

MESSIAH IN THE OT

Week 4 – Messianic Prophecies in the Torah – Pt. 1

February 12, 2019

I have gotten a man: Jehovah (Gen. 4:1) Eve called her firstborn son “Cain” which means “gotten” or “acquired”. Eve appeared to have connected the birth of her firstborn son with the immediate fulfillment of the promise concerning the “Seed of the woman,” who was to bruise the head of the serpent. How quickly Eve must have been disappointed. This is demonstrated by the naming of Abel – “breath/vapor” or “fading away”! What did Adam and Eve relay to their sons about their time in the Garden with God? Did they tell Cain and Abel about their having fashioned fig leaf coverings for themselves? Did they share that God took one of the animals and removed its breath... and a red substance came spilling out? What about the cherubim and a flaming sword at the east of the garden? After man rebelled, God could not allow access to the tree of life to sinful man. In God’s mercy, He kept Adam and Eve away from the fruit of the tree of life that would make them immortal...living forever in their sinful condition. AND a flaming sword that revolved was also placed at the east of the garden. The glory of God – WHO God is - is seen in the OT as light, fire, or cloud. Might this be telling us that Adam and Eve still had access to the presence of God? I don’t think God was ONLY in the garden? Cain and Abel were never in the garden...and God spoke to Cain outside the garden (Gen. 4:6-15). After Cain killed Abel, Cain fled from God’s presence (Gen. 4:16). We know from King David’s Psalm 139 that God’s presence is everywhere. “Where can I go from your presence?” David asked God! Gen. 4:16 - *Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod (lit. wandering – as an aimless fugitive) on the east of Eden.*

Gen. 4:2-5 - *Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³ And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. This is the first act of worship recorded – bringing something of their own to the LORD. No mention is made of an altar or of a place concerning this observance. Sacrifices are introduced because God had sacrificed an animal in the garden. *And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry and his countenance fell.**

Abel’s offering was an animal. Blood would be shed. It was the firstborn of his flock which was indeed a sacrifice. Did Abel know that he would have additional sheep? No. Yet he offered his best to God. God respected Abel...God respected Abel’s heart attitude toward God. Cain brought “an” offering. The text doesn’t read that it was the best offering. There was no blood in what Cain offered. Cain appeared to have disdain for God’s instruction and brought what he wanted to bring – some of his crop. And, Cain’s heart attitude? Cain was very angry. Cain was not repentant. He was hostile toward God.

In the early chapters of the Bible, many things happen that do not include full details. When we know the one story of the Bible, we incorporate the “whole body of Biblical knowledge into the accounts we read. We need to be careful, though.

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Heb. 11:4 - *By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous (in a right relationship with God), God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.* Abel’s heart attitude continued to speak of a relationship with the Lord from that time through to today...and moving forward.

I John 3:10-12 - *In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother. ¹¹ For this is the message that you heard from the beginning, that we should love one another, ¹² not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother’s righteous.* Cain is noted as a child of the devil. God pursued Cain...

Gen. 4:6-7 - *So the LORD said to Cain, ‘Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.’* God lovingly confronted Cain. God warned Cain that if he chose not to obey God’s commands, the ever-present sin would overpower him. Sin has a desire to devour us. Our ruling over sin, I’m suggesting, is found in submitting to God as our Master! Cain rejected God’s word and was not sorrowful. While it didn’t appear that Adam and Eve were sorrowful for their sin, we seem to understand because of the detail at this point in the narrative that sorrow for sin must precede the covering for sin. And so, we now understand moreso this aspect of God’s plan of redemption.

Cain was a farmer. God cursed the productivity of the soil. Cain would now be a vagabond, a fugitive. Because of his roaming he would be easy prey. Gen. 4:15 - *...and the LORD set a mark on Cain.* This mark is not described. It appears that it was discernable by others thus preventing their killing Cain. Cain was under divine protection. At the same time, however, the mark was the lifelong sign of his shame. And so we see more clearly the consequences of sin.

In Cain and Abel we see two people groups within “mankind” – the wicked/children of the devil and the righteous/children of God (I John 3:12). Gen. 4:16 - *Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod (wandering; flight; unrest – the destiny of those who flee from the presence of God) on the east of Eden.* Notice the sins in Cain’s line: polygamy (first time recorded) and murder. The righteous and they are presented to us within the context of an offering to God – the type of offering to God – and the right heart attitude.

Gen. 4:25-26 - *And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, 'For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.'*²⁶ *And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.* Abel was the descendant/seed through whom “the” Seed of the woman would come. God “appointed” another seed for Eve, Seth, whose name means “appointed.” Through Seth the One would come Who is “the” Seed. We read in Jesus’ genealogy through Mary in Luke 3:38 that Seth is the son of Adam, the son of God!

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Seth’s son was Enosh whose name means mortal/frail. Here is the recognition that God is God and man is NOT! Physical death is understood. Man is frail. God’s plan of redemption continues to unfold. With the understanding of man NEEDING to depend upon God, we read ...*Then men began to call on the name of the LORD...* for mercy and grace!

Adam’s family...those through whom God’s promise came...

Gen. 5:5-11 - ...*all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.* ⁶*Seth lived one hundred and five years, and begot Enosh.* ⁷*After he begot Enosh, Seth lived eight hundred and seven years, and had sons and daughters.* ⁸*So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died.*

⁹*Enosh lived ninety years, and begot Cainan.* ¹⁰*After he begot Cainan, Enosh lived eight hundred and fifteen years, and had sons and daughters.* ¹¹*So all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died....*

Some have suggested the following message in the names of Adam through Noah:

| Hebrew | English |
|------------|-----------------------|
| Adam | Man |
| Seth | Appointed |
| Enosh | Mortal |
| Kenan | Sorrow |
| Mahalalel | The Blessed God |
| Jared | Shall come down |
| Enoch | Teaching |
| Methuselah | His death shall bring |
| Lamech | The despairing |

| Hebrew | English |
|--------|-------------------|
| Noah | Rest, or comfort. |

In the midst of judgment and death, God's GRACE prevails!

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Genesis 6 – the universal flood. WHY?

Gen. 6:5-7 - Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

⁶ And the LORD was sorry (nacham – to be sorry) that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved (atsah – pained; hurt) in His heart. ⁷ So the LORD said, 'I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry (grieved) that I have made them.' BUT, why was there GREAT wickedness? Why is there "Then" in Gen. 6:5? What happened prior to? Firstly, do you think the adversary was a bit miffed after being told by God of his, Satan's, doom? We've seen the wicked and the righteous. The wicked are followers of the adversary. Satan is not satisfied. There is debate re: the meaning of Gen. 6:1-4.

Gen. 6:1-4 - Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, ² that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. ³ And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." ⁴ There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.

The following view is held by John McArthur and Arnold Fruchtenbaum. Fruchtenbaum is a Jewish believer who is solid doctrinally.

We need to know that one third of the angels fell with Lucifer (Rev. 12:4),

"Sons of God" are noted in other passages as angels (Job 1:6; Job 2:1; Job 38:7).

These particular "sons of God" in Gen. 6:2 saw and took women of the human race. OBVIOUSLY, this was an unnatural union which violated God's design for marriage (Gen. 2:24 - *Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh*)

Fallen angels, in order to procreate physically (angels do not marry [Matt. 22:30] but that doesn't mean they can't engage in procreation...) possessed human male bodies. Look at the demonic activity in Jesus' day! Demons possessing human hosts! (Demons are those who haven't been chained. The fallen angels in Gen. 6 are chained and reserved for judgment.)

II Pet. 2:4-5 speaks of fallen angels in Noah's day - *For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; ⁵ and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;*

Jude v. 6-7 - *And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.*

The results of the unnatural procreation: Nephilim (in some translations: giants) – lit. fallen ones.

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Other views:

- The sons of God were the sons of Seth who cohabitated with the daughters of Cain.

Fruchtenbaum: The context of Gen. 6 clearly speaks of a cohabitation that is unusual and unnatural and causes the worldwide flood. Cohabitation between Sethites and Cainites would not be unusual or unnatural while cohabitation between angels and humans would be.

- These were human kings who wanted to build harems.

Bottom line: in Gen. 6:1-4 we're reading Satan's attempt at polluting the world to prevent the coming of the "Seed of the woman." The attempt on Satan's part was to cancel out the prophecy of Gen. 3:15.

The year of the flood, calculated by Answers in Genesis: 1656 AM (Anno Mundi or "year of the world") or 2348 BC

While the flood was indeed intended for the destruction of mankind, the ark was designed to save Noah and his family and to ensure the fulfillment of the divine purpose for the creation and the divine promise of salvation.

Gen. 6:8 - *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*

Moses summarized the righteousness of Noah by writing, "Noah walked with God" (Genesis 6:9).

Heb. 11:7 - *By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.*

Gen. 6:9-10, 13-14 - *This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth...¹³ And God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴ Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch.*

I Peter 3:20-22 - *...the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water (8 were rescued not because of the water but in spite of the water). ²¹ There is also an antitype (something represented by a symbol) which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.*

The antitype of the ark is Jesus/the ark is a type of Jesus

Gen. 6:14 – the ark was made watertight with pitch inside and out. “Pitch” in the Hebrew is *kaphar* which means to cover/purge/make atonement/make reconciliation (between parties [Biblically - between God and man]). *Kaphar* is used 70 times in the Bible to mean atonement as it relates to blood sacrifice. In Gen. 6 it means price of a life/ransom!

Gen. 6:16 – ... *set the door of the ark in its side* There was only one way into the vessel of deliverance. The ark furnished one door. John 10:9 - *I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved....*

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Gen. 7:16 - *So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in (delivered up)*

Gen. 7:17-19 - *Now the flood was on the earth forty days. The waters increased and lifted up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸ The waters prevailed and greatly increased on the earth, and the ark moved about on the surface of the waters. ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed exceedingly on the earth, and all the high hills under the whole heaven were covered.*

Gen. 7:24 - *And the waters prevailed on the earth one hundred and fifty days.*

Gen. 8:1-4 - *Then God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided. ² The fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were also stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained. ³ And the waters receded continually from the earth. At the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters decreased. ⁴ Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat. Peter connects the ark with Jesus’ resurrection. The 17th of the 7th month, when the ark rested on Ararat, is AMAZING! WHY?*

In Exodus 12 God changed the calendar of the Jewish people. They had been following a civil calendar. In Exodus 12, God gave the Jewish people a religious calendar. We are reading the civil calendar in Gen. 8:4 – the 17th day of the 7th month. When God changed the calendar in Ex. 12...that 17th day of the 7th month on the civil

calendar became the 17th day of the 1st month, the month of Nisan on the religious calendar. Do you know what happened in Nisan during Jesus' last days on earth? On the 14th day of Nisan Jesus was crucified.

On the 15th day of Nisan Jesus was buried in the tomb (He was buried after sunset – so it was the next day – the 15th). On the day following the Sabbath which occurred on the 17th day in the year of Jesus' crucifixion, Jesus ROSE FROM THE DEAD – HE RESURRECTED – Jesus rested from His work!!!! The ark that rescued Noah and his family – along with animals from God's creation – rested on Mount Ararat on the day that looked forward to the resurrection of the “Seed of the Woman” – when Jesus rested from His work!

The sin of man continues...

Gen. 8:21 - ...*the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth*

Genesis 9 speaks of Noah's three sons through whom the world would be populated: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Genesis 9:18-24 is the account of Noah becoming drunk and the sin of Ham. What Noah's son, Ham, carried out in connection with viewing the nakedness of his drunken father we are not told. It was enough, however, for Scripture to tell us that Noah cursed Ham's son, Canaan. WHY? Moses wrote Genesis through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as the children of Israel were journeying to the Promised Land and were told to destroy the Canaanites. It's been suggested that in this cursing of Canaan in Gen. 9 we have the justification for taking that action – the killing of the Canaanites - which is also supported by Deut. 9:1ff.

And, in Gen. 9 we read that Noah blessed Shem. We observe that God, Elohim, the one true God, is proclaimed to be the God specifically of Shem.

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Gen. 9:25-27 - *Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants he shall be to his brethren.*

²⁶ And he (Noah) said: 'Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem, and may Canaan be his servant. ²⁷ May God enlarge Japheth, and may he dwell in the tents of Shem....'

We read of God choosing to dwell among the Shemites (later Gk form – Semites). Semites - peoples who speak or spoke a Semitic language, including in particular the Jews and Arabs. As the plan of redemption unfolds, God is further proclaiming that He, God, would dwell among men. Consider the glory of God filling the tabernacle!

At this point in the OT, we've read that God promises to come in the line of a woman (Gen. 3:15), mostly focusing on the human side of messianic redemption (yet noting the supernatural as well), God continues to judge sinful man in righteousness and saves some in His grace and mercy, and, in Gen. 9, this “Seed of the woman” would come God on

high to dwell among the people of Shem (Gen. 9:27). These two lines of Messianic prophecy, the human and the divine, develop side-by-side in Messianic prophecy.

In Genesis 10 we read of Noah's descendants through his three sons – 70 nations! Notice that the sons of Shem, Ham, and Japheth took up residence in their lands and nations according to their languages and families.

In Genesis 11 we read of the Tower of Babel... *Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.* ² *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.* ³ *Then they said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.' They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar.* ⁴ *And they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.'* Continue reading through to v. 9 in Genesis 11.

Chronologically speaking, Gen. 11, the Tower of Babel, when man had one language, occurred before Gen. 10. In Gen. 10, the sons of Shem, Ham, and Japheth were separated into lands – everyone according to his language. Many languages are noted.

In Gen. 11:10-26 we then read of the descendants of Shem – among whom God will personally dwell!! Gen. 11:27 - *Now Terah lived seventy years, and begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran....* Gen. 11:31-32 - *And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there.* ³² *So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.*

Beginning in Genesis 12 going through to Malachi, we read of God dealing with Israel. God created Israel (Isa. 43:1).

AFTER 2,000 years of dealing with MANKIND – no Jews or Gentiles, just “MANKIND,” God calls ABRAM – whose father, Terah, was a pagan – a worshipper (Joshua 24:2 – Terah served other gods!) Abram – a GENTILE! And God cuts a covenant with Abram – an eternal, unilateral, unconditional covenant with Abram and his physical descendants. The fulfillment of what God promised (land, seed, blessing) the

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physical descendants of Abram depends solely upon God! God continues to unfold His plan of salvation. The “Seed of the woman,” is from the physical lineage of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The lineage of the Messiah narrows as we read that God's promise would come through Isaac. After Abraham cries out to God, telling God that he's too old and why can't God work out His promise-plan through Ishmael (Gen. 17:18). God responds...

Gen. 17:19 - *Then God said: 'No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.*

Gen. 21:12b - *...in Isaac your seed shall be called.*

Isaac is in Mary's genealogy - (Luke 3:34).

Genesis 18

Gen. 18:1-8 - *Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. ² So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, ³ and said, "My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant. ⁴ Please let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ And I will bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh your hearts. After that you may pass by, inasmuch as you have come to your servant." They said, "Do as you have said." ⁶ So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quickly, make ready three measures of fine meal; knead it and make cakes." ⁷ And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, gave it to a young man, and he hastened to prepare it. ⁸ So he took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate. God visits Abraham, a Shemite/Semite, in his tent.*

Gen. 18:18 – God walks and talks with Abraham (a pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus) and states that *Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him.*

Genesis 22

The account of a father sacrificing his son, his only son whom he loved!!

Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham GOD said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ² *Then He said, 'Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.'* ³ *So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, 'Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.'* ⁶ *So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. ⁷ But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father*

and said, 'My father!' And he said, 'Here I am, my son.' Then he said, 'Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?'

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⁸ And Abraham said, 'My son, God will provide (for) Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.' So the two of them went together. ⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, 'Abraham, Abraham!' So he said, 'Here I am.' ¹² And He said, 'Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.' ¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his. ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide (JEHOVAH Jireh); as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided." ¹⁵ Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, ¹⁶ and said: 'By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— ¹⁷ blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸ In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.' ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

Who came down from the mountain? Abraham!?! Where's Isaac?

Gen. 24:62-67 - Now Isaac came from the way of Beer Lahai Roi, for he dwelt in the South. ⁶³ And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening; and he lifted his eyes and looked, and there, the camels were coming. ⁶⁴ Then Rebekah lifted her eyes, and when she saw Isaac she dismounted from her camel; ⁶⁵ for she had said to the servant, "Who is this man walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took a veil and covered herself. ⁶⁶ And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. ⁶⁷ Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent; and he took Rebekah and she became his wife, and he loved her.

Isaac is a type of Jesus...his father offers him up – Isaac offers himself as he carries the wood and submits to his father laying him, the son, on the altar – (only Abraham comes down from the mountain) – we don't see Isaac until we see him coming for his bride!

QUESTIONS

Do you see the progression of the plan of redemption? How would you describe it/ explain it?

What was not clear to you?

Any V8 moments?

What impacted you most and WHY? How will this affect your walk with the Lord?

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

Reread handout with verses. Read week 5 handout when you receive it. Look up verses.

Jot observations, questions.

Share what you're learning with at least one person.