

“GO!”

July 25, 2022

GENESIS 12:12 NLT – (12) 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.

God called him away from the city of Haran toward the land of Canaan where Abraham would never settle into a fixed address. He was known as a “wandering Aramean” (**Deuteronomy 26:5**). This lifestyle was inherently more God-centered in that Abraham would have to depend on God’s word and leadership in order to find his significance, security, and success. As **Hebrews 11:8** puts it, he had to “set out, not knowing where he was going.” In the world of work, believers must perceive the contrast in these two fundamental orientations. All work entails planning and building. Ungodly work stems from the desire to depend on no one but ourselves, and it restricts itself narrowly to benefit only ourselves and the few who may be close to us. Godly work is willing to depend on God’s guidance and authority, and it desires to grow widely as a blessing to all the world.

When Abraham left his home in Haran and set out for the land of Canaan, his family was probably already quite large by modern standards. We know that his wife Sarah and his nephew Lot came with him, but so did an unspecified number of people and possessions (**Genesis 12:5**). Soon Abraham would become very wealthy, having acquired servants and livestock as well as silver and gold (**Genesis 12:16; 13:2**). He received people and animals from Pharaoh during his stay in Egypt, and the precious metals would have been the result of commercial transactions, indicating the Lord as the ultimate one to bestow blessing.

Why did God choose Abraham? To prepare the way for the Messiah. God promised that in Abraham’s offspring all the nations of the earth would be blessed (**Genesis 22:1–18**). The reference to Abraham’s “offspring” in this passage is to Jesus Christ, through whom all the people of the world would be blessed with the opportunity for eternal life. Paul explained this to the Galatians: “Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, ‘And to off springs,’ referring to many, but referring to one, ‘And to your offspring,’ who is Christ” (**Galatians 3:16**).

Why did God choose Abraham? To reveal his faith as an example for us. As heirs of Abraham’s faith, we can look to his example and go where God leads us, trusting God for the future. Jesus said, “Any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple” (**Luke 14:33**). The kind of faith that God blesses is Abraham’s kind of faith, one willing to leave everything behind for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ. If we do not resolve to forsake all things, to endure whatever hardships that may be ahead of us, and to persevere to the end of our days in the service of Jesus, we cannot be His disciples. We must be willing to give up everything, as Abraham did, and live by faith.

God has given you instructions. Have you act on them? Will you act on them? Will you sacrifice to that what God has instructed? Are you holding on to stuff? Do you trust God? If you said “No”, tell Him why. If you said “Yes”, then **GO** and do what you were instructed by His word.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 4:1-25

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: People who **walk by faith** don't see obstacles, they see opportunities. ...

“A JOURNEY OF THE HEART”