

(Through the Bible) Genesis 10-12

by Chuck Smith

The sermon explores the Table of Nations, the Tower of Babel, and the separation of languages, highlighting the significance of the generations of Shem and the birth of Abraham and the Hebrew nation.

Duration: 52:24

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-26, Genesis 11:31, Genesis 12:1, Genesis 12:19

Topics: "Expositional"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher discusses the story of Abraham and his journey of faith. He emphasizes that even though Abraham was not perfect and his faith was not perfect, God still honored him and worked in his life. The preacher also highlights the importance of obedience to God's call, using the example of Abraham's incomplete obedience when he stopped at Heron. However, the preacher encourages the listeners that it is never too late to move on from their own 'Herons' and continue to fulfill God's purpose for their lives. The sermon reminds the audience that God's love and calling remain steadfast, even when they make mistakes.

Transcript

Now, these are the generations of the sons of Noah, and as we get into chapter 10, this chapter has been called the Table of Nations. And here you have the beginning of all of the various nations of the world, the various ethnic groups with these sons of Noah. These are the generations of the sons of Noah.

Seth is probably the one who put these generations together. We follow for a little bit the line of Ham, a little bit the line of Japheth, and then when we get to the line of Shem, we continue to follow the generations from Shem, because it is from Shem that Abraham will come. It is from Abraham that the nation will come.

It is from the nation and Abraham, of course, that the seed Christ will come. And so we'll continue to follow the line down to Christ. But the others will follow for a few generations to establish their ethnic groups that sprung from them.

Then we'll leave them go, because the whole message really is centering and zeroing down towards Jesus Christ. So many names are not given. Many of the families are not named at all.

It isn't intended to be a complete historical record, but only a record that will lead us to Abraham, which will lead us to David, which will lead us to Jesus Christ. Once we've come to Jesus Christ, it wasn't necessary to keep the genealogies anymore. God has proven that Jesus Christ was as promised, the son of David, the son of Abraham, the son of Adam.

So that's all that's necessary, to follow that line that leads to Christ. Now the sons of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Mediah, Javan, Tubal, Meshach, and Taras. Gomer was more or less the father of the ancient Sumerians.

Magog were the Scythians, the area of Russia. And Mediah was the father of the Medes. Javan, the Greeks.

Tubal and Meshach, they believe that Meshach actually is the ancient Muscovy, modern-day Moscow. And Tubal, the modern Tobolsk. And Taras, of course, is the Thracians.

And so we see that basically you're getting into the Asian-European nations as descendants from Japheth. Now we take one of the sons, Gomer, the first one listed. And we have the Germanic people, Ashkenaz.

And Ripha and Togarma. Togarma is thought to be the Armenians. But the Ashkenaz, more or less the Germanic people, coming again from Japheth.

And by these were the islands of the Gentiles divided, actually Tarshish and so forth. So you're getting into the area of Europe, Scandinavia. Of course, on into ultimately England, all the descendants, the Caucasian race, descendant from Japheth.

Now the sons of Ham, Cush and Seba, Havila, Saptu, Rama, and all of these various names. We're not going to try and go through them all. But they basically went south and populated the areas of Africa.

Also, a portion of them, the descendants of Canaan were Sidon, which were the Phoenicians. The sister city of Sidon, of course, the city Sidon upon the northern coast of the Mediterranean. The sister city of Tyre, which were the Phoenicians.

The Jebusites, who inhabited the area around Jerusalem. And in verse 17, there's Sinaites. Now it is felt that some of the inhabitants of the Sinaites moved east and were the Chinese descended from this particular branch.

And it is interesting that the Chinese are still called Sino people. And you read of the Sino-Japanese War, for instance. And the name is still holding.

And many of the Chinese names beginning with this Sin. So, from Ham, Africa on over into the far east and the area of Canaan. Now he does stop with one of the descendants when he gets to Kush, beget Nimrod.

And he began to be a mighty one in the earth. Instead of a mighty hunter before the Lord, it should be translated, he was a mighty tyrant in the face of the Lord. The hunting was the hunting of men's souls.

Nimrod became a leader in apostasy, a developer of a great religious system, later to become known as the Babylonian religious system or the Mystery Babylon. That whole religious system was begun by Nimrod. Now, his mother, Semiramis, was later to be called the Queen of Heaven and to be worshipped.

It was her claim that Nimrod was actually born without the benefit of a father, that he was born while she was a virgin. Nimrod was known for his hunting prowesses, a great man with a bow. In those days, the people were probably, because of their primitive type weapons, very fearful of the wild animals, the lions and the tigers and leopards and so forth.

And he was known as a protector of the people because of his ability and skills in hunting. But one day while hunting boar, a wild boar turned on him and gored him. And he supposedly was dead for three days, lying there in the woods.

And after three days, his life returned. And so, they began to celebrate his resurrection by coloring eggs and having great festivities in the springtime of the year. Incidentally, his birth was December 25th.

And they usually celebrated his birth by giving of gifts, drunken orgies, and cutting trees and decorating them with silver and gold in their homes. And this is just a few generations after Noah. The worship of his mother, Semiramis, Queen of Heaven, the whole thing, Satan's counterfeit of God's intended work, began with Nimrod.

And when you start reading the history of the Babylonian religion, the way they set up the celebrations and all, you will be absolutely shocked at the historic church and how much of the activities of the historic church were borrowed directly from Nimrod, who was also known as Tammuz and Marmaduke, several names, Ashtar, Semiramis, the various names for his mother who was worshipped. And actually, the name Easter coming from Ashtar. It's amazing that this Babylonian system could have so thoroughly infiltrated the church.

But God brings Nimrod into the record here. And the beginning of the kingdom of Babel, verse 10, and it was he who inspired the people to build this tower that would reach into heaven. It was he who began to inspire them to the worship of the stars, the beginning of astrology, and all of these things began in this ancient Babylonian religion.

The tower really, literally not to reach into heaven, but the tower was to worship. It was an observatory where they would go and worship the stars, the constellations, and so forth. And many such towers have been uncovered in the archaeological diggings there in the Babylonian plain.

They were areas of worship. So, the descendants of Ham, then in verse 21, we come to the descendants of Shem, also the father of all the children of Eber. It is from Eber that we get the name Hebrae, or the Hebrews.

So, Abraham was not the beginning of the idea or the name of the Hebrews. It came from Abraham's ancestor Eber. And so, Shem, the brother of Japheth, the elder, even to him were children born.

The children of Shem are listed here for you, and then the children of Aram. And we're going to narrow down to Eber, because we want to follow Eber. Eber had two sons.

The name of one was Peleg, and in his days was the earth divided. And his brother's name was Joktan. Now, this idea of the earth being divided, there are some who try to relate this to a current scientific theory of the continental, the continents dividing, you know.

The continents have been drifting apart that originally there was only one landmass, but this continental drift theory that is a current theory in some scientific areas. And they, some of them point to this reference

of Scripture, and it was in the times of Peleg that the earth was divided. However, if you'll follow the chronological charts and all, you'll find out that Peleg lived in the days of the Tower of Babel.

And it was at the Tower of Babel that the earth was really divided into the ethnic groups. And so, that is probably what the reference is to. The division of the earth into the ethnic groups following the Tower of Babel experience, rather than a scripture that would somehow lend support to the continental drift theory.

So, that's the way it is. It could refer to continental drift, but more than likely the reference is to the division of the earth from the Tower of Babel. Among the names here in the Descendants, we do find the name Jobeb, which could very well be the Job of the Scriptures.

And so, I guess that's a little further down when we get into the Descendants of Abraham. Now in chapter 11, the whole earth was of one language and one speech, probably Hebrew. Because in the earlier record of the book of Genesis, the names of the people were Hebrew names that have Hebrew meanings.

And so, the original language was perhaps the Hebrew language itself. But the whole earth was of one language, one speech, 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. And they said one to another, let us make brick and burn them thoroughly.

Now, this is an interesting thing because it shows that very early after the flood, they had brick kilns. And rather than just building their houses out of rocks, they were advanced to the state of making bricks and putting them in the kiln, burning them thoroughly. So, rather than just adobe kind of buildings, they were now using a mortar with a cured brick or a burned brick.

And they began to build, of course, the city of Nineveh, the city of Babylon, all began to be built in this period by Nimrod himself. And so, they said, let us build a city and a tower whose top may reach into heaven. And let us make a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

Now, God's command was to actually fill the earth. It's an attempt to sort of countermand God's commandment. Lest we be scattered abroad throughout all the earth.

Let's join together. Let's just, you know, congregate in this area. And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the children of men built it.

Now, again, we're describing the activities of God in human terms, as though God were coming down and looking things over. In reality, God is omnipresent. He was watching the thing the whole while.

The Lord said, behold, the people is one. And they all have one language. And this they begin to do.

And now nothing will be restrained from them which they have imagined to do. The developing of this religious system. Now, it is very possible that originally God placed the stars in the heavens for signs.

And that the gospel is actually given in the Zodiac, the Virgin, the Lion. But as Satan has always taken the things of God and twisted them and perverted them. So, from the original message that God had placed there in the heavens of his plan for the ages, that there was that perversion of it into what is the modern astrology.

Which began way back again in the Babylonian era. Here in Babel, where they were going to build this tower as an observatory to observe the constellations and so forth of the sky. But, it is quite possible that

originally the gospel was there indeed in the stars.

As far as the message of God to man. Now, it would seem that the Magi who came from the east to find the Christ child were reading correctly the heavens. We have seen his star in the east.

We've come to worship him. And that they were reading truly the signs that God had placed there. Now, the Bible says that God has placed the stars for signs and for seasons.

And it is very possible that originally there was indeed the message of God in the stars. But has been perverted as I say into the modern astrology. And the perversion began way back there.

Where they began to look at the stars for the influence over their lives. Rather than looking to God. And so, God in his word puts down the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators.

Those who sought them to govern their lives by the influence of the stars upon them and so forth. And God really speaks out very heavily against that in the prophecy of Isaiah. But, it is an ancient, ancient thing.

The horoscopes and all. But, as with so many things it is possible that in the beginning it was pure and had a true message of God. But, it has been perverted as time has gone on.

And so, God seeing this development said, let us go down and confound their language. That they may not understand one another's speech. And so, the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth.

And they left off building the city. Therefore, its name was called Babel or Babel. Whichever pronunciation you prefer.

It really is a word that just sort of, it was a word that was adapted because of what the sound sounded like. Just like the word barbarian is a word that was developed by the Greeks. And the word barbarian in Greek literally is barbar.

And anybody who didn't speak Greek was a barbar. Because your language sounded so funny. So, anybody who didn't speak Greek, they just considered them uncultured and said, oh they're a barbar.

You know, it just means that they talk some other language rather than the cultured Greek. And so, from that we get the word barbarian. But, it originally was just a sound that they made, an unintelligible sound by which they were sort of mimicking any language other than Greek.

It's barbar. Oh, he's a barbar. And so, this Babel is the same thing.

It's mimicking a sound that was not understood. Babel. Just, it's somewhat like the barbar, Babel.

And it's just an, you know, I don't understand what you're saying. What do you mean Baba, you know, or Babel. And so, the word has come to mean confusion, lack of understanding.

And so, they called the name of the place Babel. Because the Lord did there confound or confuse the languages of all the earth. And from thence did the Lord scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

And so, at this point, the people who were speaking. And of course, this was a tremendous miracle, indeed, the development of all of these languages. Now, the interesting thing about languages is that

many times we think that the English language, because we grew up with it, you know, it's such a excellent language in communicating ideas.

And we think, you know, people who are living in, say, primitive cultures, in Stone Age cultures, surely they must have a primitive form of language. Ours must surely be a highly cultured form of language, the English language. And they must have very primitive language.

But it is an interesting thing that many of the primitive cultures have the most complex languages, highly complex languages, much more so than English. And thus, there is great difficulty in translating into many of these languages of primitive people. You think, oh, it would be easy to translate, you know, the man went to church.

But some of these primitive cultures have so many words for man. So, you'd have to know if the man was one that you knew well or you knew slightly, because they have one word for man that you know well and another one for a man that you know slightly. Then, they'd have to know whether you liked the man or not.

And then, you'd have to know whether or not you respected him. And actually, they have maybe 20 different words for man. So, you'd have to know all kinds of things about this man before you'd know which word would fit the text or the translation.

Now, the word, he went. Did he go once in his life? Or did he go occasionally? Was it something that he was accustomed to doing or something that was rare for him to do? And so, even in the verb, you have so many different words that would describe it that you'd get into the translating and really, you'd want to throw up your hands and quit, because these languages are so many times so much more complex. I have a friend who was translating the Gospel of Mark into the Choco dialect in Panama.

And he came to the place where he was working with his translating helper and he came to the place where Jesus spit in the ground and made mud and put it in the blind man's eye and told him to go to the pool of Siloam and wash it out. So, in translating this word, spit, the native said, but how did he spit? You know, there's many different ways to spit. Well, we only have one English word, but the Choco Indian has so many different words.

You have a different way of spitting. And of course, how do you know which word it is? You know, we don't know what word it is. And because, you know, they have so many different words.

He said, well, he said, did he, did he spit? Or did he pick up the, did he pick up the dirt in his hand and just spit and mix it up? Or did he spit on the ground and mix it up? Or did he put the dirt in his eye and spit in his eye and mix it up? And he would have a different word for each action. Well, we don't know what Jesus did. But this development of language.

Now, it is interesting that man has in any and every culture no matter how primitive, highly complex method of communicating of ideas. And I don't care how primitive or ignorant that particular culture may be. Their languages are highly developed in the ability to communicate their ideas, whether they do it through grunts, through a sing song or whatever.

They are able to communicate their ideas no matter how primitive their culture. This certainly is something that separates man from the animal kingdom. There is nothing in the animal kingdom that even approximates a complex form of communication of ideas.

But yet, in the most primitive culture of man and in every culture of man, there is a language communication. So, this was the beginning of the separation of languages. Now, after the separation into the basic language groups, there, of course, have become modifications even within the same language or generalized language.

We find the Romance languages and similarities between the Spanish and the Portuguese and the Italian and the French. We find that there is certain similarities between the German and Scandinavian. We find that English is a language that has borrowed much from Latin and from Greek.

So, there have been developed languages from the basic language systems. But God divided their languages and instantly they no doubt got together in groups that they could communicate to. The family groups and so forth, where they could communicate to each other, but it caused the division and the separation and that spreading out then into the world and scattering abroad upon the face of the earth as it is described.

Now, we're going to zero in down to Abraham because that's where our story must move. So, these are the generations of Shem. Getting now again a repetition of the generations of Shem, but moving definitely just down towards Abraham.

He was a hundred years old and he begat Arphaxad two years after the flood. He lived after he begat Arphaxad five hundred years and he begat sons and daughters. So, he lived to be about six hundred years old approximately.

Arphaxad lived thirty-five years, begat Salah and he begat Eber and we follow down to Abraham and actually that's the one where we're coming to. So, let's go on to verse twenty-six. Terah lived seventy years and he begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

Now, whether or not this is the order in which they were born, we do not know. Whether or not, you know, how old was Terah when Abraham was born, we do not know. Maybe he was the third son.

We have no way of knowing, but he lived seventy years and he had these three sons, Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Now, he lived after that for many years also. Now, these are the generations of Terah.

Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran and Haran begat Lot. And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of the nativity, in the area of the Chaldees. And Abram and Nahor took them wives.

So, their brother Haran died early, having married and born one son, Lot. He actually bore some daughters too. And they took wives.

The name of Abram's wife was Sarah and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, for she was also the daughter of Haran. So, he married his niece and the father of Milcah and the father of Iscah. But Sarah was barren and she had no child.

And Terah took Abram, his son, and Lot, the son of Haran. So, with Haran dead, Lot being his son, Abram sort of adopted Lot, because Abram didn't have any sons of his own. So, he sort of adopted Lot and Lot became a journeyer with Abram.

But they all together went from the Ur of the Chaldees. Now, it was in the Ur of the Chaldees, in this area where this false religious systems, pantheism and polytheism and all began to develop and the perverted

religious systems. And so, they left the Ur of the Chaldees to go to the land of Canaan.

And they came to Haran and dwelt there. Now, the fact that they all left to go to Canaan means that in the beginning, it could be that Abram's father also received the call of God to leave and get out of this area that had begun to become religiously polluted and to come into a whole new area. But Terah, they came as far as Haran and there they dwelt.

And the days of Terah were 205 years and Terah died in Haran. Now, there is a seeming contradiction of Scripture here. When you get into the New Testament and Stephen is talking about Abraham being called of God to leave the Ur of the Chaldees and to go to Israel.

How that after he said Terah died, Abraham then went on to Canaan. But when you start putting the ages together, you find that Abraham actually left. If Terah lived to be 205 years old and he was 70 years old when Abraham was born.

Then, and Abraham was 75 when he left. The 75 and the 70 makes 145 years and yet he lived to be 205 years old. So, you have a discrepancy in mathematics here.

So, what is the solution or what is the answer? There are a couple possible suggestions. Number one, Abraham may not have been the first born son. They may not be listed in the order of their births but in the order of the precedence of their sons.

And Abraham could have been born many years after, in other words, 70 years. And maybe Haran was born when he was 70 years old. And it doesn't give his age at the time of Abraham's birth.

That's one possibility. So, that Abraham was sort of a late child. And that indeed by the time he was 75, his father was 205 years old.

It's very possible. Another possibility is that Stephen is talking in sort of a spiritual sense that he died. You remember one day a young fellow came to Jesus and said, I'll follow you but allow me first to go bury my father.

And Jesus said, let the dead bury the dead. Come and follow me. Now, the let me first bury my father was a common term.

It didn't mean that his father was dead. It isn't that Jesus is showing a disrespect or a father who had died. It's just a term of procrastination or putting something off until later.

In other words, I want to do it later. Wait till my father dies. Your father can be alive and healthy.

He may be good for another 50, 60 years. But it was a term of procrastination. A common term of procrastination.

Now, knowing the use of Jesus in this term and the ideas that were given by it, it could be that Stephen is using it in the same sense. And that Tara, when they came to Haran, died spiritually because Tara began to actually apostatize and became also a worshiper of false gods. So, it could be that he's referring to the spiritual death of Tara when he turned into spiritual apostasy.

And it was at that point when Tara spiritually was dead unto God that Abraham realized he had to make his journey alone. And he took off with Lot and the servants and so forth and his wife, Sarah. And they

began then to journey on to the land that God had promised to show him.

Actually, going from the area of the Ur of the Chaldees, going to Haran, they were going about 600 miles north west. It was about 400 miles from Haran down to the land of Canaan, to the area of Shechem, where he was ultimately to end up. But Abraham started off journeying in obedience to God from the Ur of the Chaldees.

They stopped with his father. It could be that his dad said, hey, this is good. Let's settle here.

Let's settle in this area. It's nice. It's, you know, it's productive and all.

Let's settle here. And there was a spiritual death of Tara for the call of God and awareness of God. There was a spiritual death.

And Stephen could be referring to that when Tara died. Then that spiritual death, Abraham realized that he had to leave now his father and that family and journey on by himself. To the land that God had promised to show him.

So don't cast off your faith because of a bit of mathematics here. There are possible explanations for it and which one is correct. Of course, we don't know.

Now, the Lord had said unto Abraham, get thee out of thy country and from thy family. So Abraham really wasn't totally disobedient at this point. And this to me is interesting because Abraham is always held as the model of faith in the New Testament.

The model of a man who believed and trusted God. He's the prime example of a man who believes. And so many times when we read about faith and the exploits of faith, but I'm so weak and I've blown it so many times.

Surely I can't do it. It's good to know that Abraham wasn't perfect. Or was his faith perfect? It's good to know that you don't have to be perfect and your faith doesn't have to be perfect for God to honor you.

So God said, get away from your family. He took his dad with him. From the year of the Chaldees to Haran, it was a incomplete obedience.

Stopping at Haran was incomplete obedience to God. So even men noted as men of faith have their moments. And just because you slip back and have your moments, doesn't mean that God won't honor you and honor your faith or that God doesn't love you and wants to still work in a powerful way in your life.

Just because you blow it and you stop at Haran, it doesn't mean that the call of God is going to be removed and there's no chance for you to go on and fulfill that which God has laid upon your life and your heart to do. Many people have stopped at Haran, but the time came for him to move on, which he did. Maybe the time has come for you to move on from your Haran.

The Lord said, get thee out of thy country, from thy father's family, from your father's house to a land that I will show you. So by the very virtue of the fact that Terah went with him, it could be the old man was saying, oh, no, don't leave. No, well, I want to go with you somewhere.

It could be Abraham was just saying, well, okay, dad. All right. You know, and he could have been weak in this area.

But then his dad began to drag him down and slow him down until his father died spiritually following after the pagan practices. And Abraham moved on. I will make of thee, God said, a great nation.

Now God is establishing covenant with Abraham. Get away from your family, your father's house, a land that I'll show you. I'll make you a great nation.

I will bless you. I will make thy name great and thou shalt be a blessing. All of these promises, God fulfilled the Abraham.

He made of him a great nation. God has blessed him and made the name of Abraham great. It's honored and respected and thou shalt be a blessing.

And I will bless them that bless thee and curse them that curse thee. And in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed. And from that is the promise that the Messiah would come from Abraham.

In thee, all the families of the earth, not just the Jews, but all the families of the earth will be blessed from Abraham's progeny, even Jesus Christ. So Abraham departed as the Lord had spoken unto him. And Lot went with him.

And Abraham was 75 years old when he departed out of Haran. And Abraham took Sarah, his wife, and Lot, his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered and the souls that they had gotten in Haran. And they went forth to go to the land of Canaan.

And into the land of Canaan they came. 400-mile journey, which in those days, with all the annals and everything else, must have taken quite a long time indeed. And Abraham passed through the land unto the place of Shechem, unto the plain of Moriah.

And the Canaanites, or the descendants of Canaan, were then in the land. And the Lord appeared unto Abraham and said, unto thy seed will I give this land. And there he built an altar unto the Lord who appeared unto him.

Now the promise of giving the land to Abraham's seed at this point would also include the Palestinians. Because the Arabs also were descendants of Abraham through Ishmael. So at this point, the land is promised not just to the Jews, but also to thy seed, which would include the Arabs, Palestinians.

But later on, when God repeats it to Jacob, it excludes the Arabs. And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel. And he pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west and Hai, or Ai, on the east.

Now when Joshua came in later to conquer the land, he came up from Jericho and conquered Ai and then on to Bethel. Abraham now has a favorite spot there near Bethel and between Bethel and Ai. It's the highest part of the land in that particular area.

It gives you just a fabulous view. It's about 10 miles north of Jerusalem and about 20 miles or so from Shechem. But from there, you can see down into the Jordan Valley.

You can see up towards the area of Samaria. You can see Jerusalem and the area south. You can look over towards the Mediterranean.

It just is a beautiful vantage point in that mountainous area between Bethel and Ai. And when Abraham came to this area, he built an altar. And the Lord appeared unto Abraham and said, unto thy seed, I give this sign.

And he built this altar unto the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. And Abraham journeyed going on down now to the south. And there was a famine in the land.

So Abraham went down into Egypt to sojourn there. For the famine was grievous in the land. So there was a drought in the... And of course, he went on south towards Beersheba.

There's always a drought down there. The place is really dry. It's deserty.

And it came to pass when he was come near to Egypt that he said to Sarah, his wife. Now here's our great man of faith. Our example.

Behold, now I know that you're a beautiful woman to look upon. Hey, that's saying a lot to your wife when she's 65 years old. But because of the longevity at 65, you were still really, you know, in your prime of youth, in a sense, or beauty.

Abraham lived to be over 160. So at 65, you're really not that old yet. In those times.

But it does, you know, when you think of 65 years old and talking about her great beauty, does sound indeed very interesting. I know that you're a beautiful woman to look upon. Therefore, when it comes to pass, when the Egyptians will see you, they will say this is his wife.

And they will kill me and keep you alive. They'll take you into their harems. Now, this was a common practice among the Egyptian kings.

Is to just, if a man, if he saw a beautiful woman, he'd kill her husband and take her as his wife. And so he said, I pray that you'll tell them that you are my sister. That it might be well with me for thy sake and my soul shall live because of thee.

Hey, this is our great man of faith, Abraham. You see, even great men of faith have their weaknesses and their moments. Now that encourages me for some silly reason.

Because I also have my moments of weaknesses. But I have the concept that when I get weak, God just says, all right, that's it. You had your chance, you know, wipe out.

But not so. God continued to honor Abraham. God continued to bless Abraham.

He wasn't perfect. God doesn't use perfect people because they don't exist. So don't worry that you're not perfect.

Don't think that God is going to reject you because you're not perfect. Don't think that God can't use you because you're not perfect. God blessed Abraham.

God used Abraham, though he had his lapses of faith. Just like we have our lapses of faith. So it came to pass that when Abraham was come to Egypt, the Egyptians beheld the woman that she was very beautiful.

And the princes also of Pharaoh saw her and they commended her before the Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into the Pharaoh's house. And he treated Abraham well for her sake.

And he had sheep and oxen and asses, men servants, maid servants, she has his camels. And the Lord plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarah Abram's wife. And the Pharaoh called Abraham and said, what have you done to me? Why didn't you tell me that she was your wife? Why did you say she is my sister? I might have taken her to be my wife.

Now, behold, your wife, take her, go your way. And Pharaoh commanded his men concerning him. And they sent him away and his wife and all that he had.

So he came under then a special protective edict of the Pharaoh. So that he would not fall prey to the men in order that they might take Sarah, his wife. So an introduction now to Abraham.

We're beginning now to follow and we will from now on follow Abraham as we come on down towards Christ as the Bible now is the developing of the nation and from the nation, the coming forth of the Savior of the world. So next week, we'll continue on beginning with chapter 13. Shall we stand? God bless you and enrich your heart and your mind and the things of the Spirit, giving you understanding of His Word.

And may God increase your faith and your knowledge and understanding of Him. God go with you and bless you and watch over you and keep you in all your ways. Strengthening you and ministering to you through His love in Jesus name.

This is the end of side two and the end of this message. If you would like further information on tapes or our free catalog, contact the word for today. The address is P.O. Box 8000 Costa Mesa, California 92628 or you may reach us by our toll-free number 1-800-272-WORD.

That's 1-800-272-WORD.

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/6/SID6281.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/chuck-smith/through-the-bible-genesis-10-12-2/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net