This week and next week we will journey through the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy

Remember, this is not a complete Bible Study but only focuses on the prophetic parts of the scripture. I may make a few comments along the way and take us down a few rabbit trails but I will try and stay focused on the topics at hand

First prophecy of Judgment

Genesis contains all the marvel and mystery of how the world, its creatures, mankind, and Satan's minions were created. After mankind was created, God saw that is was good, indeed it was very good. But we see in

Genesis 2:16	5-17 the first command and with it a prophecy. Is this prophecy unconditional or
conditional?	

¹⁶ The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not $^{[n]}$ eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die."

Genesis 3:1-3 Satan approaches the woman after creation, and says to her "Did God really say" You must not eat from any tree in the garden? This question implies God has restricted them from having something, and Eve answers Satan by adding a restriction that God did not say. Satan immediately attacked God by attacking her incorrect statement, and did not tell her the whole truth about Good and Evil.

In v 6, Eve saw the fruit was pleasing to the eye, and the promises of wisdom by the serpent, enticed her to take it and eat it and give some to Adam as well who ate it. Then their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked.

1 John 2:16 (NASB)- ¹⁶ For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

First Prophecy of Judgment and Salvation/Redemption

We read this at the end of last week's session, and I asked you to think about the profoundness of it. Both Judgment and redemption or salvation are themes throughout the Bible, but we begin to see the first bits of them very early on Genesis

Gen 3: 14-19

Who was judged? How were they judged? Judgments still in place? Y/N How fulfilled?
What was the prophesied salvation?
Who would come to provide it?
What is the importance of the first two major prophecies of scripture? (Judgment and Salvation)
Affirm the Divine plan for man. Gen 1:26-27 "Let us make man in our own image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the Fish of the Sea, and the Birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth and all the creatures that move along the ground".
Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."
These prophecies are important because they lay out the framework for man's importance to God, his ultimate fate, and his pattern of living.
How did God create us? In whose image? Interesting who is the "us" and "our" in Gen 26?
How many genders did He create? In animals and in humans?
What are we to do while here on earth?
How were these prophecies of judgment and salvation fulfilled?

Judgment – due to the presence of sin in our lives, we die spiritually, and we die physically. We see the prophecy of spiritual death later, but these have been **fulfilled literally**.

Salvation – The descendent of Eve, the Messiah, when He died and resurrected, he crushed the head of Satan and all who believe are redeemed...literally

Prophecy concerning Cain and Abel

Gen 4:1-15. In fulfillment of their command by God to fill the earth, Cain and Abel were born. As they grew and offered gifts to God, Cain's gifts were not acceptable to God, but Abel's were so in a fit of anger, Cain

murdered his brother Abel. Adam and Eve had other children including Seth.

Cain's judgment - Gen 4:12 ¹² When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth."

Gen 4:16 ¹⁶ Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. **Fulfilled literally**

Nod in Hebrew means "place of wandering" so when we say someone is in the land of Nod, it is a metaphor for being a wanderer

Prophecy concerning Noah and the days of Noah

Gen 6:1-22 Several other prophecies, ie v3 (Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; their days will be a hundred and twenty years.")

Prophecy of the destruction of man (...Also a prophecy of salvation of the righteous from the destruction)

Gen 6:7-8 The LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

Gen 6:11-14 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. ¹³ So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make yourself an **ark** of cypress^[c] wood...

Gen 7:1 The LORD then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation.

<u>The Lord shut them in</u>. The rains came (another prophetic event because it had never rained until then) Also the Lord shutting them in means they did not live by accident. God had planned for this and personally took actions to not only shut them in, but shut the others out. Think that was fair? Think it will happen again at the Rapture where the righteous believers will be spared the destruction to come by personal actions of the Lord? I believe it!

God's covenant with Noah

Gen 8:1- 9:17

8:21-22 ²¹ The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

²² "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest,

cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

Even though we are still evil in all our thoughts, the Lord will not destroy all living creatures as long as the earth endures. Not even some people's fears of Global warning destroying the earth will change God's plan and His timetable. As long as the earth endures, the seasons and other natural events will take place. Understanding and accepting the truth of the Bible is comforting for us since God has told us what He intends to do and not do.

Gen 9 - The covenant is repeated and God gives man permission to eat meat but not blood, and also sets the rainbow as the sign of His promise not to destroy all life by flood. The rainbow is a sign, which means it is a reminder of something like a blue road sign gives information, a brown roadside gives Park information, and Yellow or Orange are caution. This rainbow sign is a reminder of God's judgment for wickedness and a pledge not to do it again by flood. Groups use the rainbow as a sign for their groups never thinking it represents judgment for wickedness in man.

Gen 9:17 ¹⁷ So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

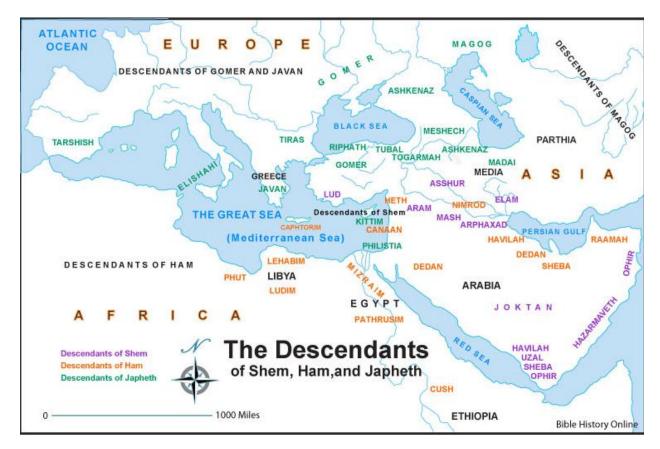
Discuss - End of session 2 A

Prophetic Covenant with Abram (Abraham) (begin session 2 B)

Abram is a descendant of Noah's son Shem. Noah's 3 sons were **Japheth**, **Shem**, and **Canaan**. Read Ch 9-10 to see a prophecy from Noah proclaimed and come true in Ch 11 concerning his sons after Canaan dishonored him. You might connect the name Shem with the Semites, and Canaan with the Canaanites, and Japheth who populated the areas north such as modern Turkey, Russia, the Stans. His sons are **Gomer**, **Magog**, and Madai, Nidiazech, **Tubal**, Mocteras, Cenez, Riphath, and Thogorma, Elisa, Dessin, Cethin, Tudant." Sons of Magog: Cesse, Thipha, Pharuta, Ammiel, Phimei, Goloza, Samanach.. Some of these names are the beginning peoples of Turkey, Greece, Macedonia, and the Roman provinces along the Turkish and Agean Coasts.

In Genesis Ch 10, we have what is called the <u>Table of Nations</u>. This is a key table to understand the origin of peoples, the lands they inhabited, and the names of the areas. This is important because in the prophetic scripture, these are the names that are used so we need to translate them into the names and areas we recognize today. I have included a map of these countries so you can match them up as we go through the prophecies.

Table of Nations Map



Gen 12:1-3 The Call and Promise

We see the lineage of Abram in Ur of Caldeans (modern Iraq). He is the descendant of Shem, and all the descendants of Shem and Abram (Abraham) are Semites in today's understanding

12 The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

² "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Abram is told to get up and go to a land he will be shown. Take his herds, family and possessions and head in the direction God will show him... *So he does*.

Covenant Promises: Great Nation, Great Name, will bless him, and he will be a blessing to those who bless him and a curse to those who curse him. All people on earth will be blessed through him.

All of these prophecies have come true, literally. We are still seeing nations blessed and cursed by blessing Abram(Abraham) or cursing him. This is clearly the case for those whose actions and voices are blessing Israel or cursing her. We can count on it. Many people believe that the Lord has taken His hand of blessing off America because of our turning away from Israel in the past years. Three faiths have sprung from Abraham: Judaism, Christianity, and Mohammedism or Muslim. All have become significant and grown. God's eternal blessings however are separately prophesied for each of them.

Land Covenant

As part of the Call and Promise, God gave the land that He sent Abram to, as a possession for his offspring

Gen 12: 6-7 ⁶ Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the **Canaanites** were in the land. ⁷ The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "**To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.**

Note: Many modern "scholars" deny this as a real promise of the Land of Israel to Abraham's offspring, but they spiritualize it to mean <u>Heaven</u>. So much of today's Middle East conflict arises from the belief that God did not give the land to the Jews. Of course the descendants of Ishmael are descendants of Abraham as well. More on why that does not change the fulfillment of this covenant to the Jews. This land is called **The Promised Land** in scripture and in regular use because it was "promised" to the line of descendants from Abram(Abraham).

Remember: Use grammatical and literal meanings unless the Bible is clear it is not meant to be taken that way.

Birth of Isaac

Gen Ch 17 When Abram was **ninety-nine years** old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; <u>walk before me faithfully and be blameless</u>. ² <u>Then</u> I will make **my** covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

³ Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, ⁴ "As for me, this is <u>my</u> covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. ⁵ No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be <u>Abraham</u>, for I have made you a <u>father of many nations</u>. ⁶ I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. ⁷ I will establish my covenant as an

everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. ⁸ The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

⁹ Then God said to Abraham, "As for you, <u>you must keep my covenant</u>, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. ¹⁰ This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: **Every male among you shall be circumcised**. ¹¹ You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the **sign of the covenant** between me and you. ¹² For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring. ¹³ Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. ¹⁴ Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

Another remarkable and unbelievable prophetic promise, in human terms. God would bless both Abraham and Sarah and give them a son to be named Isaac. Through Isaac will pass the covenants to Abraham.

The Land, the blessings, Kings and rulers...all come through Isaac (NOT ISHMAEL). God is refining His covenant, and will continue to do so. *Literal, grammatical fulfillment*

Read Hebrews 11:9-10

¹⁵ God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be **Sarah**. ¹⁶ I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be **the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."**

¹⁷ Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?" ¹⁸ And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!"

¹⁹ Then God said, "Yes, <u>but</u> your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I **will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him**.
²⁰ And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹ But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year." ²² When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God went up from him.

⁸ By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign *land*, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose

architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith even Sarah herself received ^[i]ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore there was born even of one man, and him as good as dead at that, *as many descendants* AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER, AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.

These verses confirm the faith-driven response of Abram, but some use v 10 to spiritualize this prophecy, and thus downplaying Israel's God given right to the land. There is no question that Abraham was looking for the eternal city built by the Lord, but this does not have anything to do with the fulfillment of the prophecy in literal terms.

Genesis 17:1-8 Covenant of Circumcision...a sign of the covenant between Abraham and God

Genesis Ch 18 This chapter is a story of the Lord and two angels visiting with Abraham on the way to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah Three men come and are received with hospitality by Abraham and Sarah. They provide food and water for the guests, not knowing who they were. The Lord details His prophecy regarding the birth of Isaac and says it will be one year from then.

This was the son that the covenant would be passed through. You know the rest of the story of Abraham and Isaac and the sending away of Ishmael and Hagar. God does bless Hagar and Ishmael but not as the heir to the promise of Abraham.

Genesis Ch 18 Birth of Isaac

¹⁰ He (the LORD) said, "I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son."

Here is the deal...Abraham is 99 years old, and Sarah is in her 90's, and God has promised them a natural born son within a year. How amazing is this? Outside of the grace and power of God, this would be humanly impossible, but with God, all things are possible... *Fulfilled literally and grammatically*.

Genesis Ch 19 The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. Take particular note of destruction caused by rampant sin and violence. The Lord mentioned what He was going to do. He came to do it but spared the righteous in the city and provided them a safe haven (Zoar) and escorted them through the city to leave before the wrath of God struck. Familiar pattern... Sin and violence gets judged by God, and He spares those who are righteous, and then pours out his wrath to utter destruction of the wicked.

We've seen this twice so far...Noah and the flood, and now Sodom and Gomorrah and the sparing of Lot and his family. **Fulfilled literally and grammatically.**

Isaac, Esau and Jacob

Read Genesis 26 and 27 to see the intrigue and drama in the lives of Isaac and Rebekah and their sons Esau and Jacob. Also note the deception by Rebekah in favor of Jacob and against Esau. You know the story of the blessing and Jacob getting the blessing meant for the older son Esau. This caused tremendous hate and problems and it continues to this day.

Gen 27:27-29 Jacobs blessing:

So he went to him and kissed him. When Isaac caught the smell of his clothes, he blessed him and said,

"Ah, the smell of my son
is like the smell of a field
that the LORD has blessed.

28 May God give you heaven's dew
and earth's richness—
an abundance of grain and new wine.

29 May nations serve you
and peoples bow down to you.

Be lord over your brothers,
and may the sons of your mother bow down to you.

May those who curse you be cursed
and those who bless you be blessed."

Esau's "Blessing"

"Your dwelling will be
away from the earth's richness,
away from the dew of heaven above.

40 You will live by the sword
and you will serve your brother.
But when you grow restless,
you will throw his yoke
from off your neck.

The descendants of Esau are the **Edomites** in the Bible, the **Idumeans** (Herod the Great), and the **Palestinians** are the remainder today.

Of course the Jews are the descendants of Jacob. Fulfilled literally and grammatically.

³⁹ His father Isaac answered him,

As you continue the journey, you will see that Jacob, the deceiver, gets deceived by Laban his uncle and soon to be father in law, and there are many counter deceptions as Jacob marries, Leah, then Rachel and grows his family and flocks in Paddan Aram.

Gen 28:19 Jacob's Dream at Bethel (Jacobs Ladder)

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. *I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying*. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I wi*ll bring you back to this land*. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Obviously this is a dream of Jacob, but God is speaking to him using a dream as the vehicle for communications. He re-affirms the promises to Abraham, through to Isaac, and now to Jacob. This is why you often hear the God of Israel described as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. This clearly lays out the line of blessing from God. *This means that the blessing is not through the lines of Esau (Edomites and Palestinians), or Ishmael (the Arabs and Egyptians). This is an important prophecy and fulfillment.*

Genesis 49:1-28 Jacob's death and confirming offspring

Jacob had 12 sons; Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah. Reuben had dishonored his father and although the firstborn, he did not get the normal blessing. Simeon and Levi were violent and Jacob predicted they would be scattered in the land (v7). The fourth son is Judah, who by his very name you recognize the land of Judah, and his prophecy from Jacob was powerful.

Gen Ch 49 Then Jacob called for his sons and said: "Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

² "Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob; listen to your father Israel.

³ "**Reuben**, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor, excelling in power.

⁴ Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel, for you went up onto your father's bed, onto my couch and defiled it.

⁵ "Simeon and Levi are brothers—
 their swords^[a] are weapons of violence.
 ⁶ Let me not enter their council,
 let me not join their assembly,
 for they have killed men in their anger
 and hamstrung oxen as they pleased.
 ⁷ Cursed be their anger, so fierce,
 and their fury, so cruel!
 I will scatter them in Jacob
 and disperse them in Israel.

⁸ "Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons will bow down to you.
⁹ You are a lion's cub, Judah; you return from the prey, my son.

Like a lion he crouches and lies down,

like a lioness—who dares to rouse him?

¹⁰ The scepter will not depart from Judah, (fulfilled in Christ) nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come

and the obedience of the nations shall be his.

¹¹ He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch;

he will wash his garments in wine,

his robes in the blood of grapes.

His eyes will be darker than wine

- ¹² His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.
- ¹³ "**Zebulun** will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships; his border will extend toward Sidon.

14 "Issachar is a rawboned donkey lying down among the sheep pens.
15 When he sees how good is his resting place and how pleasant is his land, he will bend his shoulder to the burden

and submit to forced labor.

Dan will provide justice for his people as one of the tribes of Israel.
Dan will be a snake by the roadside, a viper along the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider tumbles backward.

- ¹⁸ "I look for your deliverance, LORD.
- ¹⁹ "**Gad** will be attacked by a band of raiders, but he will attack them at their heels.
- ²⁰ "**Asher'**s food will be rich; he will provide delicacies fit for a king.
- ²¹ "**Naphtali** is a doe set free that bears beautiful fawns.
- ²² "**Joseph** is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall.
- ²³ With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility.
- ²⁴ But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber,

because of the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,

because of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,

because of your father's God, who helps you,
because of the Almighty, who blesses you

with blessings of the skies above,

blessings of the deep springs below, blessings of the breast and womb.

- ²⁶ Your father's blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills.
- Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers.
- ²⁷ "**Benjamin** is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder."
- ²⁸ All these are **the twelve tribes of Israel**, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, giving each the blessing appropriate to him.

Prophecy in Exodus

The story of the Exodus plays out though several books of the Old Testament, and there are many prophetic events that are fulfilled quickly. From the call of Moses, to the burning bush, the courage to face Pharaoh, the 10 plagues, the Passover Lamb to protect from the Death Angel, to the leaving, the Red Sea, to the wandering, the receiving of the 10 commandments, the Manna from Heaven, the Death of Moses, and the return to the Promised Land...it is all prophesied, and *fulfilled literally*.

We will not go through these prophecies and fulfillments in detail, but I will highlight a few. Most of the detail has been the subject of countless sermons, movies, and books...BUT I want to emphasize that we generally view this as a story that is being told thousands of years after it occurred. Specific details like the parting of the Red Sea, the Manna from Heaven, God writing the 10 commandments, and the accuracy of the plagues is been cast by skeptics as fanciful, allegorical, myth and generally not to be believed. This is unfortunate because the miracles of God are what make Him God to us. IF we do not believe the miracles, then God can be reduced in His power and reality to myth. Today this is the goal of so many inside and outside the church who really do not believe the Bible is true, and His Word is true.

This is why I stressed at the beginning of this study that I believe the Bible is Absolute truth with no mixture of untruth. I believe it is literal and grammatical, unless it is plainly not to be taken literally. I strongly encourage you to do the same, otherwise it has little meaning in our lives and cannot provide the instruction and illumination God intended for us.

So these are not just "history" but they are prophetic words that became "history" in a very literal and grammatical fashion. This is a key thought.

Plagues: Exodus Ch 7-12

Water into blood, frogs, gnats, flies, plague on livestock, plague of boils, hail and fire, locusts, darkness, and finally the plague of the death of the Firstborn...all prophesied by Moses to Pharaoh, and all fulfilled literally. Pharaoh was given a chance to follow the command of God through Moses, but declined.

Death of the Firstborn was the final plague and I want to dwell on this for a moment. Exodus Ch 11-12 describes this event. It is what the Jews celebrate today as "Passover"

Exodus 11: 4-7 So Moses said, "This is what the LORD says: 'About midnight I will go throughout Egypt. ⁵ Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, to the firstborn son of the female slave, who is at her hand mill, and all the firstborn of the cattle as well. ⁶ There will be loud wailing throughout Egypt—worse than there has ever been or ever will be again. ⁷ But among the Israelites not a dog will bark at any person or animal.' Then you will know that the LORD makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.

Exodus 12:7 Then they are to take some of the **blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs**

Exodus 12:46 "It must be eaten inside the house; take none of the meat outside the house. **Do not break any of the bones**. ⁴⁷ The **whole community of Israel** must celebrate it.

We could do a whole study on the Passover, its meaning then, and its meaning now, and the ceremony specifics that speak of the Messiah to come. For us now though, I want to bring these items to our attention.

Passover is a **Type of Christ.** Being a **Type,** this means if is an example ahead of the real thing that mirrors the real thing. **The Passover Lamb is symbolic of Christ.** The blood over the doorpost is a precursor to being "saved by the blood of the Lamb", and not breaking any bones (John 19:36) calls to mind the real Passover Lamb (Christ Himself) and the fulfillment of the prophecy that no bones would be broken at his death as the sacrifice for the people.

Passover is commemorated by Jews today as a worldwide celebration and is for all Jews, just as the prophecy indicates.

Exodus 23 - The Angel of the Lord goes before them

When the phrase "<u>the</u> angel of the Lord" is used it is always interpreted as a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ. The word angel means messenger. When the text simply says "<u>an</u> Angel of the Lord" it means what we normally think of as a created angelic being. In this case, there is other phrasing that leads commentators to believe this is The Angel of the Lord.

The Lord will guide them

²⁰ "See, I am sending an angel ahead of you to guard you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. ²¹ Pay attention to him and listen to what he says. Do not rebel against him; he will not forgive your rebellion, **since my Name is in him**. ²² **If you listen carefully** to what he says **and do all that I say, I will be an enemy to your enemies and will oppose those who oppose you**. ²³ **My angel** will go ahead of you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites and Jebusites, and I will wipe them out

The Lord will prepare the Promised Land and people for them

²⁷ "I will send my terror ahead of you and throw into confusion every nation you encounter. I will make all your enemies turn their backs and run. ²⁸ I will send the hornet ahead of you to drive the Hivites, Canaanites and Hittites out of your way. ²⁹ But I will not drive them out in a single year, because the land would become desolate and the wild animals too numerous for you. ³⁰ Little by little I will drive them out before you, until you have increased enough to take possession of the land.

³¹ "I will establish your borders from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea and from the desert to the Euphrates River. I will give into your hands the people who live in the land, and you will drive them out before you. ³² Do not make a covenant with them or with their gods. ³³ Do not let them live in your land or they will cause you to sin against me, because the worship of their gods will certainly be a snare to you."

Prophecy in Leviticus

The book of Leviticus is the book of the Law, and its regulations within the Nation of Israel, whether in the Land or dispersed. It lists the Feasts of the Lord as well as the conditions for Blessing and Warnings of Curses.

The Feasts of the Lord (Lev Ch 23)

Passover points to the Death and Sacrifice of Christ (vv 4-5)

Unleavened Bread points to the holiness of communion with Christ (vv 6-8)

First Fruits anticipates the Resurrection of Christ as the first fruit from the dead (vv 9-14)

Feast of Weeks (Pentecost) represents the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (vv15-22)

Feast of Trumpets anticipates the future gathering of Israel, and some equate it with the Rapture of the Church as well (vv23-25)

Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)recognizes the sacrifice for the sin of the people and Israel, and anticipates the repentance of Israel at the Second Coming (vv26-33)

Feast of Tabernacles is a memorial to Israel's redemption from Egypt and is prophetic of her regathering and restoration at the Second Coming (vv 33-44).

These feasts seem like something only for the Jews, but they are each a "type" which represents a future prophetic event. Passover, Unleavened Bread, First fruits, and Pentecost were *all literally fulfilled* with the coming of Jesus Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Tabernacles will be fulfilled in prophecy at the culmination of our Age. I believe these will be literally fulfilled as well.

Blessings and Curses

Israel was commanded not to make idols, to observe the Sabbath, and to reverence or "hold Holy" the sanctuary

Blessings include bountiful crops, peace, triumph over enemies, increase in their numbers and God's presence among them

Curses for disobedience include promised distress, drought, wild animals, plagues, famine, and worldwide dispersion.

Our study of Ezekiel, Daniel, and other OT prophets confirmed all these things happened to Israel. *They all happened literally after Israel's warnings, and willful disobedience*.

Prophecy in the Book of Numbers

Nu 14:20-34 Israel failed to follow the Lord or trust that He would lead them to the Promised Land, and God made them wander longer in the desert until all the generation that had disobeyed and defied Him had died (except for Caleb and Joshua)

Nu 33:48-66 ⁴⁸ They left the mountains of Abarim and camped on the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho. ⁴⁹ There on the plains of Moab they camped along the Jordan from Beth Jeshimoth to Abel Shittim.

⁵⁰ On the plains of Moab by the Jordan across from Jericho the LORD said to Moses, ⁵¹ "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'When you cross the Jordan into Canaan, ⁵² drive out all the inhabitants of the land before you. Destroy all their carved images and their cast idols, and demolish all their high places. ⁵³ Take possession of the land and settle in it, for I have given you the land to possess. ⁵⁴ Distribute the land by lot, according to your clans. To a larger group give a larger inheritance, and to a smaller group a smaller one. Whatever falls to them by lot will be theirs. Distribute it according to your ancestral tribes.

⁵⁵ "But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land, those you allow to remain will become barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides. They will give you trouble in the land where you will live. ⁵⁶ And then I will do to you what I plan to do to them."

Wow, has this ever been true. Israel was called to get all the inhabitants out of the land, possess it and cleanse it of all idols and worship places of inhabitants. They did not, and have lived the consequences of it ever since.

Prophecy in the Book of Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy means "second law")

Moses' final words to the children of Israel for then and the future are spoken in the Deuteronomy.

Deut 3:21-22 Re-iteration of the Promise of the Land. This has been fulfilled several times and is in the process of being fulfilled again in our time. Remember, this is an eternal promise by God to Israel

Deut 4:25-31 Israel was warned (again) not to make idols or morally sin because God would judge them and drive them out of the land. However, they were promised restoration if they would return to the Lord. This has happened, as mentioned earlier in the prophetic books, and God has just now restored Israel to her land (1948) after nearly 2000 year absence in dispersion, aka Diaspora.

Thought – How does this reflect on America? We are not Israel, but we have been mightily blessed by God because we formed our Nation in recognition and belief in God. What about idol worship here?? Money, Sexual freedom, willful ignorance of sin, material things, pale

imitation of Christ and God...what is your idol? And moral decay?? We are the poster child for sliding down the slope to Sodom and Gomorrah.

Are we too big to fail? Is America on the right side of the issue today? Is our worldview that of a Christian or a pagan without regard to God? Food for thought!

Deut 18:15-18 The coming of a great prophet

¹⁴ The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so. ¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, "Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die,"

¹⁷ The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death."

²¹ You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?" ²² If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

There were many prophets that came to Israel and spoke the Words that God told them to speak. We can read these in both the minor and major prophets in the Bible. Israel's religious community had a habit of rejecting both the prophet and prophetic word from the Lord and killed and drove out most of the prophets from Jerusalem. Of course the main fulfillment is Christ himself as mentioned in John 1:21-24, 6:14, and Acts 3:22-23 and 7:37.

Today the "church" routinely drives away any notion of sin, and preaching against sin and moral decay. We are seeing Apostasy everywhere and of course it is a key prophetic sign of the end times. Feel good sermons without the preaching against our national slide and defiance of God will surely earn us <more> judgment.

Deut 28: 1-68 Speaks of Blessings and Cursing

...being uprooted from the land and dispersed among the nations...no resting place...anxious minds...longing and despairing heart...dread both day and night...terror your eyes will see...

Deut 30:1-10 Promise of Prosperity and Restoration to Israel

When all these blessings and curses I have set before you come on you and you take them to heart wherever the LORD your God disperses you among the nations, ² and when you and your children return to the LORD your God and obey him with all your heart and with all your soul according to everything I command you today, ³ then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you and gather you again from all the nations where he scattered you. ⁴ Even if you have been banished to the most distant land under the heavens, from there the LORD your God will gather you and bring you back. ⁵ He will bring you to the land that belonged to your ancestors, and you will take possession of it. He will make you more prosperous and numerous than your ancestors. ⁶ The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live. ⁷ The LORD your God will put all these curses on your enemies who hate and persecute you. ⁸ You will again obey the LORD and follow all his commands I am giving you today. ⁹ Then the LORD your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your land. The LORD will again delight in you and make you prosperous, just as he delighted in your ancestors, ¹⁰ if you obey the LORD your God and keep his commands and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law and turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Any student of history knows this perfectly captures the history of the Jews, torn out of the land, despised by the country they are in, no resting place, anxious, despair, longing for restoration, and seeing terror like the pogroms, and holocaust. Now we are seeing the partial fulfillment of the restoration of Israel for the final time to their Land. Israel is wildly successful as a country in terms of living, technology, medical research, protecting herself and becoming prosperous. The land is full of milk and honey where once stood desert. *Literal and grammatical fulfillment*

Deut 31:19-23 ¹⁹ "Now write down this song and teach it to the Israelites and have them sing it, so that it may be a witness for me against them. ²⁰ When I have brought them into the land flowing with milk and honey, the land I promised on oath to their ancestors, and when they eat their fill and thrive, **they will turn to other gods and worship them, rejecting me** and breaking my covenant. ²¹ And when many disasters and calamities come on them, this song will testify against them, because it will not be forgotten by their descendants. I know what they are disposed to do, even before I bring them into the land I promised them on oath." ²² So Moses wrote down this song that day and taught it to the Israelites.

It was true and fulfilled then... and true today and the fulfillment is still underway. The Lord is with Israel.

Next – Prophecy in the Books of History

²³ The LORD gave this command to Joshua son of Nun: "Be strong and courageous, for you will bring the Israelites into the land I promised them on oath, and I myself will be with you."