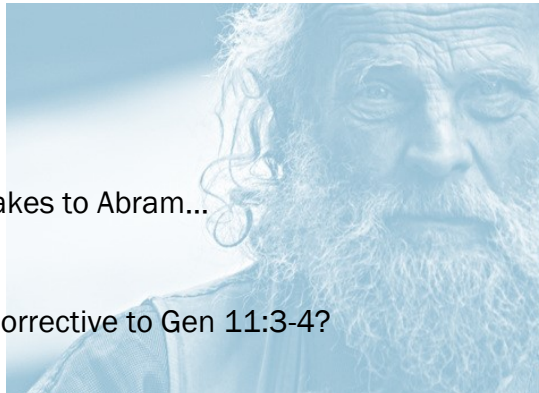
How do these promises provide a corrective to Gen 11:3-4?

Who will fulfil these promises?

What did Abram need to do to ensure they become a reality?

What are the ever expanding horizons of God's blessing?

Why is this said to be the 'Great Commission' of the Old Testament?



- 2) What was one great obstacle to these blessings coming true? (see Gen 11:30)

Read Genesis 15:1-6 - why was Abram declared right with God and how does this passage relate to our own salvation?

Read Exodus 19:4-6 & Deuteronomy 4:5-9

- 3) Exodus 19:4-6 is God's Great Commission to the Israelites. How was Israel to play their part in God's mission of bless the nations?

Can you think of an example when Israel proved a blessing to others, and also failed to live up to God's purpose for them?

→ Taking it home

God's Great Commission is for us to make disciple of all nations and God has sovereignly brought the nations to us.

Read 1 Peter 2:9-12

In these verses Peter applies God's commission to Israel to us.

Though we were once not God's people, how have we been saved?

Even in the business of life, how does Peter urge us to live so that the people around us may come to glorify God?

Discuss & **Pray** through the implications of this study for our world.