

## ***God's Eternal Purpose***

### ❖ **Galatians 3:7-9 (NKJV)**

"Therefore know that *only* those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." So then those who *are* of faith are blessed with believing Abraham."

## **All the Nations!**

### ❖ **Genesis 12:1-4 (NKJV)**

"Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram *was* seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran."

## **I. Abraham could have been the most outstanding missionary evangelist in the Old Testament, or all of human history.**

Through his life God revealed himself to:

A. The Egyptians, Genesis 12:10-20

B. The Canaanites, 10 Kingdoms, Genesis 14:1-22

(I personally believe Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed based on the fact that God had made Himself real to them in the same generation.)

C. Abimelech the King of Gerar, Genesis 20:1-18

D. No less than dozens of city-states.

## II. God revealed Himself to the Egyptians through Joseph.

### ❖ Genesis 41:38-39 (NKJV)

“And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find *such a one* as this, a man in whom *is* the Spirit of God?” Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.””

## III. God revealed Himself to both the Egyptians and Hebrews through Moses.

A. The Amalekites, Exodus 17:8-16

B. The Midianites, Exodus 18:1-12

vv. 11 Now I know that the Lord *is* greater than all the gods; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, *He was* above them.”

C. The Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, Exodus 23:23 For My Angel will go before you and bring you in to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hivites and the Jebusites; and I will cut them off.

**\*\*\*God reveals His mission.\*\*\***

### ❖ Numbers 13:26-33

“Now they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed

them the fruit of the land. Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this *is* its fruit. Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land *are* strong; the cities *are* fortified *and* very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan." Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they *are* stronger than we." And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies *is* a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it *are* men of *great* stature. There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."

❖ **Numbers 14:6-9**

"But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: 'The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land which flows with milk and honey. Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them.'"

❖ **Numbers 14:19-21 (NKJV)**

"Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now. Then the Lord said, "I have pardoned, according to your word; but

truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord...”

- D. The Amorites, Numbers 21
  - E. The Moabites, Numbers 22
- The next generation, a second chance.

❖ **Deuteronomy 28:10 (NKJV)**

"Then all peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord, and they shall be afraid of you."

***This is God’s plan for the Church today! God was continually reaching out to other nations than Israel, and He still is through His Church now.***

**IV. Something to consider:**

**A. Who was Balaam?**

A prophet to area of the Amorites and Moabites.

❖ **Numbers 22:18 (NKJV)**

"Then Balaam answered and said to the servants of Balak, "Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, I could not go beyond the word of the Lord my God, to do less or more."

❖ **Numbers 22:38 (NKJV)**

"And Balaam said to Balak, "Look, I have come to you! Now, have I any power at all to say anything? The word that God puts in my mouth, that I must speak."

## B. Who was Melchizedek?

### ❖ Genesis 14:18 (NKJV)

"Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he *was* the priest of God Most High."

## C. Who was Jethro?

### ❖ Exodus 18:1,11 (NKJV)

**(1)**"And Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel His people—that the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt." **(11)**"Now I know that the Lord *is* greater than all the gods; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, *He was* above them."

Is it possible God reached out to the nations outside of the Abrahamic covenant?

## D. What about the pillar of cloud and fire?

### ❖ Numbers 10:33-36 (NKJV)

"So they departed from the mountain of the LORD on a journey of three days; and the ark of the covenant of the LORD went before them for the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them. And the cloud of the LORD was above them by day when they went out from the camp. So it was, whenever the ark set out, that Moses said: "Rise up, O LORD! Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You." And when it rested, he said: "Return, O LORD, To the many thousands of Israel."

### The pillar:

1. Led Israel by God's own presence.

2. Showed God's glory, ability, power and provision for His own and to the nations.

## V. God revealed Himself through Joshua and the Israelites to literally all of Canaan.

### ❖ Joshua 2:8-11 (NKJV)

"Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who *were* on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. And as soon as we heard *these things*, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He *is* God in heaven above and on earth beneath."

## VI. The Psalms reveal God's plan

### ❖ Psalm 67:1-4 (NKJV)

"God be merciful to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, Selah That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth." Selah

### ❖ Psalm 22:27-28 (NKJV)

"All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You. For the kingdom *is* the Lord's, And He rules over the nations."

❖ **Psalm 72:18-20 (NKJV)**

"Blessed *be* the Lord God, the God of Israel, Who only does wondrous things! And blessed *be* His glorious name forever! And let the whole earth be filled *with* His glory. Amen and Amen. The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended."

**David's last prayer?**

**VII. Solomon at the Temple Dedication**

❖ **1 Kings 8:41-43 (NKJV)**

"Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who *is* not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your name's sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this temple, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as *do* Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name."

❖ **2 Chronicles 9:22-23 (NKJV)**

"So King Solomon surpassed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart."

**VIII. Habakkuk's Revelation**

❖ **Habakkuk 2:14 (NKJV)**

"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

God's plan will not be stopped by a backslidden nation!

## IX. God reveals Himself to three world empires through Daniel

### The Babylonian Empire

#### ❖ Daniel 2:46-48 (NKJV)

"Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him. <sup>47</sup> The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise *men* of Babylon."

### The Mede Empire

#### ❖ Daniel 6:16, 26-27 (NKJV)

"So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you." I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, and steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, and His dominion shall endure to the end. He delivers and rescues, and He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions."

### The Persian Empire

## Nehemiah 2, Esther

Daniel's Prophecy reveals God's plan

#### ❖ Daniel 7:13-14 (NKJV)

"I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man,

Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed."

## X. Old Testament Prophecies

### ❖ Isaiah 45:22-23(NKJV)

"Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I *am* God, and *there is* no other. I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, that to Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath."

### ❖ Isaiah 49:6 (NKJV)

"Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel;I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

### ❖ Isaiah 66:23 (NKJV)

"And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, all flesh shall come to worship before Me," says the Lord."

### ❖ Zechariah 14:16 (NKJV)

"And it shall come to pass *that* everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

### ❖ Hosea 2:23 (NKJV)

"Then I will sow her for Myself in the earth, and I will have mercy on *her who had* not obtained mercy; then I will say to *those who were* not My people, 'You *are* My people!' And they shall say, 'You *are* my God!'"

❖ **Malachi 1:11 (NKJV)**

"For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; in every place incense shall be offered to My name, and a pure offering; for My name shall be great among the nations," Says the Lord of hosts."