

# Genesis 12:1-9; 15

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## ***Background to Consider...***

It is no mistake that the events in Genesis 12 immediately follow the story of the Tower of Babel. In fact, one might say that a divine plan was being shaped and developed. In Genesis 11, as we read through last week, man began to defy the command of God to “be fruitful and multiply” by uniting under one monument (i.e., the tower) so that they could “make a name” for themselves. God’s judgment follows, and the languages of the nations are confused, thus foiling man’s plot. Man is forced to disperse across the world, and so the nations are formed.

Genesis 12 marks a turn in the history of man. Where God’s judgment forced mankind to be divided against itself by confusing the languages, God’s grace was appearing just above the horizon. If the nations were going to be dispersed in judgment, then by grace God was going to begin the bringing mankind back together under His Lordship. One day, man would come back together under one head, one leader—Jesus the Christ. But the way in which He would do this would be full of mystery itself, as He picked one man, Abram, through whom “all the nations of the world would be blessed.”

## ***Questions about Genesis 12; 15***

1. In Genesis 11, mankind wanted to make a name for “himself.” In Genesis 12:2, God responds to this wickedness by telling Abram that He would make Abram’s name great.
  - a. How is this significant?
2. In Genesis 11, the nations are formed by being divided through God’s judgment of confusing their languages. In grace, God tells Abram that through him, all the nations of the earth will be “blessed.”
  - a. What does this say about God’s grace?
3. The fact that God would bring a nation called “Israel” from Abram’s lineage as the source and blessing to the nations is no mistake. God gave Israel a mission to be a “light” to the world.
  - a. Did Israel fully succeed in accomplishing the mission of being a “blessing”?
  - b. In what way did God use Israel to bring a blessing to the nations?
  - c. How does Revelation 7:9 and Revelation 22:2 relate to the promise of Gen 12?

## ***Your Thoughts/Questions?***

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