

“The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others.” Genesis 12:1-2 NLT

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Abram, 75 years old, listens and obeys God to make his way to an unknown location. This is after living, and making a successful life in Haran, for most of his life. His dad, Teran, was 205 years old and had died in Haran. He took Lot, his nephew with him, because his brother, Haran had died in Ur, where they all were born. I wonder how God spoke to Abram? As far as I know, God had not spoken to anyone for a long time. Maybe since said to Noah “leave the boat” in Genesis 8:15? Interesting that God told Abram all about his future - he would build a great nation out of him. God even said, he’d make Abram famous! All of this kicked off the plan to show the planet that God is real and has provided a way for all humans to come back to himself. He started with making Israel out of Abram and called them “his people.” They would show the other nations what God was like and would carry the eternal thread of redemption throughout the entire human story on earth. It started with the obedience of Abram, to which his obedience was accounted to him as faith and that is what made him right with God. Faith, before the law. Faith before the sacrifices for sin. Wow.

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Dad,

What an amazing story, with such a humble, simple beginning. You said you look over the earth to find a righteous person, and you found that in Abram. His long life, filled with high drama and moments of testing proved to be the foundation of all of our own faith and even right standing before you. I am thankful for you speaking to Abram and I’m thankful he listened and obeyed.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root