PATRIARCHS GENESIS PART 2 (12-50) JONATHAN CORNELL

FEBRUARY 2ND | CALLED

Review: What did you discover about yourself when considering how you accept or reject God's Word?

Introduction: "The God of Christians is not a God who is simply the author of mathematical truths, or the order of the elements; that is the view of heathens and Epicureans...But the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of Christians, is a God of love and of comfort, a God who fills the soul and heart of those whom he possesses." *Pascal, Pensees*, 8.556

Genesis chapters 2-50 present the three patriarchal narratives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob forming one family as God's definitive response to the rebellion presented in Genesis 1-11. Each narrative of this inspired text is presented with a definite structure. Abraham, described in 11:27-22:24, begins with a genealogy (11:27-32), followed by the promise of a nation (12:1-9), protection (12:10-20), choosing by faith not sight (13:1-18), intercession (14:1-24), the land covenant (15:1-16:16) and (in reverse order) the seed covenant (17:1-18:15), intercession (18:16-33), the failure of choosing by sight (19:1-38), protection (20:1-18), fulfillment through Isaac (21:1-22:19), and concludes with a genealogy (22:20-24).

Pray: Lord Jesus, help us to see how your Word is in no way an accidental collection of texts, but intentionally inspired by your Spirit to draw us into a relationship with you. Open our eyes to how you call us, covenant with us, and restore us when we fall. Amen.

Read: Genesis 15:1-6, 17-21, & 17:1-8

Discussion:

1. How does God initiate conversation with Abram? (Gen 12:1, 12:7, 13:14, 15:1, 15:12, 15:18, 17:1)

How might God be initiating conversations with you?

2. What does God covenant to give Abram?

What has God covenanted to give you?

3. Examples of Abram's failure to live a life of perfect faith include losing sight of God's promise for an heir (ch 16) and laughing at God's promise (17:17). How does God restore Abram?

When you fail to live a life of perfect faith, how does God restore you?

Application: This week as you read God's Word, consider how the Father calls you into relationship.

Pray: Lord Jesus, thank you that you call us with your Word. Forgive us when we fail to live by faith. Thank you for your grace that restores us. Amen.