

# Genesis 12–50

## Israel's Birth & Preservation



**Dr. Andy Woods**

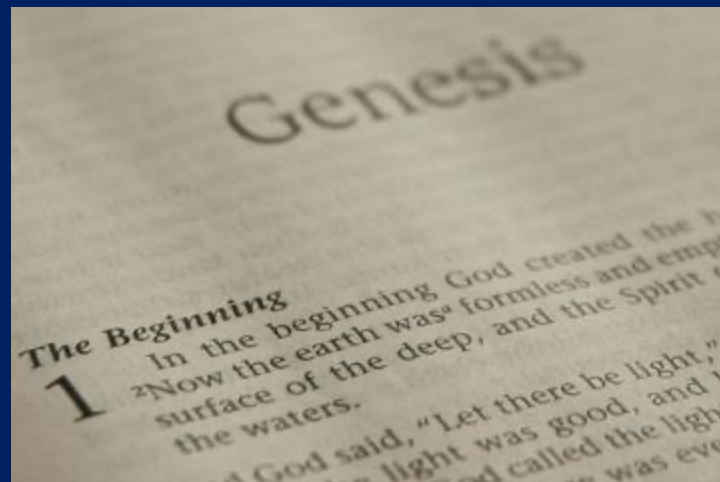
Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church  
President – Chafer Theological Seminary

# GENESIS STRUCTURE

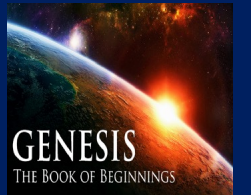


I. Beginning of the Human race (Gen. 1–11)

II. Beginning of the Hebrew race (Gen. 12–50)



# GENESIS STRUCTURE



- I. Genesis 1-11 (four events)
  - A. Creation (1-2)
  - B. Fall (3-5)
  - C. Flood (6-9)
  - D. National dispersion (10-11)

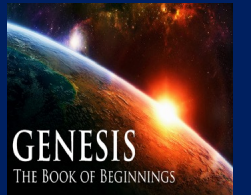


## Genesis 3:15

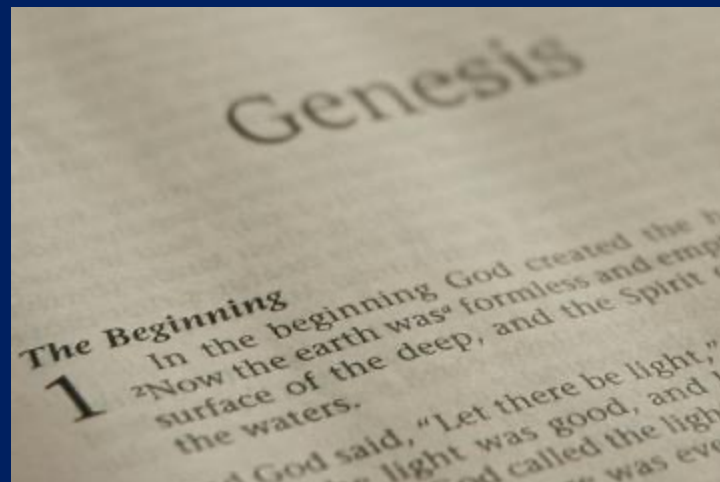
“And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”



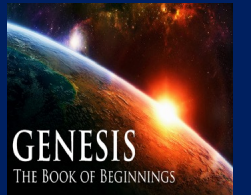
# GENESIS STRUCTURE



- I. Beginning of the Human race (Gen. 1–11)
- II. Beginning of the Hebrew race (Gen. 12–50)**



# GENESIS STRUCTURE



## II. Genesis 12-50 (four people)

A. Abraham (12:1–25:11)

B. Isaac (25:12–26:35)

C. Jacob (27–36)

D. Joseph (37–50)

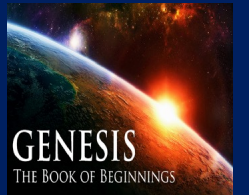


## Isaiah 43:1

“But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel, 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!'”



# GENESIS STRUCTURE



## II. Genesis 12-50 (four people)

A. Abraham (12:1–25:11)

B. Isaac (25:12–26:35)

C. Jacob (27–36)

D. Joseph (37–50)





# Genesis 12–14

## Abram's Early Journeys

- I. Unconditional promises (Gen. 12:1-3)
- II. From Haran to Canaan (Gen. 12:4-5)
- III. In Canaan (Gen. 12:6-9)
- IV. In Egypt (Gen. 12:10-20)
- V. Abram and Lot Separate (Gen. 13:1-13)
- VI. Reaffirmation of Abram's promises (Gen. 13:14-18)
- VII. Abram Rescues Lot (14:1-24)
- VIII. Abrahamic Covenant (15:1-21)**



# Genesis 15:1–21

## Abrahamic Covenant

- A. Seed Promise Clarified (15:1-6)
- B. Land Promise Ratified (15:7-21)

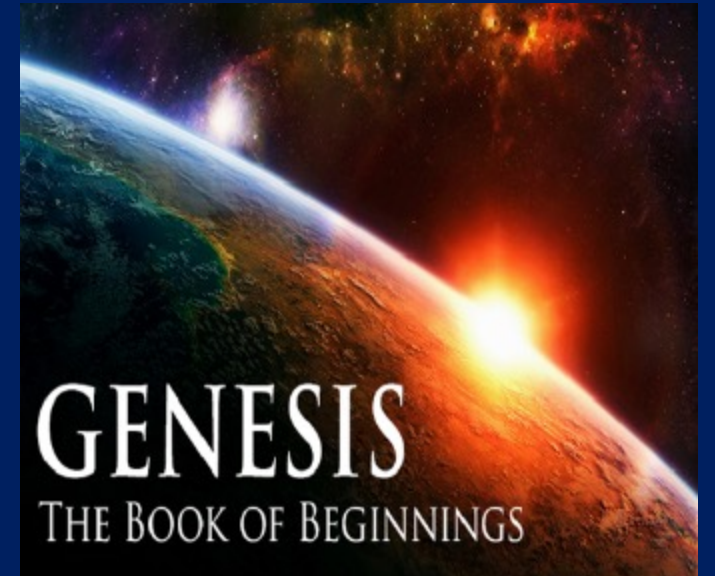


# Genesis 15:1–21

## Abrahamic Covenant

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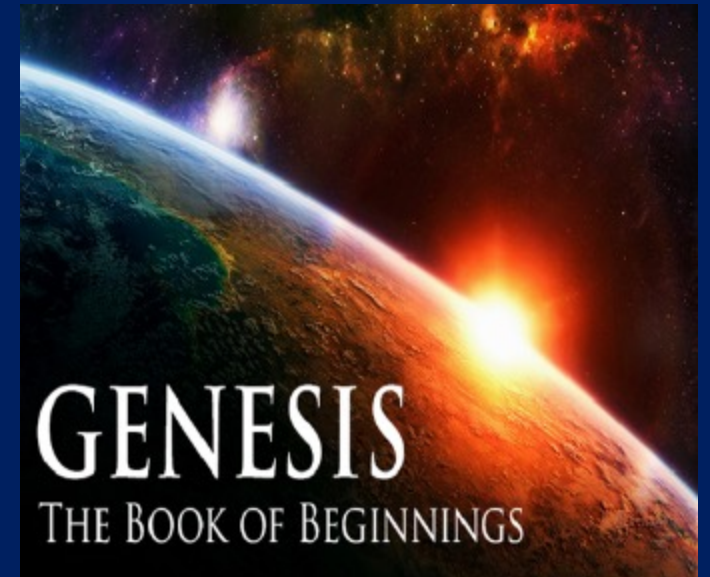
**B. Land Promise Ratified (15:7-21)**



# A. Seed Promise Clarified

## Genesis 15:1-6

1. God's Promise (1)
2. Abram's misunderstanding (2-3)
3. God's clarification (4-5)
4. Abram's response (6)

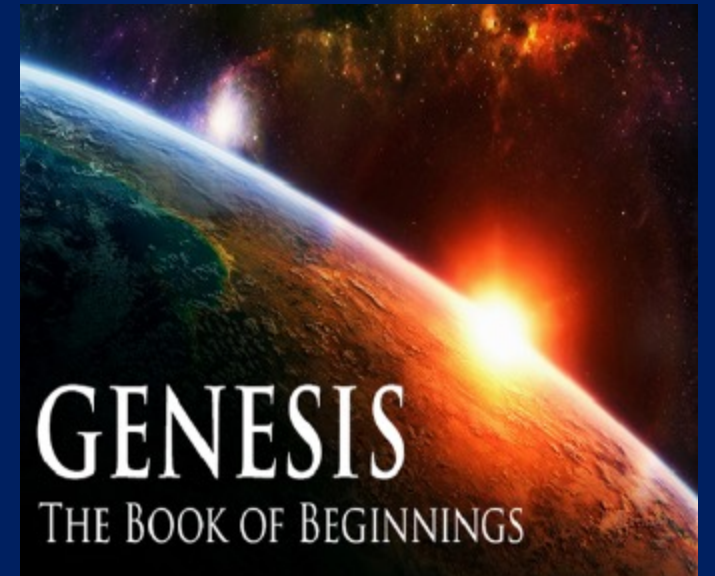


# Genesis 15:1–21

## Abrahamic Covenant

A. Seed Promise Clarified (15:1-6)

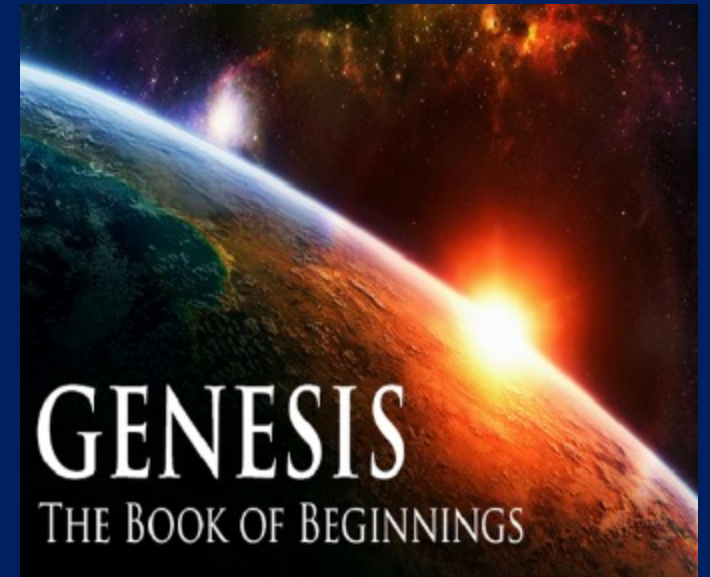
B. Land Promise Ratified (15:7-21)



## B. Land Promise Ratified

### Genesis 15:7-21

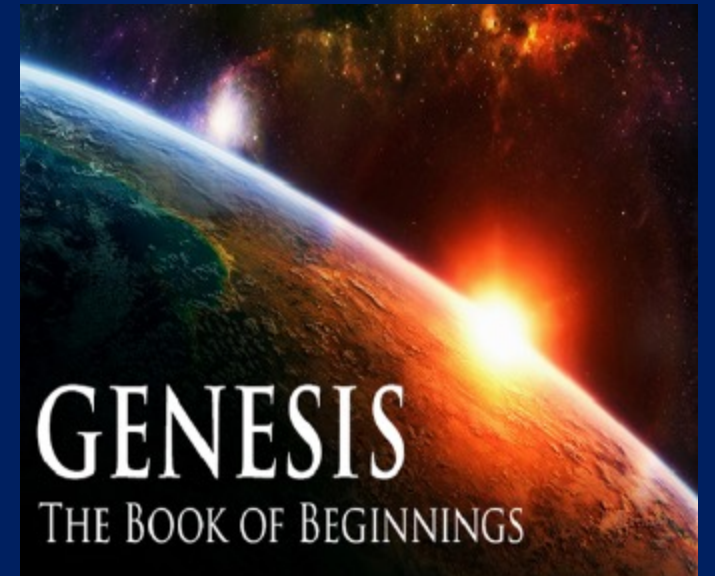
1. God's Promise (7)
2. Abram's Question (8)
3. Preparation of the Animal pieces (9-11)
4. Prophecy of redemption from Egyptian bondage (12-16)
5. Covenant ratification ritual (17-21)



# 5. Covenant Ratification Ritual

## Genesis 15:17-21

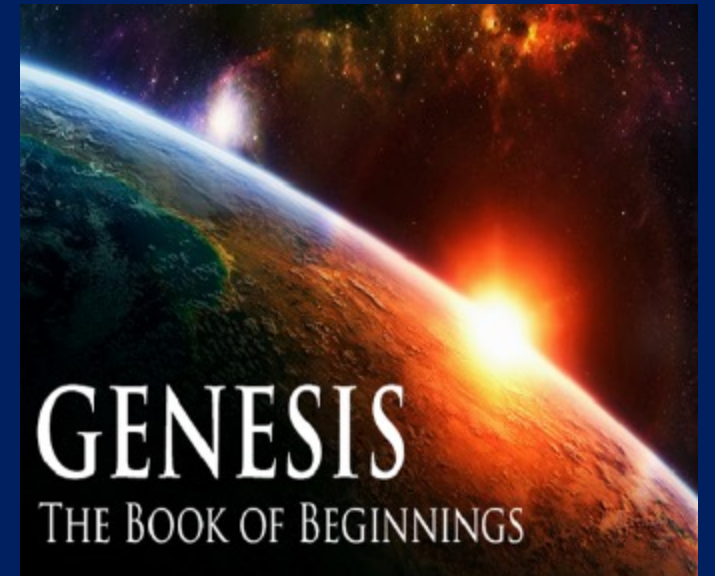
- a. The ceremony (17)
- b. The covenant (18a)
- c. The land (18b-21)



# 5. Covenant Ratification Ritual

Genesis 15:17-21

- a. The ceremony (17)
- b. The covenant (18a)
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# Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

*The Book of Genesis, 280*



“The Hebrew word for deep sleep is *tardeimah*; it was a supernatural deep sleep that fell upon Abram. It was the same deep sleep that fell upon Adam (Gen. 2:21) in preparation for the creation of Eve. It also fell upon Saul (I Sam. 26:12 and Dan. 8:18; 10:9). It is also mentioned in Job 4:13 and 33:15.”



# Evidence of Abrahamic Covenant's Unconditional Nature

- ANE covenant ratification ceremony (Gen 15)
- Lack of stated conditions for Israel's obedience (Gen 15)
- Covenant's eternality (Gen 17:7, 13, 19; Ps. 90:2)
- Covenant's immutability (Heb 6:13-18; Mal. 3:6)
- Trans-generational reaffirmation despite perpetual national disobedience (Jer 31:35-37)



# Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

*The Book of Genesis, 283-84*

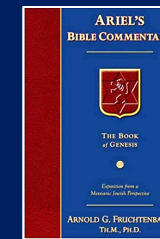


“The normal procedure was for both persons making the covenant to walk between the pieces of the animal, rendering the terms of the covenant obligatory to both parties. This procedure also rendered the covenant conditional: If one party broke the terms and forfeited his life, it would exempt the other party from keeping his part of the covenant. Since the covenant was between God and Abram, it was normal here that God passed between these pieces. The previous abnormality was the fact that in place of one animal, there were five. Now there was a second differentiation.”



# Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

*The Book of Genesis, 283-84*

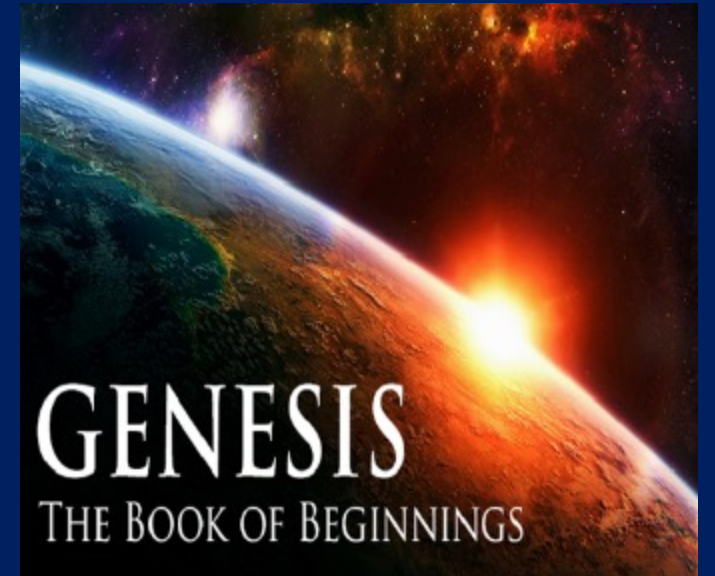


“It was not God and Abram that walked between these pieces of the animals, but it was God alone Who passed between the pieces of the animals, which rendered the covenant unconditional. Abram’s lack of participation emphasizes the unconditionality of this particular covenant. So Abram did not become an active participant in the signing and sealing of the covenant as such; he was only the recipient of the covenant and the covenantal promises. It meant that no matter how often Abram failed (and he will fail in the next chapter), and no matter how often his seed, the Jewish people fail, the Abrahamic Covenant cannot be rendered null and void.”

# 5. Covenant Ratification Ritual

## Genesis 15:17-21

- a. The ceremony (17)
- b. The covenant (18a)
- c. The land (18b-21)



## Genesis 15:18-21

<sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates: <sup>19</sup> the Kenite and the Kenizzite and the Kadmonite <sup>20</sup> and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Rephaim <sup>21</sup> and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Girgashite and the Jebusite.”



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# Noahic vs. Abrahamic & Mosaic Covenants

Name	<b>NOAHIC</b>	<b>ABRAHAMIC</b>	<b>MOSAIC</b>
Human agent	<b>Noah</b>	<b>Abraham</b>	<b>Moses</b>
Scripture	<b>Gen. 8–9</b>	<b>Gen. 12–17</b>	<b>Exod. 19–40</b>
Covenant ( <i>Berit</i> )	<b>Gen. 9:9</b>	<b>Gen. 15:18</b>	<b>Exod. 19:5</b>
Party	<b>World, humanity</b>	<b>Israel, Hebrews</b>	<b>Israel, Hebrews</b>
Israel	<b>Pre-Israel</b>	<b>Post-Israel</b>	<b>Post-Israel</b>



# Noahic vs. Abrahamic & Mosaic Covenants

Covenant	<b>NOAHIC</b>	<b>ABRAHAMIC</b>	<b>MOSAIC</b>
Conditional or unconditional	<b>Unconditional</b>	<b>Unconditional</b>	<b>Conditional</b>
Promises	<b>No more flood judgment, enduring earth, capital punishment</b>	<b>Ownership of land, seed, and blessing</b>	<b>Enjoyment or possession of land, seed, and blessing</b>
Sign	<b>Rainbow</b>	<b>Circumcision</b>	<b>Sabbath</b>
Purpose	<b>Restrain &amp; preserve</b>	<b>Redemptive</b>	<b>Redemptive</b>
Directly binding today?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>

# Dr. William F. Albright

W. F. Albright, *Yahweh and the Gods of Canaan: A Historical Analysis of Two Contrasting Faiths* (Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1968), 106-08.

“Contracts and treaties were common everywhere, but only the Hebrews, so far as we know, made covenants with their gods or God. Being prevailing caravaneers and so ethno-political intruders in the West, the early Hebrews were in constant need of contractual and treaty protection.’ Of course, we biblicists would insist that it was God that made the contracts with men, not the other way around.”

Charles C. Clough, "Social-Political Implications of the New Covenant," in *An Introduction to the New Covenant*, ed. Christopher Cone (Hurst, TX: Tyndale Seminary Press, 2013), 277, fn. 13.

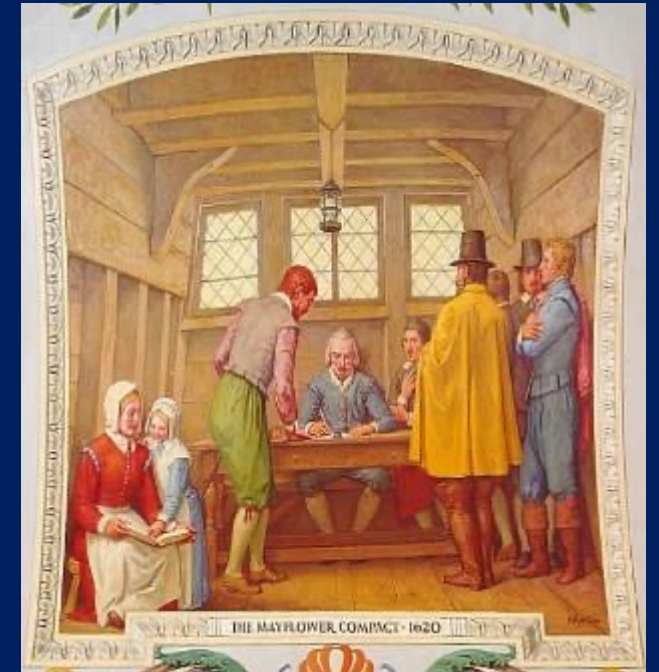
## Genesis 15:18-21

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## Mayflower Compact (1620)

Mayflower, in 1620, recites: “Having undertaken for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith and the honor of our king and country a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia.”





## Exodus 2:24

“So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”



## Ezekiel 36:22

“Therefore, say to the house of Israel, ‘This is what the Lord God says: “It is not for your sake, house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for My holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you went.””



## Jeremiah 31:35-37

Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for light by day  
And the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light  
by night, Who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar; The  
LORD of hosts is His name:<sup>36</sup> “If this fixed order departs  
From before Me,” declares the Lord, “Then the offspring  
of Israel also will cease From being a nation before Me  
forever.”<sup>37</sup> Thus says the LORD, “If the heavens above . . .





## Jeremiah 31:35-37

. . . can be measured And the foundations of the earth searched out below, Then I will also cast off all the offspring of Israel For all that they have done,” declares the LORD.



## John 10:27-29

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; <sup>28</sup> and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish **[ou mē; aiōnia]**; and **no one will snatch them** out of My hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and **no one is able to snatch them** out of the Father’s hand.”



## 2 Timothy 2:11, 13

“The statement is trustworthy:...If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.”



## RELIGION SAYS...

Jesus Christ did 90%

You must  
do 10%

This is salvation by WORKS.

## GOD SAYS...

Jesus Christ did 100%

This is salvation by GOD'S GRACE.



## John MacArthur

John MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Jesus*, p. 140

"Eternal life is indeed a free gift (Rom. 6:23). Salvation cannot be earned with good deeds or purchased with money. It has already been bought by Christ, who paid the ransom with His blood. **But that does not mean there is no cost** in terms of salvation's impact on the sinner's life. This paradox may be difficult but it is nevertheless true: **salvation is both free and costly**. Eternal life brings immediate death to self. 'Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, that our body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin' (Rom 6:6). Thus in a sense **we pay the ultimate price for salvation** when our . . .



## John MacArthur

John MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Jesus*, p. 140

. . . sinful self is nailed to a cross. It is a total abandonment of self-will, like the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies so that it can bear much fruit (cf. John 12:24). It is an exchange of all that we are for all that Christ is. And it denotes implicit obedience, full surrender to the lordship of Christ. Nothing less can qualify as saving faith.”



# John MacArthur

John MacArthur, *Faith Works*, p. 25

“Jesus is Lord of all, and the faith He demands involves unconditional surrender...He does not bestow eternal life on those whose hearts remain set against Him.”



## John MacArthur

John MacArthur, *Transcription of The Art of Self-Discipline*, part 2, [www.gty.org](http://www.gty.org).

“Self discipline comes when you look back to the covenant of your salvation...that is to say when you remember that at the point of your salvation you made a promise to submit to the Lord. You made a pledge at that time to be obedient to Christ. You confessed Him as Lord...And Lord means that He is above all. It's essential then as believers to remember that we made a covenant of obedience when we confessed Jesus as Lord. We were saved unto obedience which God had before ordained that we should walk...and obedience characterized by good works...and obedience to God's Word. That pledge was . . .





## John MacArthur

John MacArthur, *Transcription of The Art of Self-Discipline*, part 2, [www.gty.org](http://www.gty.org).

. . . inherent in salvation. God at the time you came to Him for salvation promised you forgiveness and eternal life and all the grace necessary to fulfill His will, and the Holy Spirit, and **you pledged obedience**. And you need to go back and remember that and have the integrity to be faithful to **your original promise**...”

# 5. Covenant Ratification Ritual

## Genesis 15:17-21

- a. The ceremony (17)
- b. The covenant (18a)
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## Genesis 15:18-21

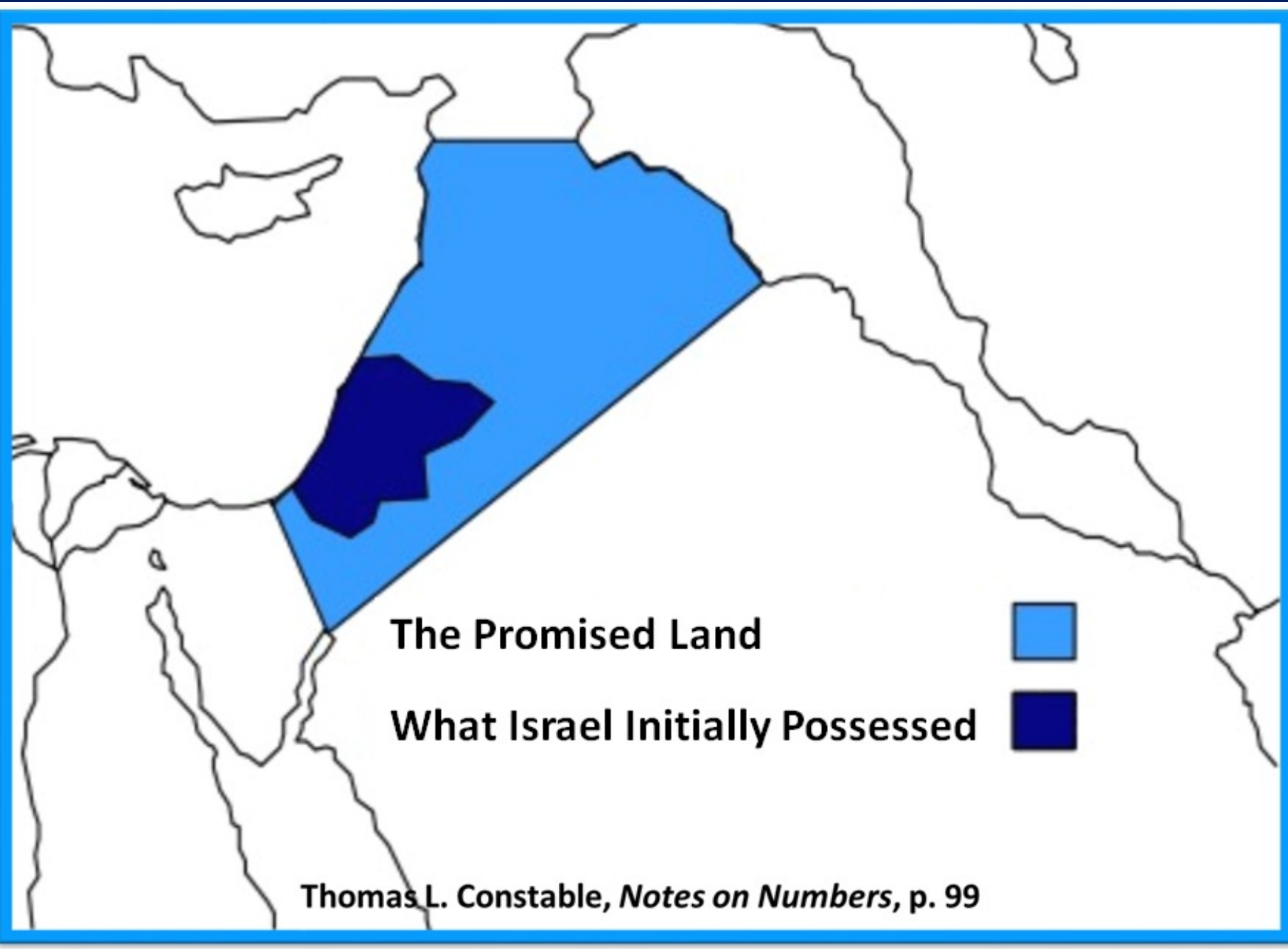
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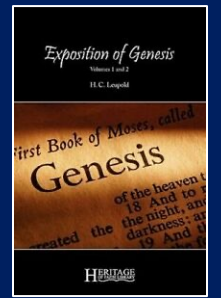
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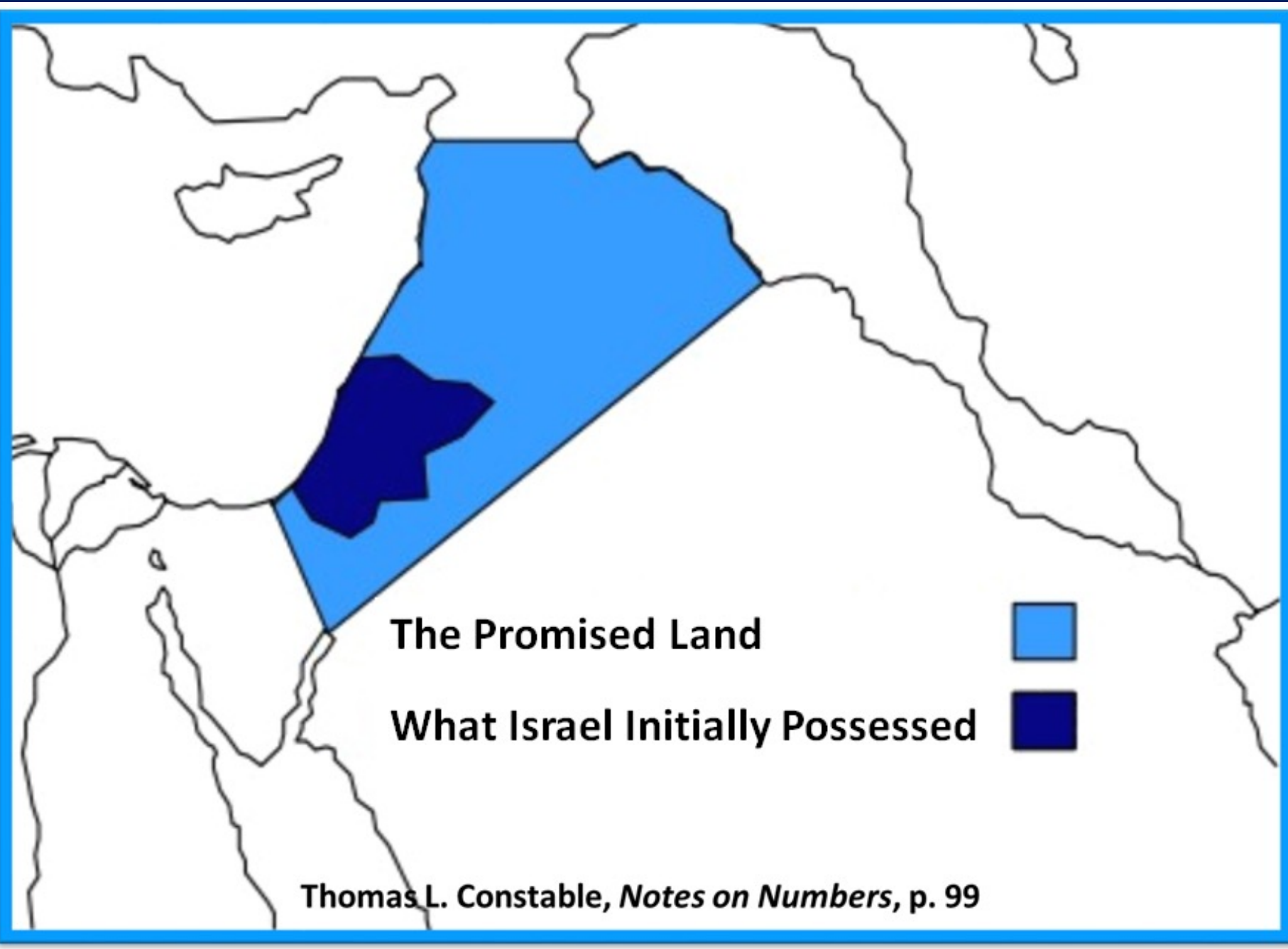
# H. C. Leupold

H.C. Leupold, *Exposition of Genesis*, 490.



“‘The River of Egypt’ could hardly be the Wady el ‘Arish (*Rhinocolura*), for that insignificant winter torrent could hardly be set in contrast to the ‘Great River, the River Euphrates.’ Consequently, ‘the River of Egypt’ is the Nile.”











# Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

*The Book of Genesis, 284*

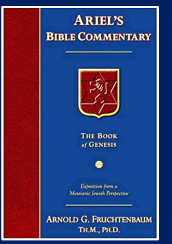


“The southern border of the Land is from the river of Egypt. The river of Egypt is not the Nile, as has often been misinterpreted; for if it was the Nile, the Jews were already in the Promised Land before they ever left Egypt. Nor is the River of Egypt the Wadi el-Arish, the wadi that runs through the center of the Sinai Peninsula, because that was referred to in the Bible as the Brook (*nachal*) of Egypt, not the River (*nahar*) of Egypt. The river of Egypt refers to the most eastern branch of the Nile Delta. As the Nile River flows from south to north before emptying into the Mediterranean Sea, it breaks up into various branches . . .

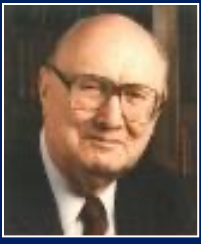


# Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum

*The Book of Genesis, 284*



... flowing through the Nile Delta, and the most eastern branch was known as the River of Egypt. This is known today as the *Pelagiatic* branch of the Nile Delta, which flows into Lake *Sironbis*. It is also known as the River *Shihor*, the fourteenth *nome* of Egypt.”



# Evidence of Abrahamic Covenant's Unconditional Nature

- ANE covenant ratification ceremony (Gen 15)
- Lack of stated conditions for Israel's obedience (Gen 15)
- Covenant's eternality (Gen 17:7, 13, 19; Ps. 90:2)
- Covenant's immutability (Heb 6:13-18; Mal. 3:6)
- Trans-generational reaffirmation despite perpetual national disobedience (Jer 31:35-37)



## Land Promises Fulfilled in the Time of Joshua (Josh. 11:23; 21:43-45) or Solomon (1 Kgs. 4:21)?

- Extended context (Josh 13:1-7; Judges 1:19, 21, 27, 29, 30-36)
- Land gained in conquest was only a fraction of what was promised (1 Kgs. 4:25)
- Jerusalem not conquered in Joshua's day (Josh 15:63; 2 Sam 5)
- Solomon's reign extended to the border of Egypt (1 Kgs. 4:21) and not the River of Egypt (Gen. 15:18)
- Solomon's reign was tributary only (1 Kgs. 4:21)
- Forever? (Gen 17:7-8, 13, 19)
- Reaffirmation of land promises long after Joshua and Solomon's time (Amos 9:11-15)



# Dan to Beersheba

Daily Bible Study

[www.keyway.ca](http://www.keyway.ca)

## 1 Kings 4:21

“Now Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt; they brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.”

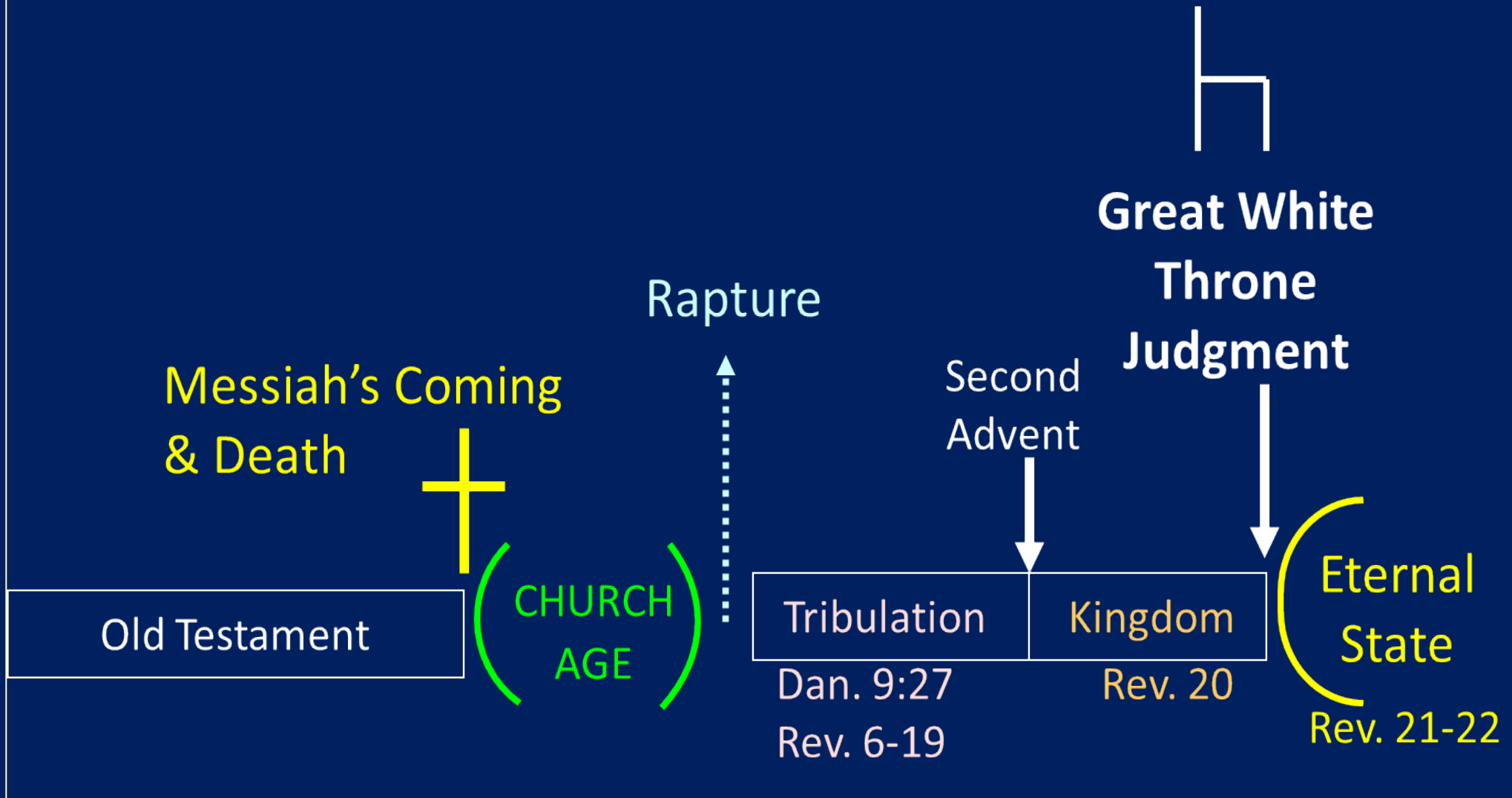


# IMPORTANCE

- God's promises and covenant to Israel remain literal, reliable, unconditional, and unfulfilled (Gen. 23)
- Basis of God's intervention in history (Gen. 15:14-16; Exod. 2:24)
- God must once again move His hand in history to fulfill His Word (Ezek. 36:22)
- Forms the expectation of a future earthly kingdom

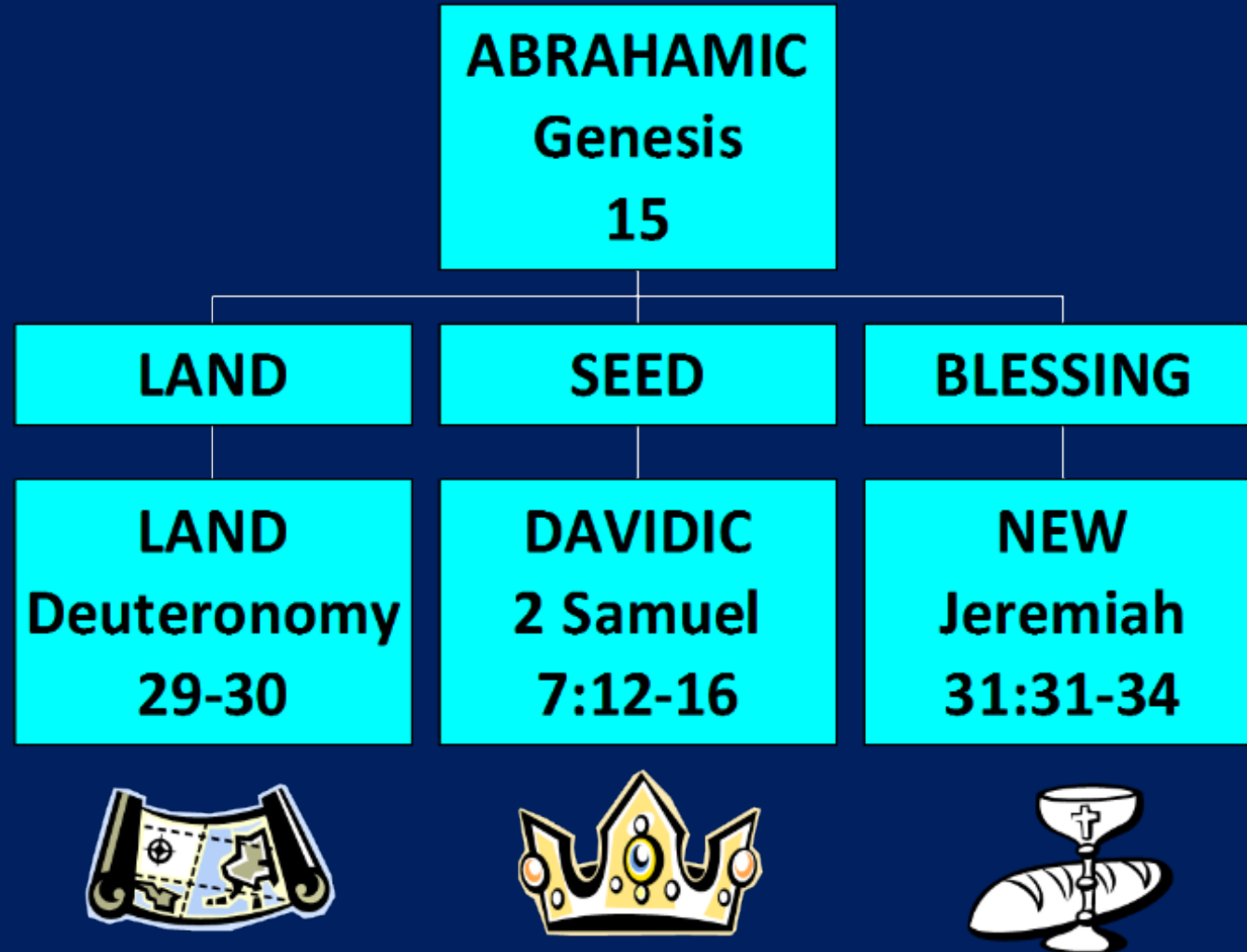


# Prophecy Panorama





# Abrahamic Covenant



**Unconditional** covenant with a conditional blessing (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)

## Deuteronomy 29:1

“These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the sons of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant which He had made with them at Horeb.”



## Deuteronomy 30:3

“Then the LORD your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you, and will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you.”



## 2 Samuel 7:12-16

“<sup>12</sup>When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup>He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup>I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me; when he commits iniquity, I will correct him with the rod of men. . .



## 2 Samuel 7:12-16

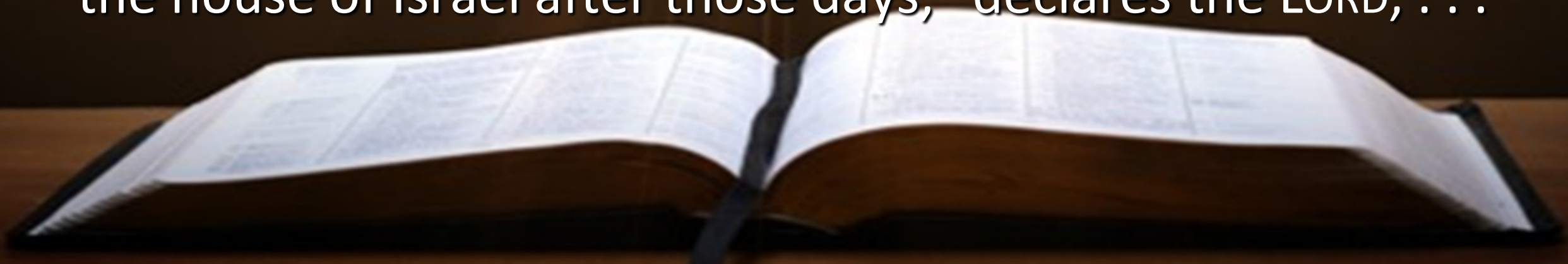
. . . and the strokes of the sons of men, 15 but My lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took *it* away from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

<sup>16</sup> **Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.** <sup>17</sup> In accordance with all these words and all this vision, so Nathan spoke **to David.**”



## Jeremiah 31:31-34

“Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,<sup>32</sup> not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD.<sup>33</sup> “But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the LORD, . . .



## Jeremiah 31:31-34

...“I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. <sup>34</sup>They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”



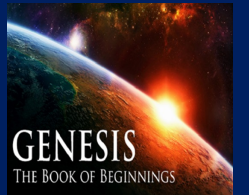
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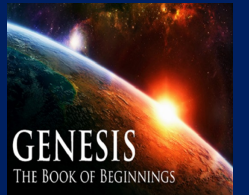
# Ham's Sons (vs. 6)



1. Cush
2. Mizraim
3. Put
4. Canaan



## 4. Canaan's Sons (vs. 15-18)



A. Sidon

G. Arkite

B. Heth

H. Sinite

C. Jebusite

I. Arvadite

D. Amorite

J. Zemarite

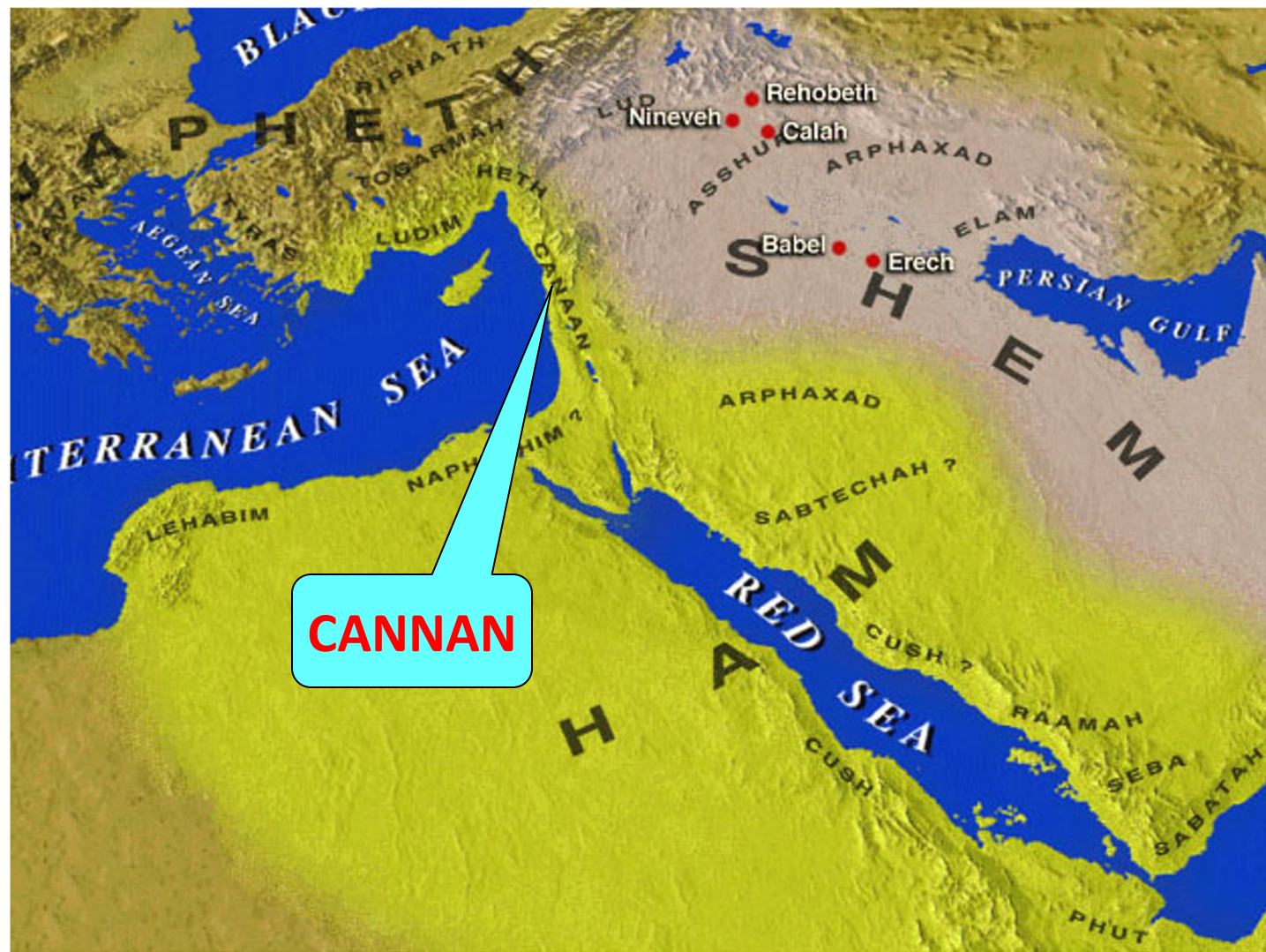
E. Girgashite

K. Hamathite

F. Hivite

L. Perrizite





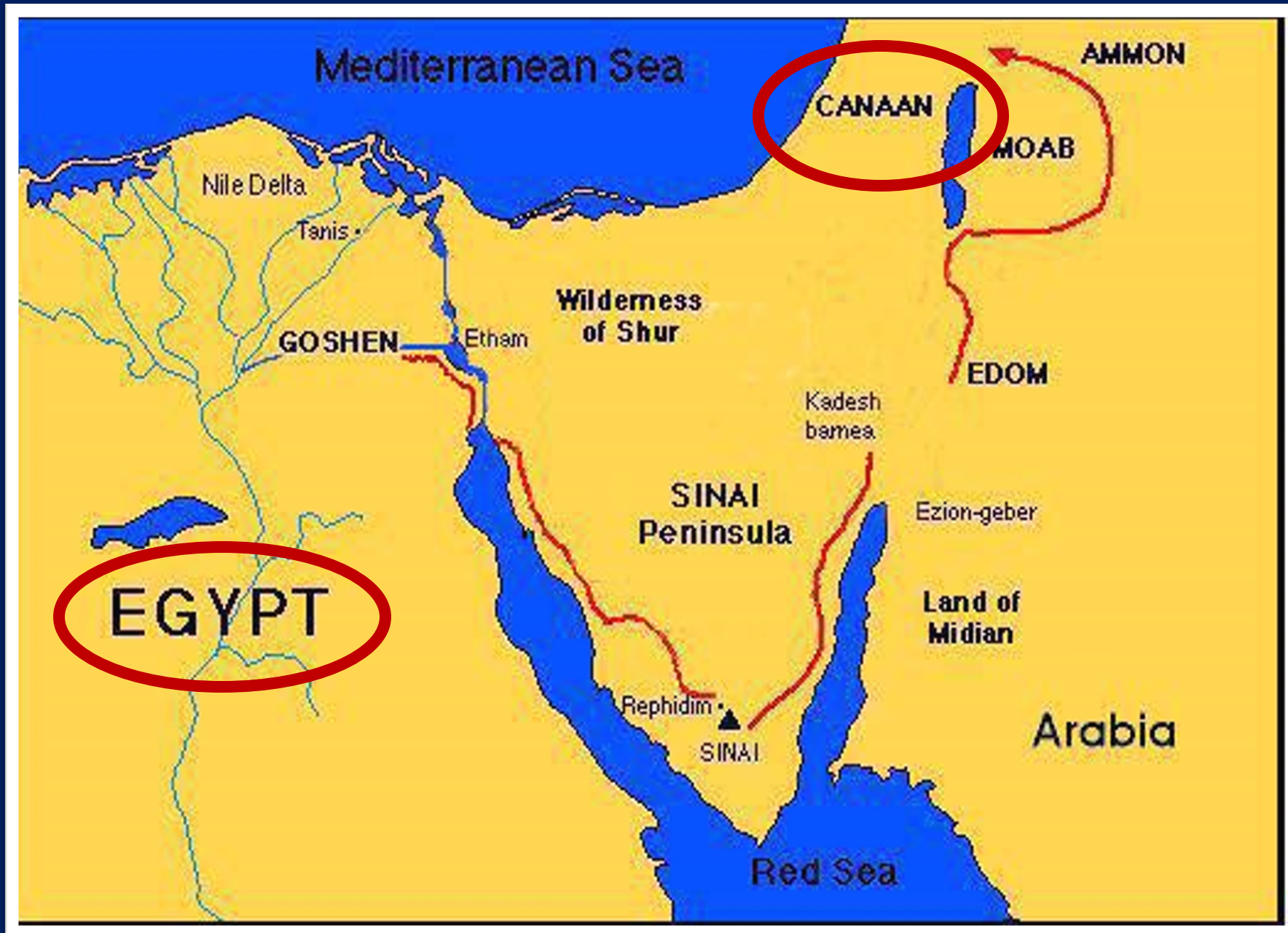
### Geographical Distribution Of The Sons Of Noah

The three sons of Noah migrated to different areas. The Semites occupied the Tigris–Euphrates valley and most of Arabia; the Japhethites moved north, around the Black Sea, and even west to Spain; the Hamites went south into lower Asia Minor, coastal Syria and Palestine, and the Red Sea coast of Arabia, but principally into Africa.

## Genesis 15:16

“Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the wrongdoing of the Amorite is not yet complete.”





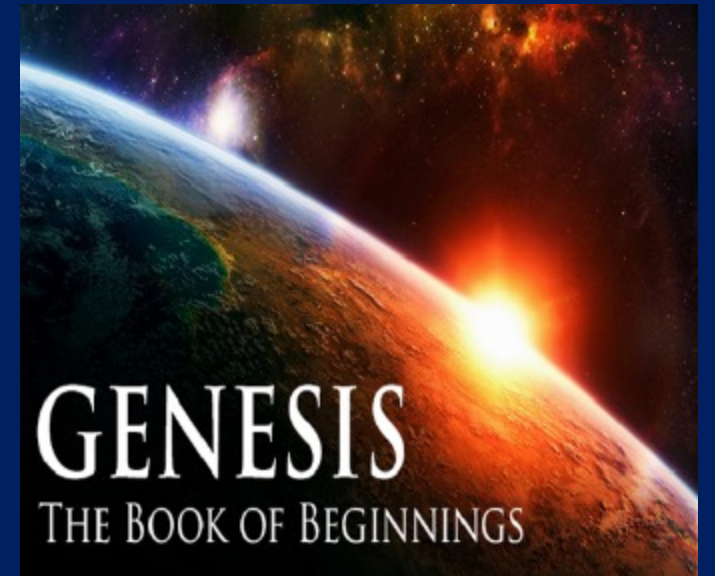
Conclusion

# Genesis 15:1–21

## Abrahamic Covenant

A. Seed Promise Clarified (15:1-6)

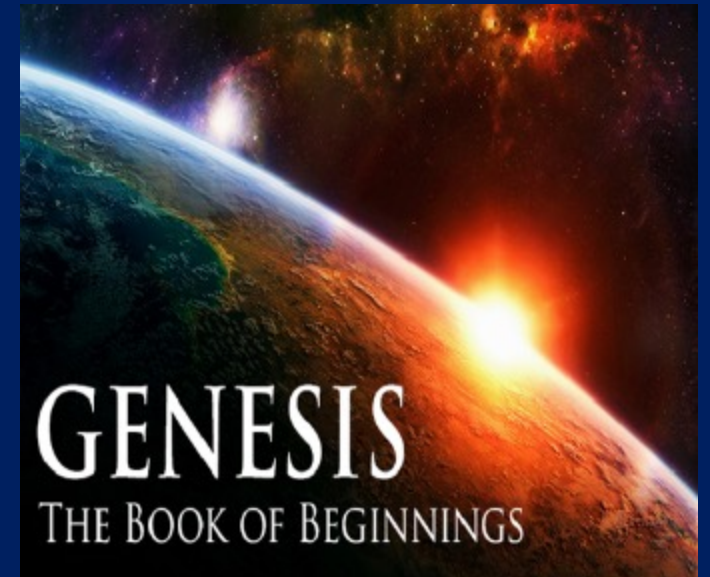
B. Land Promise Ratified (15:7-21)



## B. Land Promise Ratified

### Genesis 15:7-21

1. God's Promise (7)
2. Abram's Question (8)
3. Preparation of the Animal pieces (9-11)
4. Prophecy of redemption from Egyptian bondage (12-16)
5. Covenant ratification ritual (17-21)

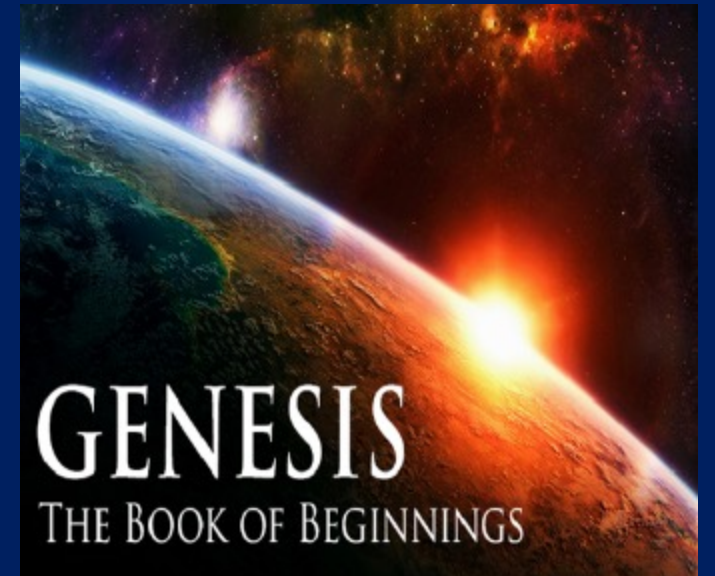




# 5. Covenant Ratification Ritual

## Genesis 15:17-21

- a. The ceremony (17)
- b. The covenant (18a)
- c. The land (18b-21)





“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)