

James Rafferty Q2 L4 2025 Monday April 21 Abraham's Call

In the tenth chapter of Genesis, we see the birth of various nations. The word usually translated “nations” is *goyim*, which also can refer to Gentiles. Genesis 10 tells us that the human race divided up into lands, languages, families, and “nations” (*Gen. 10:5; see also Rev. 14:6*).

Almost immediately after the introduction of this concept, God calls Abraham out of one of those nations to be different from them and from what they represent.

Read Genesis 12:1–9. Why did God call Abram (later Abraham) out from his country of origin?

Genesis 11 out of Ur of the Chaldeans = Babylon Isa. 48:20

Now the **Lord** had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:

2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.

6 And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.

7 And the **Lord** appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the **Lord**, who appeared unto him.

8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Beth-el, and pitched his tent, *having* Beth-el on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the **Lord**, and called upon the name of the **Lord**.

9 And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

Hebrews 11- God called and Abraham responded by faith.

By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations,
whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength
to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when
she was past age, because she judged him faithful who
had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as
good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in
multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore
innumerable.

13 These all died in faith, not having received the
promises, but having seen them afar off, and were
persuaded of them, and embraced them, and
confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the
earth.

14 For they that say such things declare plainly that
they seek a country.

15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country
from whence they came out, they might have had
opportunity to have returned.

16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an
heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called
their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

God intended to use Abraham to establish a nation that would stand in contrast to human kingdoms. They were not to have a king other than God Himself. The people were to show what

would happen if the human race returned to their Creator. Israel was established to be a blessing to “ ‘all the families of the earth’ ” (*Gen. 12:3, NKJV*). God had poured out upon them light and privileges that had not been seen in the world since, perhaps, before the Flood.

Read Deuteronomy 4:5–9. What was the Lord telling the children of Abraham, the nation that had become a fulfillment of the promise God had made to Abraham?

5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it.

6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

7 For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

8 And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;

This was not a single individual bearing witness in a single community; this was an entire *nation* that, by working together and in cooperation with God, could exhibit the glory of His character. Notice, too, in the words spoken to them that it wasn't just "statutes and judgments" that God had given them which made them so special, but their adherence to them that would cause the other nations to say, " ' "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people" ' " (Deut. 4:6, NKJV). However wonderful the truths given to the people, their failure to live up to them, to obey them, would bring curses instead of blessing and death instead of life.

29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. Gal. 3:26

How does the same principle, that of not just knowing these truths but obeying them, apply to us as Adventists AND ALL BELIEVERS today?

OUT OF THE CITIES?

**FOLLOW THE VOICE OF GOD TODAY TO LEAVE
BABYLON WHICH IS A RELIGIOUS/ECONOMIC/
POLITICAL ALLIANCE**

SOP chapter in PP Abraham and Lot.

