

# God's Solemn Promise to Abram

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# Abrahamic Covenant

## Genesis References

Reference	Event	Reference	Event
12:1-3	Call of Abram	27:28,29	Jacob blessed
13:14-17	Abram, Lot Separate	28:3,4,12-15	Jacob's dream
15:1-18	Solemn oath	35:9-12	Jacob renamed
17:1-14,18-21	Circumcision	46:1-4	Jacob goes to Egypt
18:10-19	Sarah told she will have a son	48:15-22	Jacob blesses Joseph
22:16-18	Sacrifice of Isaac	49	12 tribes blessed
26:1-5, 23,24	Promise to Isaac		

# Abram's Vision

## Genesis 15:1-6

*"Fear not, Abram, I am your shield;  
your reward shall be very great."*

- *"Fear not"*
  - Isaiah 41:8-10
- *"I am your shield"*
  - 2 Samuel 22:31 David's Song of Deliverance
- Reward
  - Hebrews 11:6

# Abram's Vision cont...

## Genesis 15:1-6

*“Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” **And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.***

- Abram is promised both *physical descendants* (the Jewish race) and *spiritual descendants* (who have faith in Christ, Gal 3:29).
- Romans 4 : *Justification by Faith*
  - Faith precedes circumcision and The Law

# The Solemn Ceremony

## Genesis 15:7-21

- This form of ratifying a covenant was probably familiar to Abram.
- Penalty of perjury was that of the slain animals (Jeremiah 34:18-20).
- The certainty of God's Promise (Hebrews 6:13-18)
- This is an immutable, unconditional promise.

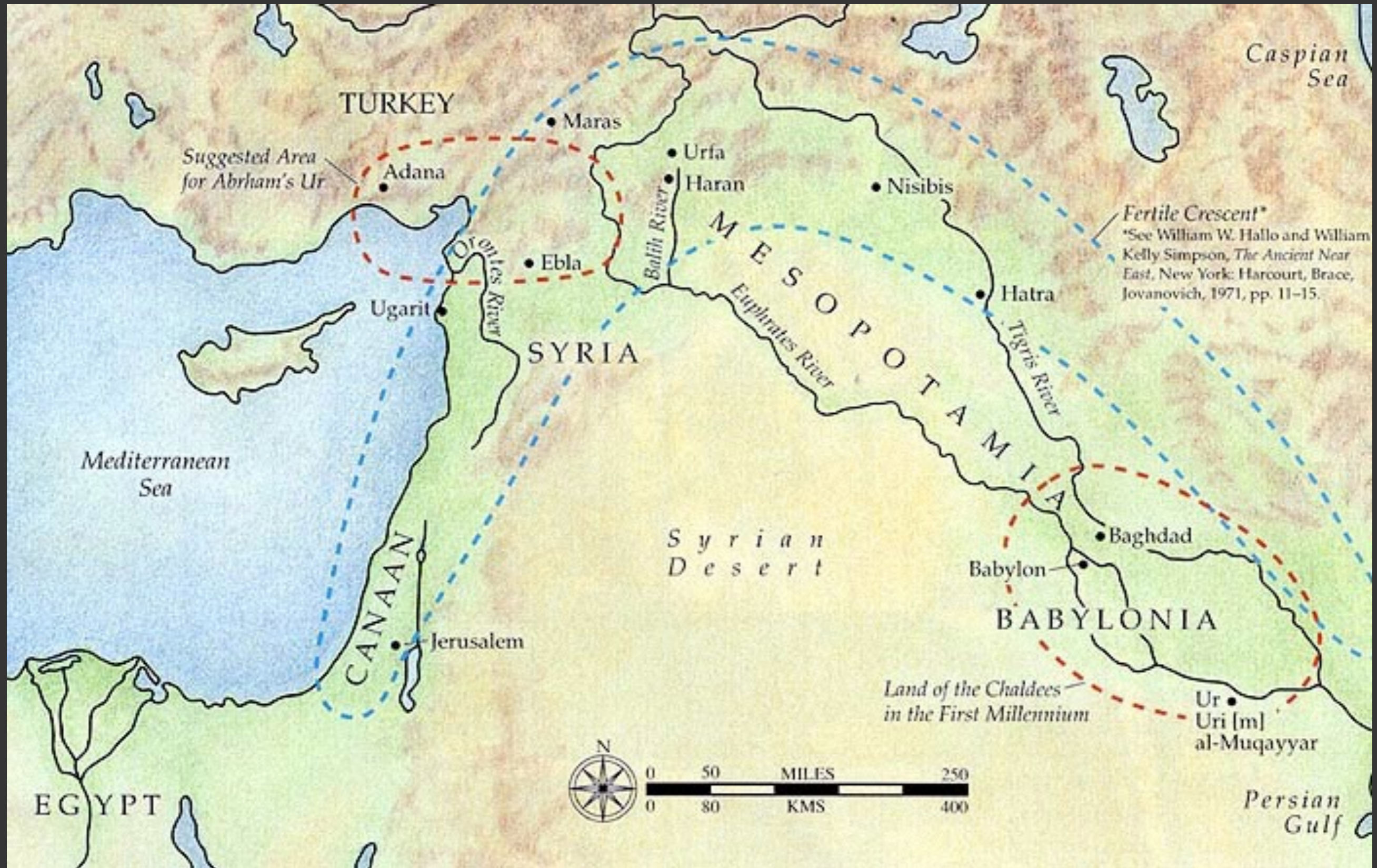
# The Promised Land

## Genesis 15:18,19

*“To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,…”*

- The Lord specifies the boundaries of the Land promised to Abram.
  - Abraham had already walked the upper boundaries of this land.
- Most Biblical history specifies the Jordan River as the eastern border (e.g., Joshua 1:11).
  - Perhaps the Euphrates is the northern border?
- The river in Egypt not the Nile? Red Sea? Exodus 23:31 Wadi of Egypt?







# Solomon's Kingdom

- Solomon's kingdom  
1 Kings 4:21 *“And Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates River to the land of the Philistines, as far as the border of Egypt.”*
- Ezekiel's Millennial Boundaries Ezekiel 47:13-22.





# The Palestinian Covenant

## Deuteronomy 30:1-10

- Context : Joshua about to succeed Moses
- Relates the the occupation of the land promised in the Abrahamic Covenant.
- The Mosaic Covenant (the Law) is conditional (“blessings and curses” based on obedience), but does not annul the Promise to the Land (but perhaps changed its timing); see Galatians 3:17

# The Palestinian Covenant

## Deuteronomy 30:1-10

- The nation will be removed for unfaithfulness (30:1-3).
- There will be a future repentance (30:1-3).
- Israel will be restored to the land (30:5).
- Israel will be converted as a nation (30:4-8; Romans 11:26,27).
- Then the nation will receive her full blessing (30:9).
- 170 references in Scripture to the land swore to Abraham's offspring — 55 times God confirms with an oath, 12 of those times He stated that the covenant is everlasting.

<http://www.differentspirit.org/resources/land.php>

# Resurrection is Implied

- Abraham died without receiving a fulfillment (Hebrews 11:13).
- Four generations of Amorites escape earthly judgement (Genesis 15:16).
- Sadducees question Jesus: Luke 20:27-40.
- Paul's defense before Agrippa: Acts 26:6-8, 22,3

# Relationship to Eternal Covenants

Abrahamic Covenant	Eternal Covenants
Land	<i>Palestinian Covenant</i> Deuteronomy 30:3-5 Ezekiel 20:33-37, 42-44
Seed Nation / King	<i>David Covenant</i> 2 Samuel 7:11, 13, 16 Jeremiah 31:35-37, 33:20-22
Blessing Redemption	<i>New Covenant</i> Jeremiah 31:31-40 Hebrews 8:6-13



# Was the Abrahamic Covenant fulfilled in Joshua's initial conquering of the land?

*Thus the Lord gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. And the Lord gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the Lord had given all their enemies into their hands. **Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.***

Joshua 21:43-45

# Initial Conquest under Joshua

- Did Joshua secure the land eternally?
- Have all the enemies been removed?
  - The Book of Judges records the repeated oppression of Israel's enemies from all sides.
  - Jebusites won't be removed from Jerusalem until David is king.
  - The Philistines, Edomites, Moabites, Midianites, etc... perpetual enemies during Israel's recorded history. Israel (the northern kingdom) will be an enemy of Judah!
- Have *all* the families of the earth been blessed?
- Has "The Seed" referred to in Galatians 3:16 arrived?
- Joshua is bearing testimony to a faithful God. Israel's initial conquering of the Promise Land is a witness to God's faithfulness to His promises, but can not be an ultimate fulfillment in light of the remainder of Scripture.

# The Seed

Galatians 3:16,29, Genesis 13:15,16 KJV

Seed / Offspring	Who
Isaac	
Christ	Ultimate Seed Gal 3:16
Israel	Physical Offspring Land, Nation
Church	Spiritual Offspring Blessing, Gal 3:39