

Why Do Old Habits Die Hard? Genesis 20

Review, Genesis 12

A. Abram's call to faith (trust, dependence), 12:1

You are to leave (the first imperative)

1. Your country (land)
2. Your people (kindred, relatives)
3. Your father's household
4. Hebrews 11:8

B. The Lord's promise of blessing, 12:2a

I will (The Lord's purpose in calling Abram is expressed in these promises. It is put into an immutable covenant in Gen. 15, confirmed in Gen. 17, and sworn to in Gen. 22)

1. Make you (Abram) into a great nation
2. Bless you
3. Make your name great

C. Abram's call to be blessing, 12:2b-3

(God's ultimate purpose in calling Abram)

You will be a blessing (the second imperative)

1. Those who do good to Abram will participate in the Lord's blessings to Abram.
2. Those who _____ Abram
[*qalal*, meaning treat lightly or with contempt is translated as "curse" (NIV, NASB), "dishonor" (ESV), "treat with contempt" (HCSB), "treat lightly" (NET)]
the Lord will curse.
[*arar*, meaning remove from blessing].

D. Abram's Obedience, 12:4-6

E. The Lord's Promise of Blessing (continued), 12:7a

1. Descendants (people, kindred, relatives)
2. Land (country)

F. Abram's Obedience and Faith: Worship, 12:7b-9

G. The flight from faith to fear (Abram's), 10-13

H. The walk of faith (Sarai's), 14-15 1 Peter 3:1-7

I. The false blessing (Abram's), 16

J. The real curse (Pharaoh's), 17

K. Abram's rebuke, 18-20

A. The Problem, 1-2a

B. Abimelech's Court Scene, 2b-8

1. Crime, 2b

2. God's indictment of Abimelech, 3

3. Abimelech's defense, 4-6

a. We are innocent (we are not like Sodom), 4

b. We acted in integrity and with innocence, 5

c. God kept Abimelech from sinning, 6

5. Response, 7-8

a. Repentance

b. Restitution

c. Testimony

F. Abraham's Court Scene, 9-16

1. Crime, 9

2. Abimelech's indictment of Abraham, 10

3. Abraham's defense, 11-13

a. They are guilty— there is no fear of God here (they are like Sodom), 11

b. I did what needed to be done, 12

c. God made me sin, 13

4. Response, 14-16

a. Prosperity, 14

b. Residency, 15

c. Restitution to Sarah, 16

G. God's Purpose For Abraham, 17-18

Conclusion