

Lesson IV.

GOD CALLS ABRAM

July 28, 1901

Genesis 12 : 1-9—Memory Verses, 1-3.

Golden Text—I will bless thee and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.—Gen. 12 : 2.



1 Now the LORD had said unto Ab'ram, 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 Ab'ram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Ab'ram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Ha'ran.

5 And Ab'ram took Sa'rai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Ha'ran; and they went forth to go into the land of Ca'naan; and into the land of Ca'naan they came.

6 And Ab'ram passed through the land unto the place of Si'chem, unto the plain of Mo'reh. And the Ca'naanite was then in the land.

7 And the Lord appeared unto Ab'ram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him. 8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Beth'el, and pitched his tent, *having* Beth'el on the west, and Ha'i on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the Lord, and called upon the name of the Lord.

9 And Ab'ram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

THE LESSON RETOLD

The many children and grand-children and great-grand-children of the people whom God had saved alive in the ark soon filled the earth. They scattered themselves far and wide over the world, and before long most of them had again forgotten the true worship of God and prayed, instead, to the things that God had made, such as the sun and the moon and the stars, or to idols carved by their own hands out of wood and stone.

Now, there was a man who knew and served the true God living among such people as these in a place called Haran. His father had lately died and left him at the head of a great household. His name was Abram.

One day God said to Abram, "You must leave this comfortable place in which you are living, and go far away into the strange country of Canaan, to which I will show you the way. Do not be afraid to obey me, for there I will give you another home, and will surely bless you." Then God told Abram that He had chosen him for a work of great honor, for he was to be the father of a great nation which would learn to follow the true God and bring blessing to every family in the world. Besides all this, God promised to take care of Abram on his journey, giving him safety from his enemies and promising a blessing to all who should show