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Sermon Notes

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God Rescues Faithless Abram

Genesis 12:10-20

Introduction: Why Read the Old Testament?

Here we come to a relatively simple historical narrative in Genesis... not one of the more famous stories

Why spend an entire sermon on it??

Answer #1: because it is God's word, and **“all scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.” (2 Timothy 3:16)**

Answer #2: because it will serve as a pattern for the way we will approach all other Old Testament Narratives

Old Testament Narrative: Interpretive Strategy: Ask Three Vital Questions

1) What does it say about human nature? 2) What does it say about God's nature? 3) How does it fit into God's redemptive plan?

First two questions come to us from John Calvin...

John Calvin, hiding in the south of France, 1535, tender age of 26, began his first edition of his *Institutes of the Christian Religion* with these words: **“Nearly all the wisdom we possess, that is to say, true and sound wisdom, consists of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves.”**

The third question comes from Graeme Goldsworthy, *Gospel and Kingdom*:

Why Some People Don't Read the Old Testament

- Effects of higher criticism... Bible is a *human* book: human ideas about God
 - ▶ Old Testament is therefore yesterday's news... New Testament reveals higher stage in evolution of humanity's concepts of God
 - ▶ Old testament not merely *pre-Christian* but *sub-Christian*: it “fails” to reach NT level of ethics and truth

- Problems of embarrassment: slaughter of Canaanites, destruction of world by flood, of Sodom/Gomorrah by heavenly fire, of Uzzah b/c he touched the ark
- Problems of “irrelevance”: some people can’t imagine how the events of 3000 years ago can possibly be relevant today
- Problems of understanding: why does God want me to know this???

Why Other People *Do* Read the Old Testament

- Great stories for children... very picturesque, vivid scenes, lends well to art work and dramatic presentations
- Great source of moral/ethical case studies... role models abound
- It’s 3/4th of the Bible... and the first section at that!

False Trails

- Search for hidden spiritual meanings
- Allegorical interpretation: put NT in the driver’s seat, “spiritualized” every physical event
- Middle Ages: four levels of meaning... 1) literal sense, 2) moral sense, 3) church sense, 4) heavenly (or end-time) sense [**literal, tropological, allegorical, anagogical**]
- Problem: who controlled right and wrong interpretations, now that simple grammatical-historical method was abandoned? Answer: church leaders using church dogma

The Reformation path

- Bible authority re-affirmed over church authority
- Perspicuity (clarity) of the Bible taught... Bible is self-interpreting, church no longer needed to stand over Scripture and tell people what it means
- Every believer has right to read & interpret Scripture... but this does not mean teacher not needed... **principles of sound interpretation must be taught or wrong interpretations would abound!!!!!!**
- Authority is by Scripture alone; salvation is by grace alone through faith in Christ alone
- All of history to be seen in terms of this one salvation in Christ: salvation history
- God’s acts in history are all seen to be centered on Christ... history is his-story (i.e. Christ’s)

Is the Old Testament for All Christians?

- YES!!! The foundation of the Gospel is the Old Testament... this was the “scripture” used by Christ and the Apostles to preach the gospel... it’s all there!!
- 1600 direct quotations of Old Testament by NT writers; several thousand more allusions

- Relationship between OT & NT: Continuity yet contrast... ALSO shadow & reality, prophecy and fulfillment
- The New Testament a **fulfillment** of all the themes laid out in OT... NT can't be understood completely without OT
- 1) History is a process with a goal; 2) That goal is salvation in Christ
- Modern Christians in danger of losing importance of history to our faith... things are becoming "intensely personal" and very subjective... NT presents gospel as based on *objective realities* of things that really occurred in history

Thus our sermon this morning lays out in three basic parts:

1) What does it say about human nature? 2) What does it say about God's nature? 3) How does it fit into God's redemptive plan?

I. The Story Set in Context

A. Abram's Call Already Made: Genesis 12:1-3

Genesis 12:1-3 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

B. Abram's Faith Already Displayed

1. Left Ur of the Chaldees
2. Left Haran and went to the Promised Land
3. Received the Promise concerning the land, despite the fact the Canaanites were living there

vs. 7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

4. Already began to call on the name of the Lord

vs. 8 From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

5. Already living like a nomad in the Promised Land

vs. **9 Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.**

C. However, Abram's Faith and God's Redemptive Plan About to Be Challenged!!!

D. Approaching the Old Testament Narrative

II. Lessons in Human Nature

A. The Amazing Power of Female Beauty

1. Sarai's astonishing physical beauty is the human hinge on which this story turns

a. astonishing? Yes... she is at least 65 years old at this point!!! Probably more like 70

b. physical descriptions abound

2. Female physical beauty a major theme in Genesis

a. implied when Adam exults at seeing Eve

b. at the core of the rebellion right before the flood

Genesis 6:2 the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose.

c. will come up again several times in Genesis

[Rebekah] Genesis 24:16 The girl was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever lain with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again.

[Rachel] Genesis 29:17 Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel was lovely in form, and beautiful.

d. **Esther's** physical beauty is what enabled her to be queen, thus enabling her to save her people

e. female physical beauty also a major theme of **Song of Solomon**

Several extended descriptions of Solomon's bride dominate the book... he can't take his eyes off her

Song of Solomon 4:1 How beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful! Your eyes behind your veil are doves. Your hair is like a flock of goats descending from Mount Gilead.

Song of Solomon 7:5 Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel. Your hair is like royal tapestry; the king is held captive by its tresses.

Literally: “held captive” means “imprisoned”, “rendered powerless by bonds”... here is this powerful king, able to conquer many other nations, but rendered powerless when he looks at her eyes and her cascading hair

f. Sarai’s physical beauty openly stated here several times

vs. 11 *When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance [ESV]*

Hebrew phrase literally means “beautiful to look at”; outward beauty, physical appearance... especially in the face

vs. 14-15 *When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman. 15 And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace.*

Sarai’s beauty was so astounding that news about her spread first from the common Egyptians that laid eyes upon her to Pharaoh’s officials or perhaps his sons all the way to Pharaoh himself

Sarai’s beauty turned the court of Pharaoh upside-down... everyone was talking about her, everyone was praising her

And in the spirit of the age, the tyrant King Pharaoh had her taken into his harem to be one of his wives

Therefore, female beauty is a powerful force in the Bible and in human experience

B. Proper and Improper Views of Marriage

vs. 11-15 *As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. 12 When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. 13 Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you." 14 When Abram came to Egypt, the Egyptians saw that she was a very beautiful woman. 15 And when Pharaoh's officials saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh, and she was taken into his palace.*

1. Abram should have been protecting his wife Sarai, rather than hiding behind her to protect him
2. Abram was willing to put Sarai in harm’s way... even into the arms of another man, to be his wife

Note: some commentators feel that Abram never intended it to go as far as it did... he thought perhaps to keep playing a game with potential suitors by putting them off indefinitely, all the while receiving material benefits in the form of gifts from their interests in marrying Sarai... **What a con-game!!!**

And what a gamble Abram was willing to take with his wife

3. God intended a husband to be willing to lay down his life to protect his wife... after the pattern of Christ Jesus Himself

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

4. Pharaoh himself had an improper view of marriage as well... almost certainly she intended Sarai to be one of his harem, and knowing almost nothing about her other than her beauty was willing to take her as one of his wives
5. God alone here upheld the proper view of marriage
 - a. six times in the account Sarai is called Abram's wife
 - b. no lie on Abram's part nor act on Pharaoh's part can change that... she is Abram's and can belong to no other man
 - c. God's judgment on Pharaoh and on his household shows the seriousness with which God upheld Abram's marriage
 - d. more on this in a moment!!!

C. Abram's Moral Failings

1. Faithlessness
2. Cowardice & Fear
3. Lack of love
4. Deceit
5. Poor modeling

1. Faithlessness

- a. God had already made a clear promise to Abram that through his seed all nations on earth would be blessed
- b. Abram had no child, no "seed" through which he could bless the earth
- c. Abram COULD NOT DIE until he had a son through whom the lineage could be established

d. AND YET, he feared for his life and hid behind his wife

Faith in God's word drives out fear

Jesus was asleep in the storm because He knew God's promise that He would die on the cross and be raised on the third day... IT WAS ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE for God's word to fail, so IT WAS ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE for Jesus to drown in a boating accident

So also IT WAS ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE for God's word to fail, so IT WAS ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE for Abram to die childless!!!

2. Cowardice & Fear

- a. how unseemly for a man of God to be so craven and fearful
- b. how ugly for a patriarch like Abram to have beads of sweat on his upper lip and a quavering voice; a darting eye and a palpitating heart as he was about to cross the border into Egypt

“You of little faith, why are you so afraid??”

3. Lack of love: how ugly for the future father of many nations to think so little of his wife as to put her in such a dangerous path

4. Deceit

- a. how unseemly for one of God's choice servants to resort to a lie, a half-truth at best, a ruse to save his life
- b. what a terrible pattern he set for his future family: Isaac also resorted to the same ruse in Genesis 26; and Abraham's grandson Jacob was one of the worst deceivers and con-artists in the Bible

5. Poor modeling: All of this modeled to his wife and to unbelievers!!!

What kind of example did Abram set for those of us who are following in the footsteps of his faith?

How effective a witness for the eternal God could this Jewish con-artist be to the Egyptians and to the Canaanites who heard the story??

What representative of the God of truth could Abram be now?

D. Ill-Gotten Gains

1. Abram profited handsomely for his poor example

2. Ancient Near-east tradition: as her elder brother, Abram stood to receive all the gifts of the suitors
3. And Abram was able to plunder the Egyptians

vs. 16 He treated Abram well for her sake, and Abram acquired sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, menservants and maidservants, and camels.

4. But how could Abram lie in bed at night with Sarai in another man's house?

E. Biblical Honesty About Human Sin

1. One great evidence of the Bible's truthfulness is how honestly it exposes the flaws of all of its heroes
2. The Bible hides nothing... **For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**
3. Even Abram the forefather of our faith needed a Savior and was in his heart a wicked man by the perfect standards of heaven
4. Does the word wicked trouble you when ascribed to Abraham? It shouldn't, since Paul is the one who ascribed it

Romans 4:5 However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

Human nature: Thus we have an unseemly portrait of a godly man displaying some ungodly traits... thus is Abram saved by grace alone like all of us who will be saved

What then does this passage teach us about God's nature??

III. Lessons in God's Nature

A. God's Providence: Acting Strongly to Accomplish His Plan

1. God is an active player in human history
2. He does not merely lay back and let things happen
3. He controls the outcome for His own purposes... throughout the book of Genesis, we see God speaking, guiding, working, manipulating, judging, warning, blessing

So is rebuked the false doctrine of the deists, who taught that God simply arranged the universe like a vast complex clock which He wound up and allows to run by its own natural laws, never thinking to interfere

Benjamin Franklin, deist, wrote:

"I imagine it great vanity in me to suppose that the Supremely Perfect does in the least regard such an inconsiderable nothing as a man!"

Well, Benjamin Franklin, that sounds very pious, but it is a great limitation on God and it is contrary to Scripture

4. We see this again and again as God regularly interferes in events to turn them a certain way

Isaiah 7:7 Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "It will not take place, it will not happen..."

5. Definition of God's providence

"Providence is the almighty and everywhere present power of God; whereby, as it were by His hand, He upholds and governs heaven, earth, and all creatures; so that herbs and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, yea, and all things come, not by chance, but by His fatherly hand."

6. The famine which drove Abram and Sarai toward Egypt an act of God's providence
7. So also the circumstances which caused Aram's character flaws to bubble to the surface
8. So God is also actively involved in your life and in mine, and He is big enough, powerful enough and sovereign enough to interfere actively, constantly, and wisely

B. God's Purity: Upholding Abram's Marriage

1. Abram and Pharaoh had a faulty view of marriage
2. God did not... upholding Abram's marriage even when Abram did not
3. God never fails to remember that marriage is intended to be a picture of Christ and His Church

Ephesians 5:31-32 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery-- but I am talking about Christ and the church.

4. So also God ordained that Abram would bless the earth through his offspring... born in the ordinary way as he had marital relations with Sarai his wife
5. This is why the text mentions SIX TIMES that Sarai was his wife... this is God's pattern, and all of Abraham's connivings to fulfill God's plan by some way other than patiently waiting on God to make Sarah fruitful will cause little more than pain

C. God's Punishment: Chastening Pharaoh's House

1. God's clearest act in this whole account is his striking Pharaoh and his house with a plague
2. The Hebrew term could refer to any painful disease, but frequently it was a skin disease like leprosy
3. God's action here is much more serious than Abimelech would later receive in a similar case

Genesis 20:3-18 *But God came to Abimelech in a dream one night and said to him, "You are as good as dead because of the woman you have taken; she is a married woman." 4 Now Abimelech had not gone near her, so he said, "Lord, will you destroy an innocent nation? 5 Did he not say to me, 'She is my sister,' and didn't she also say, 'He is my brother'? I have done this with a clear conscience and clean hands." 6 Then God said to him in the dream, "Yes, I know you did this with a clear conscience, and so I have kept you from sinning against me. That is why I did not let you touch her. 7 Now return the man's wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you will live. But if you do not return her, you may be sure that you and all yours will die." 8 Early the next morning Abimelech summoned all his officials, and when he told them all that had happened, they were very much afraid. 9 Then Abimelech called Abraham in and said, "What have you done to us? How have I wronged you that you have brought such great guilt upon me and my kingdom? You have done things to me that should not be done." 10 And Abimelech asked Abraham, "What was your reason for doing this?" 11 Abraham replied, "I said to myself, 'There is surely no fear of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.' 12 Besides, she really is my sister, the daughter of my father though not of my mother; and she became my wife. 13 And when God had me wander from my father's household, I said to her, 'This is how you can show your love to me: Everywhere we go, say of me, "He is my brother." "' 14 Then Abimelech brought sheep and cattle and male and female slaves and gave them to Abraham, and he returned Sarah his wife to him. 15 And Abimelech said, "My land is before you; live wherever you like." 16 To Sarah he said, "I am giving your brother a thousand shekels of silver. This is to cover the offense against you before all who are with you; you are completely vindicated." 17 Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, his wife and his slave girls so they could have children again, 18 for the LORD had closed up every womb in Abimelech's household because of Abraham's wife Sarah.*

D. God's Patience: Putting Up with Abram's Weakness

1. It is shocking that Abram would do this whole scam once!!
2. But to do it TWICE is hard to believe and to forgive
3. Yet God is very patient with a sinner like Abram and with sinners like us
4. God puts up for a long time with our sins and our weaknesses

E. God's Protection: Setting a Wall Around Abram and Sarai

1. Abram was afraid for his life and didn't trust God to save him as a simple refugee coming from Canaan
2. But God put a wall around Abram AND HIS POSSESSIONS even when Abram was proven to have lied to Pharaoh... WHICH WAS HARDER???
3. Pharaoh could easily have ordered Abram executed and all his possessions confiscated; Sarai would then have been taken into his harem and the whole case closed
4. God put s sovereign wall of protection around Abram and all he had... and this is what Abram should have trusted in in the first place!!!

IV. Lessons in God's Redemptive Plan

A. An Eternal Plan: No Changes Possible

1. Before the foundation of the world, God had worked out His redemptive plan for the whole earth
2. God had ordained to call Abraham to be the father of the Jews, and that salvation would come from the Jews
3. God had also ordained that through Abraham's offspring all peoples on earth would be blessed
4. And God had ordained that Sarah would be the mother of Abraham's child of promise, Isaac
5. God's plan was perfectly worked out, and no changes were possible

Isaiah 14:26 This is the plan determined for the whole world; this is the hand stretched out over all nations. 27 For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?

B. A Declared Plan: Main End Clearly Revealed

1. Not only had God already worked out His plan, He had already begun to reveal it to Abram

Genesis 12:1-3 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

2. Abram already knew God planned from eternity past to bless all peoples on earth through him

3. That He would do this through biological multiplication was already revealed twice

vs. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you

vs. 7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

4. The end goal of worldwide blessing was already clearly revealed

C. An Unfolding Plan: Means and Ends Only Partially Understood

1. Not all of God's plan was revealed, however

2. Abram was being asked to trust God little by little, as more and more was revealed

3. The means and ends of God's eternal plan would only become fully known two thousand years later with the coming of Jesus Christ into the world, born as a descendent of Abraham

Matthew 1:1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham

4. Abraham would come to understand SOME of God's plan as his own history of faith unfolded

a. Genesis 13: God told Abram that his offspring would inherit the land and that they would be as numerous as the dust of the earth

b. Genesis 15: God told Abram to lift up his eyes and look at the stars, and made him a promise: "So shall your offspring be"... Abram believed the Lord and the Lord credited it to him as righteousness

c. Genesis 15: God made a covenant with Abram, and swore a solemn oath concerning these promises... He also further revealed some of the future, saying that Abram's descendents would be enslaved for 400 years, but would come out powerfully and inherit the specific land that God had promised

d. Genesis 17: God gave Abram the covenant of circumcision, changed his name to Abraham and made the same promise again about the land

e. Genesis 18: God appeared to Abraham and told him that, within a year Sarah would have a son, the child of promise

f. Genesis 21-22: God makes it clear that it is through Isaac specifically that his offspring will be reckoned... through him all peoples on earth will be blessed

5. As a result, Abraham placed his faith in the Christ, the Promised One of blessing who would come later

John 8:56-58 Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad." 57 "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!" 58 "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

D. An Opposed Plan: The Devil Relentless Attacks

1. The devil would do anything he could to thwart God's plan
2. Therefore, he sought to sap Abram of courage and faith, and to divide Abram from Sarai
3. It was the first of many attacks on God's revealed promise to Abraham
4. All throughout the genealogy of Jesus Christ, we learn of stories of the devil's attempts to snip the line of Abraham's offspring... to exterminate the Jews generally or to kill all of David's descendents specifically
5. The devil is a relentless enemy of the redemptive plan of God... BUT HE WILL FAIL, for God is the Almighty One, and His redemptive plan for the whole world CANNOT FAIL

Genesis 12: 3 ... all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Revelation 7:9-10 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

E. A Prophetic Plan: Acting Out in History Theological Principles

1. Two kinds of prophecy: prediction in words and prediction in types, acted out in history
2. Prediction in words:

Genesis 12: 3 ... all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

3. Prediction in types, acted out
 - a. Abram entered Egypt during a famine, just as Jacob, his grandson would later do
 - b. Pharaoh was afflicted with plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife... just as Egypt and Pharaoh would be afflicted with plagues during the time of the Exodus
 - c. Abram plundered the Egyptians, carrying out great wealth... just as Israel would later do

Summary: This account teaches us some lasting lessons about human nature, God's nature, and God's redemptive plan

V. Applications

A. Godly stewardship of physical beauty

1. Feminine beauty a great gift from God, and a powerful influence in Biblical history
2. Female beauty can also be a dangerous thing... a power wielded in the hands of a godless woman it can destroy

Samson brought low by his love for Delilah's beauty

Solomon brought low by foreign wives

David brought low and humiliated by a bathing beauty named Bathsheba

Amnon ruined his life because of his lust for his beautiful half-sister Tamar

King Herod, enflamed by lust at a dancing girl, had John the Baptist's head cut off

3. An issue as much today as it ever was in the past

whole industries exist to enhance the physical beauty of women

Worldwide sales in cosmetics = \$112 billion per year!!! U.S. market the highest, Japan second

Whole industries also exist to exploit the physical beauty of women

Why do the overwhelming majority of magazine covers and other forms of advertising feature the beauty of women? Simple: because of the power of a woman to garner attention!!

4. A Godly woman recognizes the power of her physical beauty and refused to be a stumbling block to her brothers in Christ

Some forms of dress are openly designed to flaunt and exploit the physical beauty of a woman and to promote lust

Such styles are called "hot" or "trendy"

Each Christian woman is obligated to ask herself: "What is my motive for selecting this style? What am I trying to accomplish? Is it possible that this style could cause one of my brothers in Christ to stumble?"

Remember God's definition of female beauty

1 Peter 3:3-6 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They

were submissive to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

5. Meanwhile: a Godly man recognizes the power of the physical beauty of women and guards his eyes and his heart

Job 31:1 "I made a covenant with my eyes not to look lustfully at a girl.

B. Godly view of marriage

1. Husbands should be courageous through their active faith in God
2. Husbands too often suffer from the “Passive Male Syndrome”... wimps whose faithless cowardice sets a bad example for their families
3. Husbands: let your strong, confident faith in Christ and in His word be a refuge under which your wife can flourish and bear all the good fruit her gifts allow

C. Letting faith drive out fear

1. Abram should have trusted in God’s promise to drive out his fear
2. When you are tempted to be afraid about anything in life, go back again to the promises of God and see if faith can drive out fear

D. Trusting in God’s redemptive plan

1. God ordained that your salvation be achieved through the working out of an elaborate, long-developing Redemptive Plan
2. That plan was crafted by God’s wisdom before the earth was formed
3. That plan has been unfolding now for four thousand years since the time of Abraham
4. Rest assured that what God has been begun to work out, He will continue working out until it is brought to fulfillment in Christ
5. Abraham and Sarah were ordained to have a child of promise, Isaac... no power of hell could stop that
6. Fifty-three generations later, Jesus Christ was born a descendent of Abraham... He who shed His blood on the cross for the sins of all who would trust in Him