

***“The Foundations of Our Faith Revealed, Theme by Theme in Genesis —  
Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment — Part 3”***

**Our Theme Verses:**

**Heb. 11:13** These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that **they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**

**Introduction:**

***WE SHOULD NOT NEED TO BE REMINDED THAT ALL UNCONDITIONAL PROMISES LEFT UNFULFILLED DEMAND A FUTURE RESURRECTION. As the word of God is normally intended to be interpreted literally (as in “let God be true and every man a liar”), the promises really demand a future and usually literal fulfillment. Ultimately, we know of course that the prophecies regarding the coming “Seed of the Woman” are central to the revealed redemptive plan of Almighty God for the seed of Adam. And this plan would be dependent on the perfect sacrifice of the Lamb of God as revealed in scripture as the Scarlet Thread that winds through the entire Bible.***

***Furthermore, the Lord God ordained that the heavens declared this Redemptive Plan through the revelation God had given there. When the plan of redemption is as high as the heavens, it must surely touch the earth with its power and glory, and that is what we will see today. But would they receive it? The revelation of the eternal redemptive plan of God had been given and his testimony concerning that was evident and they were therefore held accountable.***

***Would the Lord God bring Judgment on their unbelief and disobedience of faith or continue to offer the promise under terms and conditions of his choosing? Well, there is a Scarlet Thread woven throughout the scriptures indeed, but Genesis lays the foundation for judgment as well and there was a time and place for that as we have seen regarding the great flood in Noah’s day. SO THE TWO GO HAND AND HAND TOGETHER, JUDGMENT AND ALONG WITH THAT MERCY AND GRACE AS GOD CALLED OUT HIS ELECT AND BLESSED THEM SO VERY GREATLY.***

***So, as we have seen recently in our studies here, God’s sovereignty over his entire creation demands that his strength be manifested even through the weakness of sinful man. Then, in parallel with that theme in Genesis we saw beginning two weeks ago an additional theme, “Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment”. We introduced that theme looking at the first***

***chapters in Genesis. The focus was on the earliest ones that God called out (or “elected”), specifically Abel, Seth, and then Noah and his children.***

***And, as we learned, in the Bible (and in Genesis) there are recorded a great many judgments. Along with God’s elective purpose being brought about through the working of Almighty God, there were accordingly the Judgments executed on those that were not elected, some affecting nearly all of mankind as in Noah’s Flood.***

***So, with the election of some there was also an implicit judgments on the rest. The extent of that judgment as revealed in scripture often was temporal and earthly although there are also some revealed judgments that are spiritual and eternal. In Revelation 17, for example, we read of the Lamb’s Book of Life:***

***Rev. 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.***

***Rev. 20:12*** And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

***Rev. 21:27*** And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither [whatsoever] worketh abomination, or [maketh] a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

- ***AND SO OUR THEME CONTINUES TODAY: Sin, the Announcement of Coming Judgment together with A Promise of Deliverance, and then the Judgment Itself — In All These Working of Almighty God, Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment.***

**Today’s Outline:**

- ***A Nation Perverts The Witness in the Stars At Babel and Its Demonic Monument Is Destroyed — Chapters 9-11***
- ***After Babel God Seals That Nation’s Rejection By Calling Out Abraham — Chapter 12***

**I. A Nation Perverts The Witness in the Stars At Babel and Its Demonic Monument Is Destroyed — Chapters 9-11:**

- ***As we have seen in our studies here in Genesis recently, in the genealogies we are given a clear sense of the time frames involved***

**during those initial millennia of mankind's time here on this sin-cursed earth! Some of those facts to be learned from the genealogies are these:**

- **Adam was 130 years old when Seth was born, and lived another 800 years before he died [see Gen. 5:3-4].**
- **Noah was born 1000 years later and he was only the eighth generation according to 2 Pet. 2:5. 1500 years from Seth's birth was the Flood Year of Noah. Noah Was 500 years old at that point. His name means "comfort" and as Gen. 5:29 indicates he was named to give testimony concerning the curse on the earth.**
- **The flood to Babel — 400 years or so**
- **Creation to the flood — 4004-2348**
  - **About 1650 years from Adam's creation until the Flood year**
  - **Seth died 112 years after Adam and only 14 years before Noah was born! Noah was born only 14 years after Seth died.**
  - **Enoch was translated only 57 years before the Flood**
  - **Lamech died 5 years before the Flood and Methuselah the same year as the Flood**
  - **So Noah's father Lamech probably knew Adam and Seth and many others of his ancestry!!**
- **Flood to Abraham — 2348-1996**
  - **Terah born in 2126, 222 years after the Flood year.**
  - **Abraham was born 2 years after Noah died in 1996 at age 950.**
  - **Jacob was born only 10 years after Shem died.**
- **Babel was destroyed and the language confused 400 years after the Flood year as was Abram's calling by God through the promises regarding his seed. See the Bullinger "Companion Bible Appendices" for details on this.**
- **BUT THE PROMISE OF THE SEED OF THE WOMAN AND THE TESTIMONY OF THE CREATION ITSELF GOVERNED ALL IF**

**ONLY THEY WOULD RECEIVE IT, AND THE TESTIMONY OF GOD IN THE HEAVENLIES WAS STILL THERE TO REMIND ALL THAT THEY STOOD ACCOUNTABLE BEFORE THE CREATOR!**

*It all goes back to Abel with his bold testimony for the Lord that only through shedding of blood of an innocent victim would redemption be gained. It is the crimson thread that weaves its way through history beginning there so very early after sin had entered into the world. And surely Adam had taught Abel for he knew so well of the coats of skins that the Lord God had made to cover him just after he had eaten of the forbidden fruit.*

- *But satan sought always to cancel the word of the living God, and so it was true here also with the heavenly testimony. His tactics in this case amounted to what is revealed in Gen. 6 and also in Romans. During the 1500 year period until the Noahic Flood — and the time afterwards as Gen. 6 Indicates satan worked to pervert even the genetic structure of mankind giving him even more control over their hearts and minds:*

**Gen. 6:4** There were giants in the earth in those days; **and also after that**, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.

- *Romans 1 & 2 gives us additional insight of only we would take it verse by verse and word by word. What does it say?*

**[READ ] Rom. 1:20-23**

**20** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

**21** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

**22** Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

**23** And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

- *So all were accountable to the Lord God. For the heavens declared all that was needed for sinful man to know that he was held*

***accountable by his creator. Only the creator was to be worshipped, NEVER the creation, not even the heavenly witnesses. It is an amazing thing to us that today many of the stars still bear their original Hebrew names although most of the names have been changed by the Muslims into Arabic. As some careful commentators have revealed, there is in this heavenly testimony a statement of the plan of redemption through the ultimate victory of the Seed of the Woman! What does Romans tell us about this?***

- ***Our theme is underscored here time and again: Sin, the Announcement of Coming Judgment, A Promise of Deliverance, and then the Judgment Itself — Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment.***
- ***So during that first period God's Response to Sin Was the Noahic Flood — But He Did Deliver Eight Souls! So our theme is again revealed here. Sin, the Announcement of Coming Judgment, A Promise of Deliverance, and the Judgment Itself — Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment. In this case the coming judgment was promised 100 years after the announcement was given. The promise of deliverance was given with the announcement of the coming judgment. In this case the judgment was death for all with the exception of the elect. But in other cases it would be a judgment of a different sort as we will now see.. Nevertheless, with the judgment would come the deliverance of the elect. Let's try to understand this better with the example of Babel and its tower.***
  - ***A little more about The Witness in the Stars is always in order though we have reviewed this recently. For God gave in the heavenly panoply a revelation concerning the Promised Seed of the Woman. At that time the focus of satan's corrupting work was directly focused on that, on "the gospel in the stars", as the gospel of the grace of God is satan's focus of attack today. The result was the various pagan mythologies of notably Babylon, Egypt, Greece and Rome.***

***The modern falsely so-called scientists of our day confusedly claim that the Biblically-revealed narratives concerning that (as we have just read together here today) are just another version of mythology on the same plane as the rest and sharing common themes such as creation, judgment, a flood, redemption of a few, further judgments based on the rebellion of mankind, etc.***

***Rather, the truth is that all those others are simply variations on the***

***revealed truth of God given first of all by the Lord's Witness in the Heavens. Due to the sin and rebellion of mankind, false religious systems were developed which retained only the outline of that original and God-given redemptive plan. But the revelation of God towards man was satan's target of perversion whereby he "changed the truth of God into a lie" substituting the worship of the creation and of men and beasts for the true worship of the creator himself and faith in his revealed truth of coming redemption from the fallen state of mankind that had become separated from God and his glories.***

***Even today, however, there is still some evidence of the original revelation in the names of the stars as we have noted here before. Some original Hebrew and Aramaic names are still known but most have been replaced by Arabic words that do not necessarily convey the original meanings.***

***Paul gives testimony concerning that original revelation in chapters 1 and 10 of the Romans:***

***[READ ] Rom. 10:17-18***

**17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

**18 But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.**

***Then, Paul writes in Romans chapter 1, more details are given:***

***[READ ] Rom. 1:19-25***

**19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them.**

**20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:**

**21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.**

**22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,**

**23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.**

**24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:**

**25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.**

- *And then, in addition to the testimony of God regarding his redemptive plan concerning the coming seed of the woman, God provided an internal “compass”. Namely, the conscience. In chapter 2 we find the revelation that the conscience was active and a second witness, apparently a faithful one in the beginning but less so as the ages passed. Now it is only a witness of consistency, not of truth.*

**Rom. 2:14-16**

14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

15 Which shew **the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;**)

16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

- *So again, the witnesses were there concerning that original and governing promise concerning the coming Seed of the Woman and the judgment that would come on those aligned with God’s enemies.*

*But would they receive it? The coming judgments revealed the Lord’s response. But with the judgment God’s redemption is also revealed. The Lord God would always ensure the deliverance of his ELECT!*

- *But then after the flood those eight souls brought forth generations of sinners and additional opportunities for demonic pollution leading to Babel with its famous tower:*

**[READ ] Gen 11:1-9 [The tower of Babel and its destruction...]**

**1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of 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 And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar.**

**4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.**

**5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.**

**6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.**

**7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.**

**8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.**

**9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.**

- *What we read here is that in God's perfect timing the demonic outpouring through humanity (as Genesis 6 clearly reveals) and the demonic worship that resulted brought a new judgment, this time against what had become the center of that satanic worship, Babel.*
- *So, what we see here is that our theme is found to be embedded in the revelation we find in Genesis: Sin, the Announcement of Coming Judgment, A Promise of Deliverance, and the Judgment Itself – Divine Election in the Context of Divine Judgment*

## **II. After Babel God Seals That Nation's Rejection By Calling Out Abraham – Chapter 12:**

***Remember Our Theme: Sin, the Announcement of Coming Judgment, A Promise of Deliverance, and the Judgment Itself – In All These Works Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment. And now in the next words we find written in Genesis 11, when the Judgment fell God worked to create an elect "remnant". He was faithful according to his original promise in Gen. 3:15 that had not yet been fulfilled and required for its fulfillment a "protected" family as it were. And that would come though a man named Terah:***

### ***Gen. 11:27-32***

**27 Now these are the generations of Terah: Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran begat Lot.**

**28 And Haran died before his father Terah in the land of his nativity, in Ur of the Chaldees.**

**29 And Abram and Nahor took them wives: the name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah, and the father of Iscah.**

**30 But Sarai was barren; she had no child.**



**31 And Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran his son's son, and Sarai his daughter in law, his son Abram's wife; and they went forth with them from Ur of the Chaldees, to go into the land of Canaan; and they came unto Haran, and dwelt there.**

**32 And the days of Terah were two hundred and five years: and Terah died in Haran.**

- *In Acts 7:2-4 Luke reveals something of what was occurring behind the scenes here and it truly adds a lot to our understanding:*

**Acts 7:2-4**

**2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran,**

**3 And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.**

**4 Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.**

- *So God spoke with Abraham in Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans and commanded him to leave everything and go into the land God would give him. But apparel because he was under his father's authority, and due to unrevealed circumstances, although his father agreed and moved the family towards Canaan, they stopped short of that in a place later named Haran after Abraham's now deceased younger brother. It may have been a health issue that prevented the entry into the land of promise, but after Lamech died, we read in verse 4 that the Lord God moved him and his family into that promised place, it seems at just the right time! Chapter 12 continued that story:*

**[READ ] Gen. 12:1-5**

**1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:**

**2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:**

**3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.**

**4 So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.**

**5 And Abram took Sarai 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 into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.**

- *And so we see again how our theme is developed here: Sin, the Announcement of Coming Judgment together with A Promise of Deliverance, and then the Judgment Itself — In the Sphere of All of These Divine Election Operates in the Sphere of Divine Judgment*
  - *So the promise was given. Abraham (and Terah, clearly) obeyed. In effect this brought judgment upon all other nations and peoples in the world. But those that left and relocated to Haran (so renamed after Torah's son and Lot's father). But some were delivered as we see here, and the rest of the story depends on just that! But nation after nation would in the future be also blessed and judged as other scripture makes clear.*

**Conclusions Today:**

- *What new things is the Lord now doing with Abraham? We read of it here.*
  - *He promises a nation unlike others and a land that cannot be compared that will some day come to pass in God's own good timing. Now that will be the day!*
  - *Many sons were born including Isaac and Ishmael, one the son of the promise and the other the son of disobedience. And there were other wives as well ... But God was doing a new thing with Abraham and those outside his realm were not blessed as he was. Those that arose out of his own loins, even Ishmael, and others such as Midian, were blessed, but not as Isaac was. For promising and then naming a son of the promise really did change everything for each, didn't it? The consequences have gone down in history and that history is not yet finished, even now.*
  - *The judgment and the deliverance go hand in hand as we see clearly revealed here ... although Satan's work seeks to destroy the work of Almighty God, in the end it is the Lord that wins the battles. Finally satan loses every war, doesn't he?*

***God's selective hand (or may we call it "elective" and sovereign hand) divides the people according to his sovereign will. The consequences of it define history in many crucial ways that we still see today and that are central in prophecies yet to be fulfilled.***

***Next Time: The Destruction of Sodom — the Deliverance of Lot and his daughters — again, with Sodom, Sin, Judgment, and Deliverance, Divine Election operating in the sphere of divine judgment.***