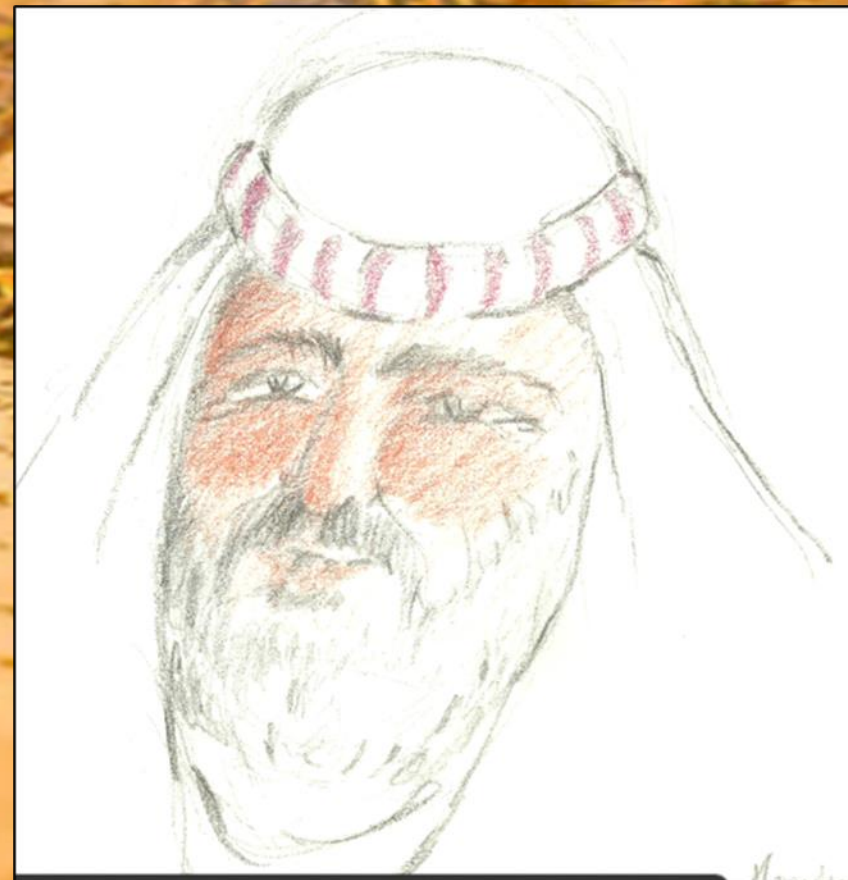




Bible History and Mystery

Abraham, Hebrew Avraham, originally called Abram or, in Hebrew, Avram, (lived in early 2000 millennium BCE), the first of the Hebrew patriarchs. According to Genesis, Abraham left Ur, in Mesopotamia, because God called him to found a new nation in an undesignated land that he later learned was Canaan. He obeyed unquestioningly the commands of God, from whom he received repeated promises and a covenant that his “seed” would inherit the land. The promised offspring is understood to be the Jewish people descended from Abraham’s son, Isaac, born of his wife Sarah.



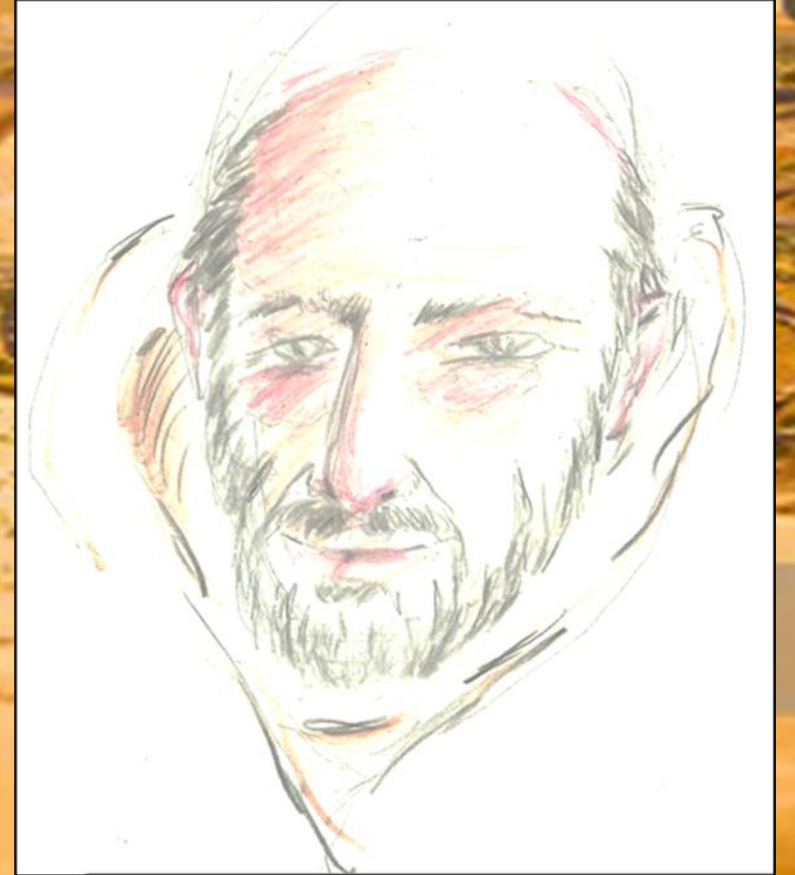
Genesis Ch 12-17

Isaac, in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) book of Genesis, the second of the patriarchs of Israel, the only son of Abraham and Sarah, and the father of Esau and Jacob. Although Sarah was past the age of childbearing, God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a son, and Isaac was born. Later, to test Abraham's obedience, God commanded Abraham to sacrifice the boy. Abraham made all the preparations for the ritual sacrifice, but God spared Isaac at the last moment.



Genesis Chapters 17-28

Jacob, also called Israel, who was the son of Isaac and Rebekah, and the traditional ancestor of the people of Israel. Jacob was the younger brother of Esau. During her pregnancy, Rebekah was told by God that she would give birth to twins; each of them would found a great nation, and Esau, the elder, would serve his younger brother. As it turned out, Jacob, by means of deception, obtained his elder brother's birthright from their father. Jacob then fled Esau's wrath and took refuge at Haran in Mesopotamia. Jacob had 12 sons who became founders of tribes of Israel. Reuben, Simeon, Levi (Levites), Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Gad, Asher, Dan, Naphtali, Benjamin and Joseph (who did not found a tribe, but whose sons founded the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim).



Genesis Chapters 25-50

Joseph is the son of Jacob and Rachel. Joseph, most beloved of Jacob's sons, is hated by his brothers. Angry and jealous of Jacob's gift to Joseph, a "coat of many colors," the brothers seize him and sell him to Midianites, who carry him to Egypt. There, Joseph eventually gains the favor of the pharaoh of Egypt by his interpretation of a dream and obtains a high place in the pharaoh's kingdom. His acquisition of grain supplies enables Egypt to withstand a famine. Driven by the same famine, his brother's journey from Canaan to Egypt to obtain food. They prostrate themselves before Joseph but do not recognize him. After Joseph's reconciliation with his brothers, he invites Jacob's whole household to come to Goshen in Egypt, where they settle. The family's descendants grew and multiplied into the Hebrews, who would eventually depart from Egypt for Israel.

Genesis Chapters 37-50



Moses was born to Hebrew parents, Amram and Jochebed, who were slaves in Egypt. Israelites in Egypt had grown immensely; Pharaoh was concerned they would overpower the Egyptians. He ordered all male infants to be drowned in the Nile River; Moses' mother placed him in a basket and set him in the reeds. Pharaoh's daughter had her maid draw him out of the water. She hired an Israelite woman, Moses' own mother, to nurse him, but Pharaoh's daughter raised him as her own son. When Moses was older, he killed an Egyptian attacking a Hebrew; he ran away to Midian (present day Jordan/Saudi Arabia). While there, God spoke to him from a burning bush and tasked him with freeing the Hebrews. Moses went on to follow God's direction and led the people out of Egypt and towards the promised land.



Books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

An Interrupted healing
June 27, 2004



The Royal Official from Capernaum- Jesus had spent time in Samaria. Indeed, he had just spent time with a woman at a well. And, she and many others believed in "Him. Now, he returns to the Galilee. And, once more he enters the town of Cana where he performed his first miracle, turning water into wine. A royal official came to him because his son was very sick. The official begged Jesus to come to Capernaum and heal his son who was close to death. Jesus made a comment to all present about their need to see miracles before they would believe. The father only replied, "Sir, come down before my child dies." Jesus then made a profound statement: "You may go. Your son will live. The father believed Jesus and left. On the way home his servants met him and told him his son had recovered. And, when the official asked what hour, it was exactly the time Jesus had said his son would live.

Jairus- Jesus had returned from the Decapolis across the Sea of Galilee. After healing the man full of "Legions" demons, he told him to stay and tell how much God had done for him. Now, Jesus is met by the crowds, and specifically a father and ruler of the local synagogue named Jairus. Jairus fell at Jesus feet and asked him to come to his house because his only daughter, about 12 years old, was dying. Someone came from the house of Jairus and announced that it was too late. His daughter was dead. Jesus comment was simple, "Don't be

afraid, just believe and she will be healed." Even those at his house laughed at Jesus when he told them to stop wailing. With his words Jairus' daughter's spirit returned and she stood up. A father and a mother were astonished, and very blessed that day.

The Centurion- Jesus has come to Capernaum. There a centurion's servant was sick and about to die. The centurion had heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him to ask him to come and heal his servant. Jesus was not far from the house when the centurion sent some friends to tell him not to bother coming to his house. But, instead the centurion indicated he knew all

Jesus had to do was say the word and his servant would be healed. The centurion understood clearly Jesus' power and authority. Jesus hearing this said, "I have not found such great faith in Israel.

Our Story: Jesus meets three people right where they are in life, facing death. In these cases it is not their death, but someone who means a lot to them. In the case of Jairus, it is his only daughter. Three people with three lives right on the edge. Yet, in one case, the healing is interrupted. A woman, in the midst of the crowd reaches out and touches the edge of Jesus' garment. Immediately, her bleeding that had gone on for many years, stopped...she was healed. Jesus spoke out, "Who touched me?" he asked. His disciples indicated there was a huge crowd pressing in; it could have been anyone. But, Jesus knew for he said power had gone out of him. The woman knew that she was found out, and she admitted what she had done and that she had been healed instantly. Jesus' comment was personal and loving, "Daughter, your faith has healed you." A special day for this woman. But, which person was Jesus also in the midst of dealing with in their hour of need?

Answer: Mark 5:22

The Curse - Perkins, Springboro, Ohio
March 23, 2002



HEROD PHILIPPI
son of Herod

GEHAZI
Follower, helper for

TOBIAH
One of Nehemiah's

HEROD PHILIPPI - One of the sons of Herod the Great. Founder and sponsor of the city of Caesarea Philippi. A lesser leader than his father, he faded into history.

GEHAZI - Follower, helper for one of the great prophets of the Old Testament.

TOBIAH - One of Nehemiah's antagonists as he worked with God's help to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem.

Our Story:

One of these men made a life-changing decision. Up to that point, he'd really NOT crossed God. Then, he made a choice - and that choice cost him his health. In his selfishness, God struck him with "another's illness." In an instant, his flesh turned white and sickly - and he became a leper. Which one is it?

Answer: 2Kings 5:20-27

A SECOND MESSAGE – November 28, 2003



Hosea: Hosea is one of the minor prophets, yet as with all prophets he had a message to bring from God. Hosea was the son of Beerī, and God gave him a formidable task – to get married to an unfaithful woman. In fact, Hosea’s wife’s unfaithfulness would be a graphic example of Israel’s unfaithfulness to God. Hosea made clear that worship of idolatry was unacceptable to God. Hosea witnessed the last six kings of Israel.

Nahum: Nahum is another minor prophet that little is known about. He said in his book he was an Elkoshite, but the location of Elkosh is in doubt. Nahum wrote somewhere between 663 and 612 B.C. He was probably prophesying during the reign and reforms of Josiah.

Micah: The book of Micah is distinctly different than many of the impassioned pleas and predictions of impending doom of the nation. Micah presents scenes of impending judgment along with future promises of blessing. Micah confronted the people, but he also offered future blessings through the One who would be coming...the true Shepherd of God’s people.

OUR STORY: One of these prophets was a second visitor to the nation of Assyria, specifically Nineveh. As we all remember, Jonah was the first prophet to go to Nineveh with a message of repentance. And, the people of Nineveh responded and repented. Amazingly, Jonah was upset that they did...he fretted with God about what you would have thought would have been a time for rejoicing. Now, a second messenger comes to Nineveh. Evil reigned forth once again, and God sent a messenger, but this time they did not heed God’s warning. Who was this second messenger?

Answer: Verse 1 of this prophet’s book

A Mysterious Deliverer

Myrtle Beach, S.C.
August 25, 2002

Aug 25, 2002 MYRTLE BEACH



Othniel: He was the son of Kenaz and the brother of Caleb. Caleb gave him his daughter, Achsah, to be his wife.

him, his
Achsah,
his wife.

Lapidoth: Husband of Deborah, a prophetess who judged Israel. They lived together in an area between Ramah and Bethel in Mount Ephraim.

Lapidoth:
Husband of

Barak:
Son of Abinoam
out of Kedesh-naphtali.
Deborah called upon
Barak to go into
battle against Sisera.
Sisera had 900
iron chariots, yet

Barak: Son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali. Deborah called upon Barak to go into battle against Sisera. Sisera had 900 iron chariots, yet the LORD "discomforted" him, and he dismounted and fled.

OUR STORY:

OUR STORY:

Once again the LORD's anger burned hot against the children of Israel. The LORD had delivered them into the hand of the king of Mesopotamia for 8 years. Now, the children of Israel cried out. The Spirit of the LORD came upon a man who rose up in God's power and defeated the king of Mesopotamia. Who was this "deliverer?"

Answer: Judges 3: 7-11

A Judgement Pending March 25, 2002



JONAH: The reluctant prophet - it took a Leviathan to bring him to obedience.



AMOS: A Judean shepherd and tender



OBADIAH: His name means "Servant"

Jonah - The reluctant prophet --- it took a Leviathan to bring him to obedience. Off he went to Ninevah, and then he became disgruntled with God because He shows the Ninevites mercy.

Amos - A Judean shepherd and tender of sycamore fig trees. Obedient to God's direction to go to Israel and bring God's message of judgement. A king and a prophet refused to listen... and God's judgement was carried out.

Obadiah - His name means, "Servant of the Lord." This prophet had to face a nation that traced its roots to Esau and the two brother's descendants. A small book by a minor prophet, it still shows just how far God's judgement reaches.

Our Story:

This prophet went to a nation - the message was a judgement pending. The nation this man of God went to had not followed God. Indeed, they had turned against God's people, even murdering some. This land was the homeland for Herod the Great.

Who is the prophet and where did he go to prophesy?

Answer: The prophet's book Ch 1: vs 1-4, 6