

All the Families of the World Shall Be Blessed

- From the beginning, God's heart has been for all nations to know, love, and worship Him.
- He chose Abraham - not for privilege alone, but for purpose: to be a conduit of blessing to the whole world (Genesis 12:3).
- Evangelism is not a New Testament invention; it is the whole-Bible story of God redeeming a people from every tribe, nation, and tongue through the offspring of Abraham - Jesus Christ.
- As God's covenant people today, we inherit Abraham's relationship, revelation, and responsibility to shine God's light to a dark and dying world.

Genesis 12:2–3 | *“And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing... and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

- Abraham was blessed **to be a blessing**.
- God “zoomed in” on one family *for* all families of the world.

Genesis 18:18–19 | *“Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him... for I have chosen him, that he may command his children... to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice.”*

Exodus 19:5–6 | *“You shall be My treasured possession... and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.”*

- Israel's holiness was missional to be set apart to **mediate God's blessing** to the world.
- Priests stand between God and others; Israel was to do this for the nations.

Deuteronomy 9:4-5 ESV | 4 *“Do not say in your heart, after the LORD your God has thrust them out before you, 'It is because of my righteousness that the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,' whereas it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is driving them out before you. 5 Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations the LORD your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.*

- God's election was **not based on Israel's merit**, but on His promise and purpose.

Isaiah 49:6 ESV - 6 he says: *"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."*

- Limiting the Messiah's mission to Israel alone would be "too small."
- God's salvation is global.

1 Peter 2:9-10 ESV - 9 *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

- Language of a royal priesthood aligns us to this whole story - going back as far as to Abraham, Israel, and ultimately carried forward in the new covenant in Christ's life, death, resurrection, and lordship

How this "Whole Bible Narrative" Helps Our Perspective Today

- Live as God's light through **integrity, hospitality, generosity, and unity**.
- Evangelism is who we are as God's covenant people - we truly are **blessed to be a blessing**.
- Crush **spiritual pride**; resist pharisaical **superiority**.
- Let the **whole-Bible story** give meaning to "ordinary" days and ordinary faithfulness.
- Evangelism **lifts our eyes from ourselves** to God's global purposes.
- Stand in the gap like Abraham - how we can **intercede** for the lost, the resistant, and the unlikely.
- Remember: the "people of Sodom" around us are not our enemies; sin and the serpent are.
- We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation **for God's purposes in the world**.
- Our lives, prayers, hospitality, purity, and love are threads woven into God's story of redemption to the whole world.
- Evangelism is the whole-Bible mission we now carry forward in Christ.