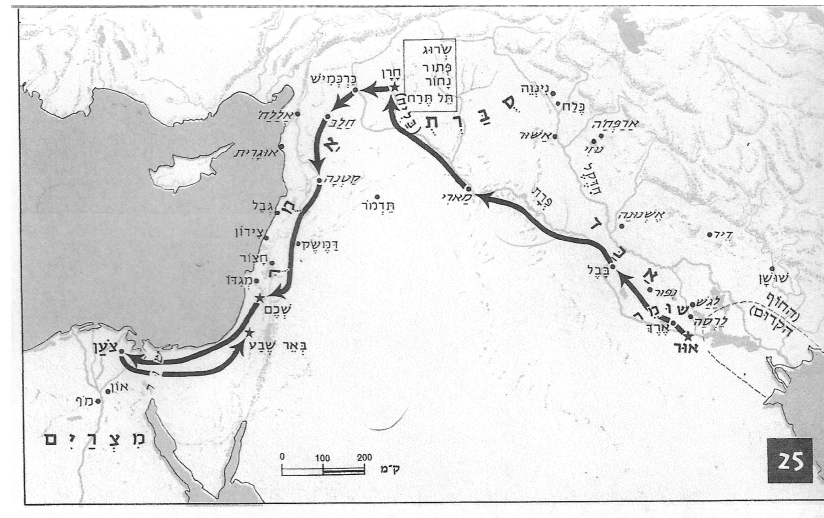


B”H

THIS IS A WEEKLY LIST OF QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PORTIONS OF THE BIBLE READ BY JEWISH COMMUNITIES EVERY SABBATH, WITH COVER ART BY OUR FRIENDS. DO YOU LIKE OUR PROJECT? DO YOU HAVE MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS OR ANOTHER PARSHA? SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS AT: persnicketyfinicker@gmail.com

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GENESIS 12-17



Who is Abraham?

Edited and compiled by Avi Garelick, Rico Altman-Merino, and Cat Pierro
Image credit: Y. Aharoni, Carta's Atlas of the Bible

Q1: Who is Abram? Is he a product of his family or a radical change?

Q2: What problem in the structure of creation is the call of Abram meant to resolve, and how?

Q3: In last week's reading we were introduced to the division of humanity into *kinds of people*, and their dispersal throughout the world. How does that set the stage for life and journey of Abram? Look for mentions of different kinds of people, and note the role they play.

Q4: How far does Abram go in his journey? How different is the land in which he arrives? How does he know the language?

Q5: According to God's initial promise, how will other peoples relate to Abraham's blessing? Will they admire it? Partake of it? Contribute to it?

Q6: What does it mean to be blessed, by people or by God?

Q7: Are Abram's fears of the Egyptian people justified? Does his plan work?

Q8: Why does Abram reject wealth from Sodom, but not from Egypt?

Q9: Does Abraham struggle with faith in God? When and why does he express doubt, and how are his doubts resolved?

Q10: What is a covenant, what does it have to do with incision, and what distinguishes the word of God within a covenant from God's other utterances?

Q11: Do you think Abraham tells his family about the prophecy of their enslavement?

Q12: Why does God mandate specific names for Abraham's children?

Q13: Why does Sarai's plan to be "built up" through her servant Hagar go so poorly? What happens that she didn't expect?

Q14: Do you think Abram and Sarai are in love?

Q15: Do you have a sense of character development in this story?