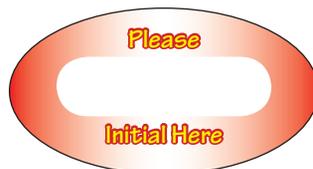


Coloring Page



God promised Abraham that a great nation would come out of him.



Parent's Initials:

God's Creation

- Lesson Seventeen -

The Heavens and the Earth Are for Man (6)

I. Overview.

In this lesson we will continue to consider how the heavens and the earth are for man. In the previous lesson we saw that man lives in families and communities. These communities, or cities are within areas of land called states and countries. In this lesson we will look further into God's raising up of the nation of Israel for Himself in a particular portion of the earth.

The nation of Israel had its beginnings with God's calling of Abraham.



God promised Abraham a wonderful land for his descendents.

When God called Abraham, He told him that he would inherit a large portion of land. That land would stretch from the Nile River in Egypt to the Euphrates river in the east. It was God's intention that the nation that would spring forth out of Abraham – the nation of Israel, would occupy that land forever. It is here that the nation of Israel had its beginnings and it is where Israel exists today.

II. Memory Verse.

“The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham...”

(Acts 7:2)

III. Lesson.

Before the time of Abraham, God was simply the God of heaven. He did not really have a man standing for Him on the earth. All of the earth was in rebellion against Him. The worst point of the rebellion was at the tower of Babel. After God scattered the nations, He came to Abraham with the intention that He could begin to regain the earth. Abraham believed God and loved God, and God made some very precious promises to Abraham.

God Becomes the God of Heaven and of Earth

Because God had gained a man on the earth for His own interests, He now called Himself no longer just the God of heaven, but the God of the heavens and the earth. God promised Abraham that he would inherit a great and wonderful land. He also told him that his children would be come a great nation and would inhabit that land.



Israel was like a plant
that God placed in the land
He promised Abraham.

Abraham's grandson's name was Jacob, but God' changed his name to Israel. Eventually Israel's children did grow into a great nation – a nation for God. Israel dwelled in the land that God promised Abraham as a testimony of God. God was happy to have such a nation for His own. God loved Israel.

Even though God had Israel, His desire was to be the God of all the peoples of the earth. God had created the earth and all the people on the earth. Certainly all these people belonged to Him and should be His testimony. But because of sin and rebellion He still had some problems to solve.

The Lord Jesus Christ Came Out of Israel as the Savior

In order for God to solve His problem and gain the rest of the earth, He Himself came as a man. This man is Jesus Christ. Jesus was born out of the nation of Israel. He is a direct great-great-grandson of Abraham. Jesus took care of the problem of sin which separated the Gentiles (the nations other than Israel) from God. He also opened up the doors of the kingdom of God to all peoples. Through what He has accomplished in Jesus Christ, God has made the way for all peoples to come to Him in the church. God is now working in the church to gain the entire earth. The nation of Israel has been a very important part of God's work to gain the earth.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What man did the nation of Israel come out of?

2. The land that Israel was to inherit is between which two rivers?

3. What was the name of Abraham's grandson?

4. Who opened the doors of the kingdom to all men?

