

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 **Search the scriptures**; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and **they are they which testify of me.**

We began in Genesis with the beginnings of the human race.

I. THE PRIMEVAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HUMAN RACE, 1:1—11:32

A. The Creation, 1:1—2:25

B. The Curse, 3:1—4:15

C. The Catastrophe, 4:16—9:29

D. The Coalition, 10:1—11:32

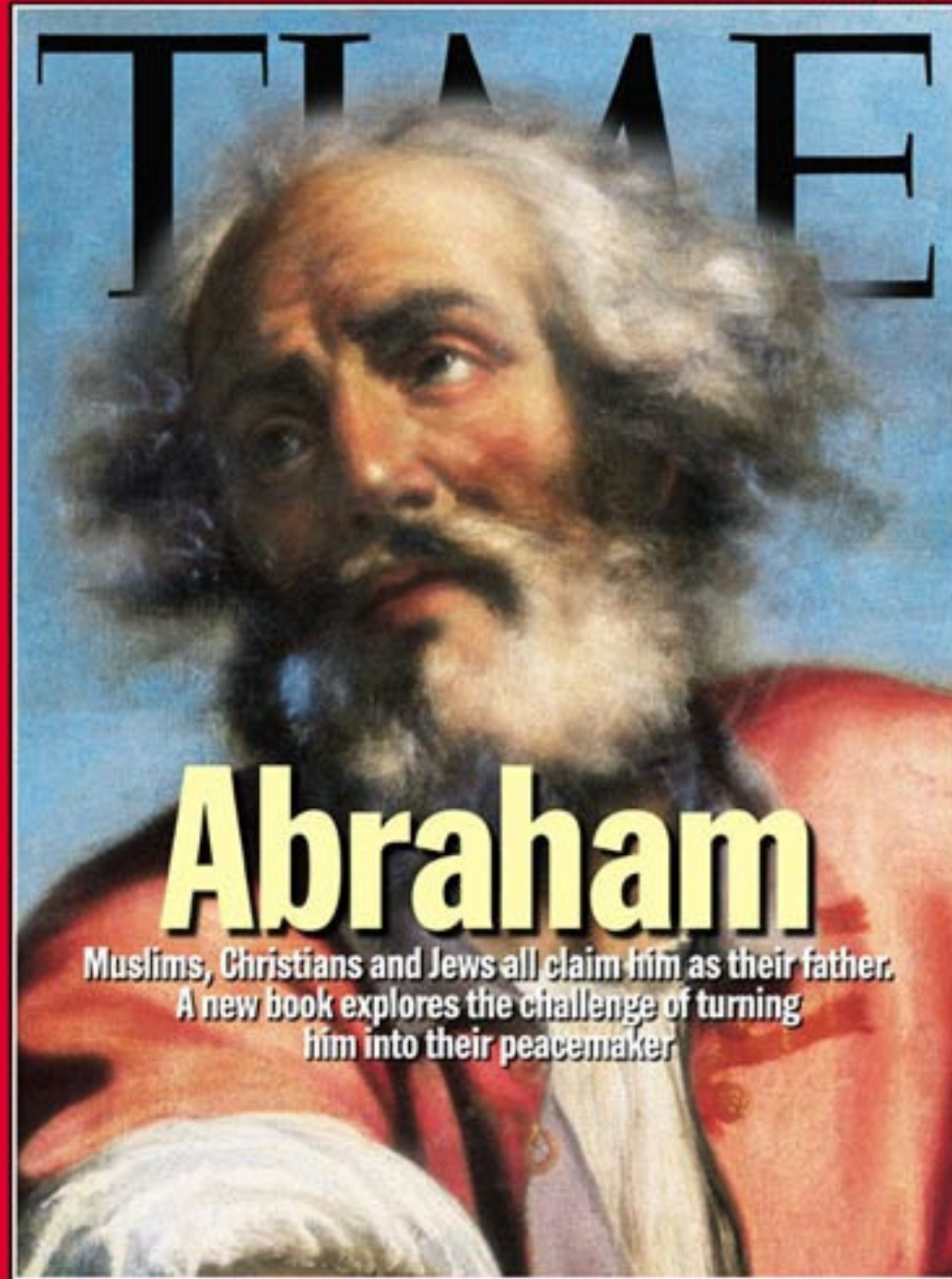
II. PATRIARCHAL HISTORY: BEGINNINGS OF THE HEBREW RACE, 12:1—50:26

A. The Progenitor: Abraham, 12:1—25:11

Tonight, we continue in Genesis, beginning with Abraham and the “Patriarchal History: Beginnings Of The Hebrew Race.” Abraham is one of the most important men in the history of the world. Tonight, we will begin an overview of him from the Book of Genesis. On September 30, 2002, TIME magazine had a caricature of Abraham on its cover, stating that Christians, Jews, and Muslims all claim him as their father.

SEPTEMBER 30, 2002

www.time.com AOL Keyword: TIME



Sep. 30, 2002

Let's consider his history as we look at the Patriarchal History and Beginnings of the Hebrew Race.

1. The Path of Faith, 12:1-20

Begins with Trust that leads unto SUBMISSION

Gen. 12:1 Now **the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:**

2 And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

4 **So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him;** and Lot went with him: and Abram *was* seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

Heb. 11:8 **By faith Abraham**, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and **he went out, not knowing whither he went.**

9 **By faith he sojourned in the land of promise**, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

11 **Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed**, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, *so many* as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

- ❖ The path of faith began when Abraham was commanded, not asked by God, to do something.
- ❖ Believers should seek God's will to do something, by faith, for His glory!

1 Cor. 10:31 Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, **do all to the glory of God.**

- ❖ The key to honoring and glorifying God is to live a life of faith.

Heb. 11:1 Now **faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.**

6 But **without faith *it is impossible to please him***: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- ❖ The timing of the command was according to God's schedule, not Abraham's.
- ❖ The command did not reveal all of the details of Abraham's future.
- ❖ The journey of a believer's life is filled with ambiguity.
- ❖ The life of a believer should be lived with confidence in God's leadership in spite of life's ambiguities.

- ❖ Limitations are minimized when a person walks by faith to fulfill God's will:

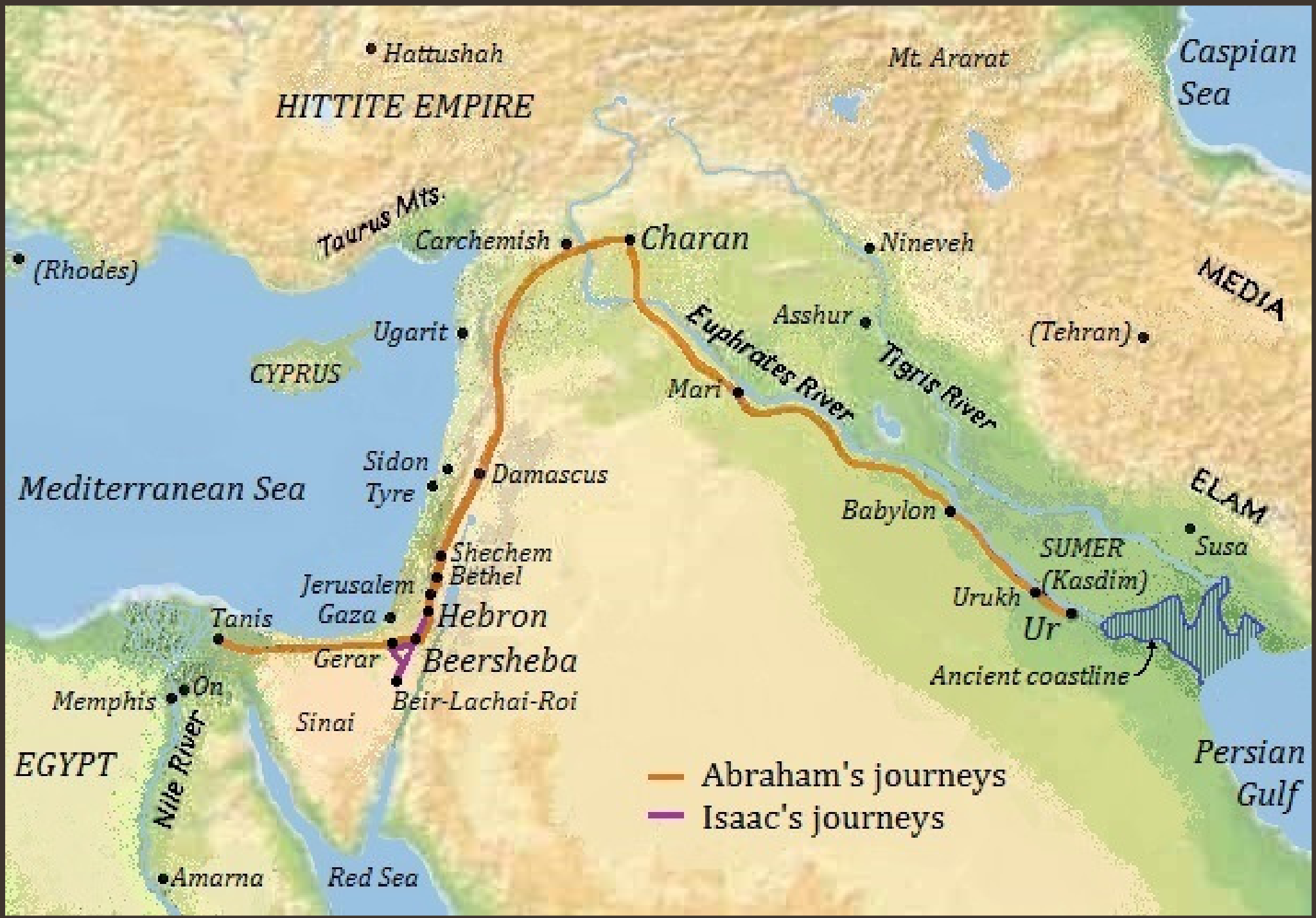
Luke 1:47 For with God **nothing shall be impossible.**

- ❖ God + faith = anything is possible!

2 Corinthians 5:7 (For **we walk by faith, not by sight:**)

Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.**

- ❖ Abraham's journey was challenging, but he was under God's direction. (If it was easy, everyone would do it.)



<https://popmap.blogspot.com/2015/11/abram-abraham-journey-map.html#popup>

❖ The path of faith is a lifelong journey, focused upon God's will that requires faith, fortitude, fighting, fruitfulness, and faithfulness.

Conclusion

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, **which is your reasonable service.**

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, **will of God.**