



2/6/26

On this week's Chosen and Cherished podcast, we talked about Peter's reminder to us of what to expect in our time, so that we will never mistake God's patience as weakness. Instead, He wants us to see His patience as salvation. See Him for who He is, having all authority and power and wisdom. He sees all, He knows all, He is stronger than all. So we can stand firm in Him. How cool is that! If you'd like to hear the episode, here's the link... <https://summitpoint.org/chosen-and-cherished/>

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Genesis 11:10-12:3

As I come to the end of our series, Unstoppable God, I see that our last passage includes another genealogy. There is always something to learn from God's word, even through a list of names. This is about Shem's lineage. His lineage is so important because Jesus came through his bloodline. God set up His whole plan before the beginning of time and He is fulfilling ALL His purpose exactly as He planned. There is never a glitch in His plan. He sees the obstacles along the way and He knows exactly how He's going to navigate through them.

So... some observations...

As I look at this list of names, when they had their kids, and how long they lived, I see a significant drop in their lifespan and at what age they started having babies. I notice that happening after Peleg. His name means "divided" and Genesis 10:25 tells me that "in his time the earth was divided." Peleg lived during the time of the Tower of Babel when God confused the languages of the people according to their clans... and they spread out and had no choice but to do what had God commanded... "Be fruitful and multiply AND FILL THE EARTH." Somehow through that, their lifespan also changed... God has a plan... and God is in charge and in control.

I also see some places where I'm given some extra details. When God gives extra details, it's significant. He doesn't throw stuff in there for no reason.

For instance, Terah had 3 kids... Abram (whose name God later changed to Abraham), Nahor, and Haran. In all the other names given, they only mentioned one son and then, "and he had other sons and daughters." But here, three sons' names are given. The fact that God gave three names instead of one tells me to pay attention. He's going to do something significant.

Abram eventually became "the father of many nations" as promised by God, even though his wife, Sarai, was barren. How was God gonna keep His promise when they hadn't had kids and were past the age of having kids by the time God made the promise? Nothing is impossible with God. I would say the introduction of Abram and Sarai and her barrenness proved to be very significant later.

Nahor married his niece, Milcah (Haran's daughter... that was okay back then), and they settled in Ur when the rest eventually left for a new land.

Haran, sadly, died in Ur before his dad did. That had to be really hard for Terah to lose his son. But before Haran died, he had a son named Lot. The mention of Lot is also going to prove to be very significant later.

Terah took Abram and Sarai and Lot with the intention of moving into the land of Canaan, but they ended up settling in Haran, where Terah died at the age of 205.

Once his dad died, the LORD Yahweh spoke to Abram. He said, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Whoa! That's a lot! I know from Genesis 12:5 that the land God was "showing"

Abram was the land of Canaan... the place Terah had been planning to take them all in the first place.

Why did God wait until after Terah died to send Abram? I wonder if this was God's patience and kindness. He knew that Terah was old, and probably grieving over his son's death... which ages a person. I mean, they settled in HARAN... probably named after his son. Maybe he felt closer to him by being near where his family had settled. So God waited. But when God took Terah home to heaven, it was time to continue His plan.

This was all part of God's plan from the prophecy given in Genesis 9:25-27... to "let Canaan be a servant to Shem." As a descendant of Shem, God would use Abram to take the next steps in fulfilling His plan... something that would still not happen for centuries.

I see in this that God is extremely patient and wise in what He's doing. He never lets His purposes be overcome or cut short by impulsivity. I can look back and see Him at work all the way through history. Even the brokenness of this world and the sin of man do not derail His

purposes. Ephesians 1:11 says, "He works ALL things according to the counsel of His will."

So what does God's intentionality even in His patience tell me about how I should view my own circumstances? Well, I know He's not making me the father or the mother of many nations, but He has a purpose for my life. Ephesians 2:10 says that I am His "workmanship, His poem, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that I should walk in them." Just as Abram followed God's plan to go to Canaan without knowing HOW He was going to fulfill His promise to Abram, I am called to walk where God wants me to walk, trusting that He has a plan for me as well... which means I need to wait for Him to lead me to where He wants me to go. I have the privilege of being used by Him to build His Kingdom... in whatever way HE chooses. So Lord, please help me to walk where You want me to walk.

As I look ahead in the passage, I don't see Abram questioning God's directions. I just see that he went where God told him to go. Did he mess up along the way? Yes... just like I do. But God was faithful, and Abram grew in faith. That's what God wants from me... to put my faith in His faithfulness.

Romans 4:20-21 says, "No unbelief made Abraham waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what He had promised." Abram, whose name God later changed to Abraham, FULLY believed God and His promises. He grew strong in faith AS he gave glory to God. He didn't say, "Lord, grow my faith first AND THEN I'll give You glory. THEN I'll obey You." He revered God and so he gave Him glory through obedience... and God blessed him and grew his faith.

O Lord, please help me to glorify You by going where You want me to go and doing what You want me to do... and help me to trust that You will bless me with deeper faith which brings deeper peace and deeper joy. You are fully in control. You have a plan. And your plan is good. Really, really good. Amen.