



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Genesis 12:1-17:27
- Psalms 149
- Hebrews 4:11-13
- Psalms 94

YOU HAVE IT IN YOU...

- Family's Matter
- Families Matter
- Family Matters
- Family's Matter Matters

Have you ever heard the phrase that begins with the words, "You have it in you...?" Then, you fill in the blank to make your point. In a portion of scripture spanning six chapters, containing so many important moments in Biblical history, all focused on the life of Abraham, all relevant to you as a Christian, what jumped off the pages to me this week was this one responsibility. "You have it in you to bless all the families of the earth."

In an era that features an outright assault on the family, what better time in history could there be to take on this duty? It's a mandate that should not be overlooked.

And may I add one further job description for serious disciples, again considering the times in which we live. "You have it in you to execute God's judgment on anyone who wishes to destroy the family." You have it in you!

THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE

“I will make you a great nation; **I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.** I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; **And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**” Genesis 12:2-3 NKJV

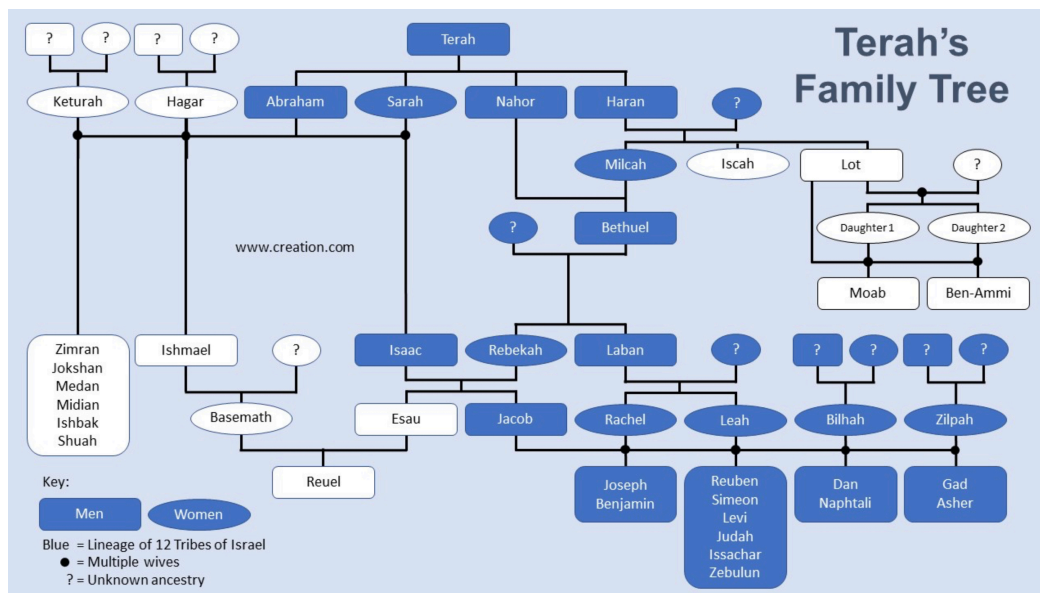
OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE

“For the Lord takes pleasure **in His people**; He will beautify the humble with salvation. Let **the saints** be joyful in glory; **Let them** sing aloud on their beds. Let the high praises of God be **in their** mouth, **And a two-edged sword in their hand, To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples; To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute on them the written judgment— This honor have all His saints.** Praise the Lord!” Psalms 149:4-9 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The third reading from the book of Genesis is named “go forth.” It is a long one comprised of six full chapters. The first verse instructs Abram to go forth from his country. This portion introduces Abraham and tells the story of his pilgrimage in pursuit of God.

2. I feel it is important to set the stage for this week's portion by simply reviewing the very end of last week's reading, the descendants of Terah, Abraham's father.
3. **This is the genealogy of Terah:** (Genesis 11:27-32)



- a) Terah begot Abram, Nahor, and Haran.
- b) Haran begot Lot, Milcah and Iscah, and then he dies.
- c) Abram marries Sarai (*his half-sister) and Nahor marries Milcah (Haran's daughter, his niece).
 * *"But indeed she [Sarah] is truly my [Abraham's] sister. She is the daughter of my father [Terah], but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife."* Genesis 20:12
- d) Sarai seems to be barren.

- e) Terah takes his son Abram, his grandson Lot, and his daughter-in-law Sarai to the land of Canaan but settles in Haran where he dies.
- f) Now the stage is set for Abraham's pilgrimage in pursuit of God.

Genesis 12

- 4. **Big Promises to Abram:** Yahweh tells Abram to go out of his father's house and leave the country he is in and go to the land that Yahweh will show him. He promises:
 - a) *"I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*
Genesis 12:2-3
- 5. Abram, at 75 years old, obeys Yahweh and leaves Haran with his wife and nephew Lot, and all their possessions and heads for Canaan.
- 6. When he arrives in Canaan Yahweh appears to him and tells him *"To your descendants I will give this land."* Genesis 12:7
- 7. Each stop along the way Abram builds an altar to commemorate that place and he calls on the name of Yahweh.
- 8. Abram continues his journey south, as there is famine in the land, and heads towards Egypt.

9. When he gets close to Egypt, he is fearful for his life as he feels Sarai's beauty will inspire the Egyptians to kill him and take her from him (if they believe she is his wife).
10. He instructs Sarai to tell them she is, instead, his sister (which is also true).
11. The Egyptians do take beautiful Sarai to Pharaoh's house and Abram is treated quite well on her behalf! He is actually given many servants and animals.
12. Pharaoh is punished by Yahweh with a plague of some sort for having Abram's 'wife' in his house and he clearly gets a revelation of such. He rebukes Abram for not telling him, grateful at least that he did not take her as a wife for himself, and sends Abram on his way with Sarai, in addition to all he had gained in Egypt.

Genesis 13

13. **Abram Inherits Canaan:** Abram was very rich when he left Egypt and heads back to Bethel where he had built an altar on his second stop out of Haran. Again Abram calls on the name of Yahweh!
14. At this point, Abram and Lot have so many livestock that the land cannot support both of them, and instead of strife developing, Abram selflessly allows Lot to choose the land he wants, and Abram will happily take what Lot does not choose.

15. Lot chooses the plains of the Jordan (the land of Sodom and Gomorrah prior to their destruction).

16. Abram stays in Canaan as Lot goes to the cities on the plain.

a) *“But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.”* Genesis 13:13

17. **Yahweh then further clarifies His promises to Abram:** (Genesis 13:14-17)

a) Lift your eyes now and look in all directions.

b) All the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.

c) I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth. If a man could number the dust then your descendants could be numbered. (Notice here in Genesis 13:16 that the promise of descendants will be numbered as the dust of the earth, whereas coming in Genesis 15:5 they will be numbered as the stars of heaven). *Later we see the promise of stars and sand together, after Abraham demonstrates so great a faith as to sacrifice his son Isaac at the command of Yahweh.

** “Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the*

*stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. **In your seed [Isaac]** all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice.**”” Genesis 22:15-18*

*“By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive **seed**, and she bore a child [Isaac] when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the **stars of the sky in multitude— innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore.**”

Hebrews 11:11-12

- d) Then Abram is told to walk the length and width of the land; it's all yours!

Genesis 14

18. **Lot's Captivity and Rescue:** a massive battle between pagan nations takes place, four kings against five, and the side of Sodom and Gomorrah loses. The goods of these kingdoms are taken. Lot, his family, and all his belongings, are caught up in the loss, and are also taken captive! (See Genesis 14:1-12)
19. Abram hears of his nephew's misfortune via an escaped captive and mounts an army of 318 trained servants, who rescue Lot by night (along with all his and Sodom's people and goods). So, the

king of Sodom rides out to meet Abram upon his return. (See Genesis 14:14-17)

20. **Abram and Melchizedek:** Melchizedek, priest of Yahweh, brings bread and wine and blesses Abram and Yahweh who delivered Abram.
21. Abram tithes to Melchizedek from his spoils of victory. (**Note:** This is prophetically significant and there is more written about this mysterious Melchizedek and His priesthood in the letter of Hebrews chapters 5-8 than anywhere else in the Bible.)
22. At this point, the King of Sodom just wants his people back and tells Abram he can keep the goods.
23. **Abram's response to the king is magnanimous;** "In recognition that the victory was Yahweh's and not my own, I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' I will, however, accept the food my 318 warriors have eaten and a portion that should go to them for their brave and sacrificial service." (see Genesis 14:22-24)

Genesis 15

24. Yahweh's Covenant with Abram:

- a) **Yahweh to Abram:** "*I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.*" Genesis 15:1

- b) **Abram to Yahweh:** *“What will You give me, seeing I go childless?”* Genesis 15:2
- c) **Yahweh to Abram:** *“A son who will come from your own body shall be your heir.”* Genesis 15:4
 - 1. *“Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them. So shall your descendants be.”*
Genesis 15:5 (again see 18.c above.)
- d) **Famous Verse Alert:** *“And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.”* Genesis 15:6
- e) **Abram to Yahweh:** *“Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?”* Genesis 15:8

25. **Answer:** Abraham is asked to make a sacrifice and given a vision while he sleeps. He cuts a ram in half and separates the two sides.

26. **A deep sleep fell upon Abram:** (Genesis 15:12-21)

- a) **Amazing Prophetic Moment:** It is revealed that his descendants will be strangers in a land that is not their own, and that they will serve their captors, and that they will be afflicted four hundred years.

- (1) This is prophetic of Israel being sent into foreign lands. But, of course, it is important to note that although they are, indeed, strangers for 400 years, they are not afflicted for 400 years.

(2) **Timeline:** it is 64 years from the death of Joseph to the birth of Moses. So, during those 64 years the people are 'guests' in Egypt and not 'slaves' and are multiplying rapidly in numbers, and it is when the new Pharaoh, who does not know Joseph, takes over (Exodus 1:8) that the captivity (hard labor) begins. This is right before the birth of Moses when Pharaoh orders the death of all newborn boys (that is why Moses is hidden). That would mean the hard labor (affliction) lasts for 80 years, the age Moses is when he is called back to Egypt to free the people. So, you can see that the affliction begins right before the birth of Moses and ends at the exodus when Moses is 80. There are 144 years between the death of Joseph and the Exodus.

(3) Click [here](#) to read more details about the math regarding the number of years of affliction.

b) **Additional Prophecy:** The nation whom they served in captivity (Egypt) will be judged and afterward Israel shall come out (in the Exodus) with great possessions.

(1) **Confirmed:** We know this was fulfilled as Israel did **ultimately leave Egypt with great spoils**—*“Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked from the Egyptians **articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing.** And the LORD had*

*given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. **Thus they plundered the Egyptians.***” Exodus 12:35-36 NKJV

- c) Abram is promised to reach a good old age and that the fourth generation of his people will be the ones brought back from their land of promise into captivity because of their iniquity.
 - (1) **Generations:** 0-Abraham; 1st—Isaac; 2nd—Jacob (renamed Israel); 3rd—Israel’s 12 sons (tribes); 4th—captivity in Egypt
- d) In the vision Abram has while sleeping, Yahweh appears as a smoking oven and a burning torch that passes between the two halves of the ram as a promise to keep His covenant with Abram, saying: “To your descendants I have given this land.”

Genesis 16

- 27. **Hagar and Ishmael:** At this point Sarai has gone ten years in the land of Canaan without a child, so she requests that Abram, now 85, take her Egyptian maidservant Hagar as a wife to bear him children. Hagar did conceive and Sarai then despises her!
- 28. Sarai becomes bitter toward both Abram and Hagar, and Abram permits her to treat Hagar as she wishes, which she does so harshly. Hagar chooses to flee the scene.
- 29. In her escape, Hagar encounters an Angel who tells her to return to Sarai, and to submit to her. The Angel tells her that

Yahweh will multiply her descendants exceedingly and that she was with child, shall bear a son, and call his name Ishmael (a wild man who will be in conflict with God and man).

- a) *“Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael to Abram.”* Genesis 16:16

Genesis 17

30. The Sign of the Covenant—Thirteen Year Pass: (Genesis 17:1-27) When Abram is ninety-nine, 24 years after Yahweh called him out of his home country and made him the original promise to make him a great nation, Yahweh calls Abraham to walk before Him and be blameless and makes this covenant to multiply him exceedingly.

31. The Everlasting Covenant:

- a) You shall be a father of many nations.
- b) Your name shall be Abraham.
- c) Kings shall come from you.
- d) **The Sign of the Covenant:** Every male child (natural born or purchased from a foreigner) shall be circumcised on the eighth day of life.

32. As for Sarai:

- a) Sarah shall be her name.
- b) Yahweh will give Abraham a son by her.

- c) She shall be a mother of nations.
 - d) Kings of peoples shall be from her.
33. This is the moment that Abraham falls on his face and laughs because he is almost one hundred years old at the time, and Sarah is ninety. **He asks Yahweh if Ishmael might be the one instead of believing for another.**
- a) *“Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!”* (Genesis 17:18) In other words...*“Why not let Ishmael inherit what you have promised me?”*
34. Yahweh affirms that Sarah shall bear him a son. They will call him Isaac which means laughter! **He is the one, NOT Ishmael,** through whom the everlasting covenant to Abraham will be fulfilled.
35. However, Ishmael will be blessed and will multiply exceedingly as well. He shall beget twelve princes and will be a great nation.
36. Abraham, that very same day, circumcised Ishmael, who was thirteen, every male in his household, and himself, at ninety-nine years old.

FAMILY'S MATTER

1. What the family consists of...

A. Family Identity: God created families to show His image

- (1) In the Image of God (and His invisible qualities)
- (a) **Inside of Adam was a male, female and child**—“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply**; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”” Genesis 1:27-28 NKJV
- (b) **The female in Adam was invisible so**—“And the Lord God said, “**It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper** comparable to him.” And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man **He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.** And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.” **Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.**” Genesis 2:18, 21-24 NKJV

- (c) **The child in Adam was invisible so**—“Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and **she conceived and bore Cain**, and said, **“I have acquired a man from the Lord.”**” Genesis 4:1 NKJV
- (d) See: [The Image of God](#) and [The Image of God \(Short Version\)](#)
- (2) For this reason...
- (a) **Because Adam had hidden attributes, God exposed them so we could see His full nature (male, female, child). And then He made sure you knew they were still bound together as one**—Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning **‘made them male and female [Genesis 1:27],’** and said, **‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?** [Genesis 2:24] So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore **what God has joined together, let not man separate.**”” Matthew 19:4-6 NKJV
1. It is not good that man should be alone. (that you could not see the woman in him.)
 2. I will make him a helper comparable to him. (I will extract a part of what is inside of him that is still him.)

3. He made her into a woman, and He brought her to the man. (I will present her to you from the outside, so she is no longer invisible.)
4. For this reason (because she was extracted to be shown, but not separate) a man shall be joined to his wife (in marriage), and the two shall become one flesh...what God has joined together, let not man separate. (God is one, man is one, man is one with God—that is what marriage and the family depicts!)
5. She conceived and bore Cain, and said, “I have acquired a man from the Lord. (And then I will present a child from the outside so he is no longer invisible)

B. Family Dynamics—Separation of Powers

- (1) The Divine Family (Authority, Power, Obedience)
 - (a) Father—Authority/Godhead
 - (b) Spirit—Power/Helper
 - (c) Son—Obedience/Bondservant
- (2) Man, Woman, Child
 - (a) Man—Authority/Head
 - (b) Woman—Power/Helper
 - (c) Child—Obedience/Bondservant

C. Government Dynamics—Separation of Powers

- (1) Israel
 - (a) King
 - (b) Priest
 - (c) Prophet
- (2) Church
 - (a) King
 - (b) Apostle
 - (c) Prophet
- (3) Government
 - (a) Executive
 - (b) Legislative
 - (c) Judicial

Summary: FAMILY'S MATTER

1. What the family consists of...

A. Family Identity: God created families to show His image

- (1) In the Image of God [See: [The Image of God](#) & [The Image of God \(Short Version\)](#)]
 - (a) Inside of Adam was a male, female and child—
 - (b) The female in Adam was invisible, so He made a woman, and brought her to him and told them to marry!
 - (c) The child in Adam was invisible so—Eve conceived and said, “I have acquired a man from the Lord.”

(2) For this reason...

(a) Because Adam had hidden attributes, God exposed them so we could see His full nature (male, female, child). And then He made sure you knew they were still bound together as one—

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FAMILIES MATTER

2. Why is the family so crucial?

A. Family Blessings (I will bless your family)

(1) Family Success (God cares about the success of families)

- (a) **You shall be a blessing to be a blessing; In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed—“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**

Genesis 12:2-3 NKJV

(2) Family Expansion

- (a) **The Dust of the Earth—“And I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth; so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then your descendants also could be numbered.”** Genesis 13:16 NKJV
- (b) **The Stars of Heaven—“But Abram said, “Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” Then Abram said, “Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!” And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, “This one shall not be**

your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and **count the stars if you are able to number them.**" And He said to him, "**So shall your descendants be.**" And he believed in the **Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.**"

Genesis 15:2-6 NKJV

B. Generational Promises

(1) Multiplied Exceedingly

(a) **It's a covenant**—"And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and **will multiply you exceedingly.**"" Genesis 17:2 NKJV

(b) **Nations and kings shall come from you**—"I will make **you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.** And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an **everlasting covenant**, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.""
Genesis 17:6-8
NKJV

- (2) King David was one of those Kings—and the promise continues!
- (a) **A kingdom forever**—““When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, **I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.** He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom **forever.**” II Samuel 7:12-13 NKJV
 - (b) **A throne forever**—“And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. **Your throne shall be established forever.**” ‘ ”” II Samuel 7:16 NKJV
 - (c) **Blessed forever**—““And now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are true, and **You have promised** this goodness to Your servant. Now therefore, let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You, O Lord God, have spoken it, **and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever.**”” II Samuel 7:28-29 NKJV

Summary: FAMILIES MATTER

2. Why is the family so crucial?

A. Family Blessings (I will bless your family)

- (1) Family Success (God cares about the success of families)

- (a) You shall be a blessing to be a blessing; In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed—
- (2) Family Expansion
 - (a) As many as the Dust of the Earth—
 - (b) As many as The Stars of Heaven—Generational Promises
- (1) Multiplied Exceedingly
 - (a) It's a covenant—
 - (b) Nations and kings shall come from you—
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 - (a) A kingdom forever—
 - (b) A throne forever—
 - (c) Blessed forever—

FAMILY MATTERS

3. What difficulties the family is facing...

A. Family Challenges

- (1) Usurping Roles
 - (a) Men are vilified for masculinity.
 - (b) A woman can be just as good a man as a man can be.
 - (c) Women have been liberated to express their male dominance.

- (d) Culture has shifted from adult-centric to child centric.
- (2) Abdicating Roles
 - (a) Men have retreated into submission and silence.
 - (b) Women have abandoned motherhood in pursuit of self-fulfillment.
 - (c) Fathers routinely abandon their wives and children.

B. Challenging Family

- (1) **Challenging Gender:** “For **since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen**, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,” Romans 1:20 NKJV
 - (a) There are no genders
 - (b) Gender is fluid
 - (c) There are many genders
 - (d) Gender is a choice
 - (e) Same sex attraction is normal
- (2) Destroying Family
 - (a) Divorce—In the United States, **about 50% of married couples divorce**, the sixth-highest divorce rate in the world. Subsequent marriages have an even higher divorce rate: 60% of second marriages end in divorce, and 73% of all third marriages end in divorce.

- (b) Abortion—22% of all US pregnancies end with abortion; 125,000 worldwide abortions per day
 - (c) No Children—The decision to have a childless marriage. “The biggest contribution anyone can make to the climate crisis is not to have children.” According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, in 2014, **47.6 percent** of women between age 15 and 44 had never had children. This represents the highest percentage of childless women since the bureau started tracking that data in 1976.
 - (d) No Marriage—live with all the “benefits of marriage” without getting married. About **50.2 percent** or 124.6 million American adults are single—in 1950, that number sat around 22 percent. See [How Many Americans Want to Be Single? Results of 5 Studies](#)
- (3) Redefining Family
- (a) Gay Marriage
 - (b) Same Sex Parenting
 - (c) Public school propaganda

Summary: FAMILY MATTERS

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FAMILY'S MATTER MATTERS

4. Why restoring the family is so critical...

A. Avenging Family

(1) Asking the right questions...

- (a) **Men and brethren, what shall we do?** “Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, **“Men and brethren, what shall we do?”**” Acts 2:37

(2) Saving the Family

- (a) **...for the saving of his household**—“By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, **prepared an ark for the saving of his household**, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.” Hebrews 11:7 NKJV

(3) Affirming Family

- (a) **For this very reason!** Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning **‘made them male and female [Genesis 1:27],’** and said, **‘For this reason** a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and **the two shall become one flesh’?** [Genesis 2:24] So then, they are no longer two but one flesh.

Therefore **what God has joined together, let not man separate.**”” Matthew 19:4-6 NKJV

(4) Reclaiming Family Identity

(a) No Apologies: A man and a woman are each distinct, distinguishable, and definitive. Marriage is limited to the union between a man and a woman. And the fruit of that union is in the life of a child (born and unborn).

1. **Opinion and Food for Thought:** Ending the life of an unborn child is murder (except in circumstances in which the mother’s life is at risk and whereas both the mother and the child would be lost.)

(5) Defending Marriage and Children

(a) **The word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword—so let’s start using it!** “Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For **the word of God** is living and powerful, and **sharper than any two-edged sword**, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.” Hebrews 4:11-13 NKJV

(b) **Let's use the Word to execute vengeance, punishments, bind their leaders, and execute on them the written judgment**—"For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation. Let the saints be joyful in glory; Let them sing aloud on their beds. Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, **And a two-edged sword in their hand, To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples; To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute on them the written judgment— This honor have all His saints.** Praise the Lord!" Psalms 149:4-9 NKJV

(6) Who is ready to exercise judgement? *"Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?"* Psalms 94:16 NKJV

(a) **The prayer that should be on every Christian's lips today!** "O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongs— O God, **to whom vengeance belongs**, shine forth! Rise up, O Judge of the earth; **Render punishment to the proud.** Lord, how long will the wicked, How long will the wicked triumph? They utter speech, and speak insolent things; All the workers of iniquity boast in themselves. They break in pieces Your people, O Lord, And afflict

Your heritage. They slay the widow and the stranger,
And murder the fatherless. Yet they say, “The Lord does
not see, Nor does the God of Jacob understand.”

Understand, you senseless among the people; And you
fools, when will you be wise? **He who planted the ear,
shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He
not see? He who instructs the nations, shall He not
correct,** He who teaches man knowledge? The Lord
knows the thoughts of man, That they are futile. **Blessed
is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out
of Your law,** That You may give him rest from the days of
adversity, Until the pit is dug for the wicked. For the
Lord will not cast off His people, Nor will He forsake
His inheritance.” Psalms 94:1-14 NKJV

- (b) **Judgement will return to the Righteous**—“But judgment
will return to righteousness, And all the upright in heart
will follow it.” Psalms 94:15 NKJV
- (c) “**Who** will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who
will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?”
Psalms 94:16 NKJV [*Which saints act on the honor
bestowed on them to execute on them the written
judgment—Psalms 149:9?*]

1. **Our voices—Yahweh’s Authority!** “**Unless the Lord had been my help,** My soul would soon have settled in silence. If I say, “My foot slips,” Your mercy, O Lord, will hold me up. In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul. **Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, Have fellowship with You? They gather together against the life of the righteous, And condemn innocent blood. But the Lord has been my defense,** And my God the rock of my refuge. **He has brought on them their own iniquity, And shall cut them off in their own wickedness;** The Lord our God shall cut them off.” Psalms 94:17-23 NKJV
2. **Written Judgment:** “**Do not fret because of evildoers,** Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. For **they shall soon be cut down** like the grass, And wither as the green herb. Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him; **Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass.** The wicked plots against the just, And gnashes at him with his teeth. **The Lord laughs at him, For He sees that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn the sword And have bent**

their bow, To cast down the poor and needy, To slay those who are of upright conduct. **Their sword shall enter their own heart,** And their bows shall be broken.” Psalms 37:1-2, 7, 12-15 NKJV

3. **Excerpts from Isaiah 59:** “For your hands are defiled with blood, And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken lies, Your tongue has muttered perversity. **No one calls for justice, Nor does any plead for truth. They trust in empty words and speak lies; They conceive evil and bring forth iniquity.** They hatch vipers’ eggs and weave the spider’s web; He who eats of their eggs dies, And from that which is crushed a viper breaks out. Their webs will not become garments, Nor will they cover themselves with their works; **Their works are works of iniquity, And the act of violence is in their hands. Their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed innocent blood;** Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; Wasting and destruction are in their paths. The way of peace they have not known, **And there is no justice in their ways;** They have made themselves crooked paths; Whoever takes that way shall not know peace. Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar

off; **For truth is fallen in the street,** And equity cannot enter. So truth fails, And he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. **Then the Lord saw it, and it displeased Him That there was no justice. He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor;** Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him. According to their deeds, accordingly **He will repay, Fury to His adversaries, Recompense to His enemies;** The coastlands He will fully repay.”
Isaiah 59:3-8, 14-16, 18 NKJV

4. **Arise! “Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.** For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising.” Isaiah 60:1-3 NKJV

B. Restoring Family—It’s our job!

(1) Standing Watch

- (a) **It’s time to take action! “I will stand my watch** And set myself on the rampart, And watch **to see what He will say to me,** And what I will answer when I am corrected.

Then the Lord answered me and said: **“Write the vision And make it plain on tablets,** That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry. “Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.” Habakkuk 2:1-4 NKJV

1. *“To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples; To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute on them the written judgment—”*

(2) Mending Hearts

(a) **The indicator of restoration—and the lifting of the curse (the blindness to His invisible attributes)—**
““Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet **Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.** And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, **And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”**” Malachi 4:4-6 NKJV

1. **All of creation is waiting!** “For the earnest expectation of the **creation** eagerly waits for the **revealing of the sons of God**. For the **creation** was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the **creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God**. For we know that the whole **creation** groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.”

Romans 8:19-22 NKJV

(3) **A family after God’s own heart—the end will look like the beginning!** *“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion...”* Genesis 1:27-28 NKJV

(a) **Made perfect as one in His Image—“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.** As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; **that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in**

Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, **that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and **that the world may know that You have sent Me**, and have loved them as You have loved Me.” John 17:17-23 NKJV**

- (4) You have it in you to...
 - (a) Bless all the families of the earth!
 - (b) Execute God’s judgment on anyone who threatens the family!

Summary: FAMILY’S MATTER MATTERS

4. Why restoring the family is so critical...

A. Avenging Family

- (1) Asking the right questions...
 - (a) Men and brethren, what shall we do?
- (2) Saving the Family
 - (a) Noah saved his household—
- (3) Affirming Family
 - (a) God created marriage for this very reason! Because Adam was created as a male, female and child, and He

wanted to show us what was in Adam, so he extracted Eve and made them to have children.

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to the proud. ...He who planted the ear, shall He not hear? He who formed the eye, shall He not see? He who instructs the nations, shall He not correct, ...Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out of Your law”

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[Which saints act on the honor bestowed on them to execute on them the written judgment—Psalms 149:9?]

1. Our voices—Yahweh’s Authority!

a) “Shall the throne of iniquity, which devises evil by law, Have fellowship with You?

b) They gather together against the life of the righteous, And condemn innocent blood. But the Lord has been my defense,

c) ...He has brought on them their own iniquity, And shall cut them off in their own wickedness...”

2. Written Judgment:

a) “Do not fret because of evildoers...”

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have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.” John 17:17-23 NKJV

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QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. What was in Adam, when he was created, that was “invisible”?**
 - A. What did God do to make those attributes visible?
- 2. Compare the three persons of the Divine Family with the three persons of the human family.**
 - A. What are the key attributes of each member?
 - B. Discuss the three branches of “government” of Israel, the Church, and the United States of America.
- 3. What was Abraham promised regarding the families of the earth?**
 - A. What was he promised about his own family line?
 - B. What was King David promised about his family line?
- 4. Discuss the roles of each family member in a human family.**
 - A. How are these roles being usurped today?
 - B. How are these roles being abdicated today?

- 5. How is common culture challenging the identity and roles of each family member?**
- A. Discuss gender, marriage and abortion in your answer.
 - B. How does this challenge stain the image of God?
- 6. How did Noah preserve his family?**
- A. How should this inform the role of a father today?
- 7. Why was Y'shua insistent that nothing separate a marriage?**
- A. How can we defend Marriage today?
 - B. What authority do we have as Christians to come against the destruction of the family. (Consider Psalm 149:4-9 in your answer.)
- 8. The restoration of the family is critical at the end of the age:**
- A. Discuss the prophecy in Malachi 4 and it's relationship to family.
 - B. Relate Y'shua's prayer in John 17:17-23 to Genesis 1:27-28.