

ABRAM, GET OUT OF YOUR COUNTRY!

GENESIS 11:31-12:1- *And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram's wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans*

- Act 7:2 *And he said, "Brethren and fathers, listen: The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran,*
- Heb 11:8 *By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.*
- *The wages of sin is death," (that is the old country of Ur), "but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord," (Romans. 6:23). Leave your country, your kindred, and your father's house, and what happens? "I will give you eternal life,"*
- *to go to the land of Canaan;*

and they came to Haran and dwelt there.

- Everyone is living in one of three places – Ur (land of death and darkness where we were born), Haran (the half-way house where we gain the outward appearance of being religious, but no inward reality), or Canaan.(the land of power and blessing, the place of the Spirit's fullness- We can this as our Christian life here on earth!!).

[32] So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran. . [12:1]

Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country,

- *Abram was commanded to do three things; leave his country, his kindred, and his father's house. This is exactly the command that comes to every person who hears the call of the gospel today:*
- *We are called to leave our country -- the place where we have been living, our residence since birth. That is not, of course, our physical residence, but rather the old life with all its ambitions, its loyalties, its worship of money and fame and power, its imagined independence which is really slavery -- all that we have been by nature since birth. There comes a command in the gospel to leave our country. This is clearly a picture of the world -- organized society with its satanic philosophies and value systems.*

From your family

- *Abram was also told to leave his relatives. In the spiritual sense these are the moral forces that shape our lives. Just as blood relatives affect us greatly on the physical level, so these moral forces at work today change our lives constantly and color all that we think and do. The opinions of others, the traditions of men, the pressures from family and friends, the attitudes of our employers and others around us -- these are the kindred we must be willing to forsake when we hear the call of God. When God confronts us with his call, these are not to count any longer. We are to renounce this concern about what others think and be preeminently concerned about what God thinks.*

And from your father's house,

- The third thing Abram was to leave was his father's house -- that is, the ties with the "old man." Our father, in this sense, is Adam, the father of us all. What theologians call our "Adamic nature" is the father's house in which we all live. We are called to leave this, no longer put any dependence upon our looks, talents, or any of our normal resources, but to begin to walk in dependence upon another to do through us what we cannot do ourselves. This is where a man stands when he first hears the gospel. He may have grown tired of the land of Ur, for it is a land of darkness, of weariness of soul, of spiritual hunger and death. Yet when the call of the Word of God comes to him, there is much that seems desirable in the old life. He hesitates to leave, feeling the pull of these things upon him. Undoubtedly, Abram felt this hesitancy. The land to which he was called was unknown. It could not be known until it was experienced. But he could not deny the reality of God, and he could not evade the clear command:
So have we truly left "our country"?
Where are we living – Ur, Haran, or Canaan?
Have we completely departed "from your family"?
Have we totally left "your father's house"?

To a land that I will show you.

- Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you." Have you heard this command of God in your own life? Have you heard the Living God, the God of glory, say to you,
- "You must no longer depend upon what you have been depending on -- the opinions, the attitudes, the philosophy in which you have been reared. These are wrong. They are based upon the lies of Satan and you must not live on this basis any longer. You must learn to accept the truth reflected in the Word of God, though it cuts right across the philosophy of this world. You must, above all, leave your father's house, that is, dependence upon yourself."
- It is a simple but vital decision -- you cannot stay in Ur and go to the land at the same time.