

## **SECTION TWO: THE AGE OF THE PATRIARCHS:**

### **THE FATHERS OF THE NATION**

#### **Genesis 12-50**

During the two thousand years covered by Genesis 1-11, mankind repeatedly disobeyed God's command and failed to carry out God's purposes. At the end of this time, God began a new method of dealing with the people of the world. Read about this new method below:

**A. God's Promise to Abram:** Read Genesis 11:27-12:7

1. In what place were Abram and his brothers born? Genesis 11:28  
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2. What did God tell Abram to do? Genesis 12:1b  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did God promise He would make of Abram if he would obey this command?  
Genesis 12:2a  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What effect would this have on the nations of the world? Genesis 12:3b  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Through what means could God make a whole nation from just one man? Genesis 12:7  
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6. How could this nation become a blessing to the whole world? (THINK!)  
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**B. The Fulfillment of God's Promise:** Read Genesis 15:1-6

1. When Abram arrived in the land of Canaan at the age of 75, how many children did he have? Genesis 12:4, 15:2  
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2. How many descendants did God promise Abram he would have?
  - a. Genesis 13:16 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Genesis 15:5 \_\_\_\_\_
3. How old was Abram before God began to fulfill this promise? Genesis 21:1-5  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What other descendants were born to Abram?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_

**C. God's Prediction Concerning Abram's Descendants:** Read Genesis 15:13-16

1. Where did God tell Abram that his descendants would live? Genesis 15:13a  
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2. How long did He say they would stay there? Genesis 15:13c

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3. Then what would they do? Genesis 15:16a

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**D. The Fulfillment of God's Predictions:**

1. What two events caused God's predictions to be fulfilled?

a. Genesis 37:1-28

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b. Genesis 42:3, 5

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2. Why did Joseph say he had come to Egypt before his brothers did? Genesis 45:5b, 7

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**E. Summary:**

1. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph are called the "*Patriarchs*" of the nation Israel. Look up this word in a dictionary, and briefly write its meaning:

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2. Why would Abraham be especially suited to become the founder of God's chosen nation? Genesis 18:19

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**QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:**

1. What would have been the result to me if either Abraham or Joseph had failed to carry out God's purpose for him?

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2. In the midst of a world where many are failing God today, can God count on me to fulfill the purpose for which He has created me?

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MAP 3: CANAAN, ILLUSTRATING GENESIS 12-50