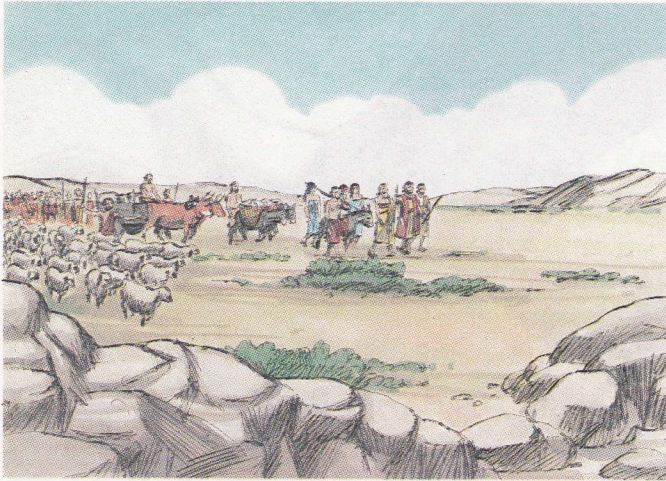
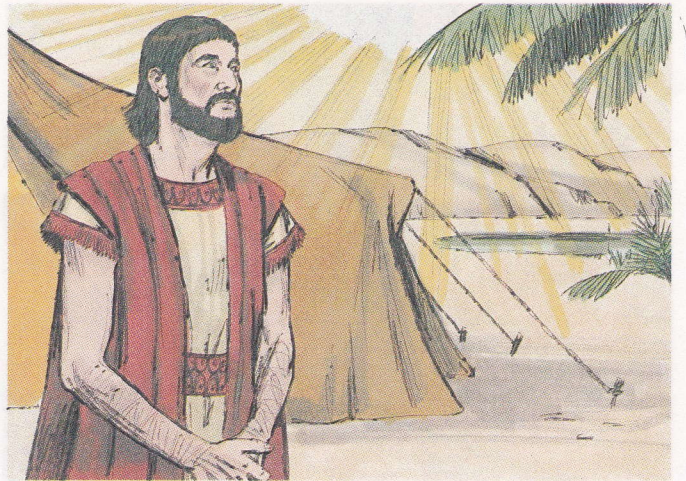


Abram Leaves His Home



1 Many years after God destroyed the world by flood, a man named Abram journeyed with his father and his family from their home in Ur to Haran. There Abram's father died. And there God spoke to Abram.



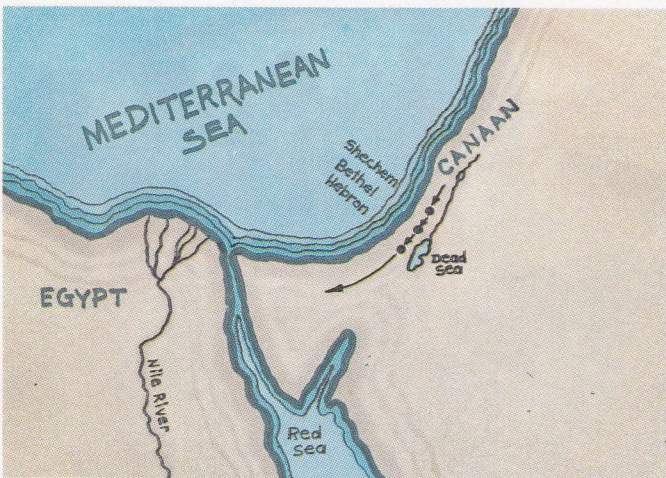
2 "Go from this country to a land that I will show you," God said. "I will give you many descendants and they will become a great nation, and through you I will bless all the peoples on earth."



3 So Abram did as God commanded. He left his home to go to the land of Canaan far away. Abram took with him his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his riches and slaves.



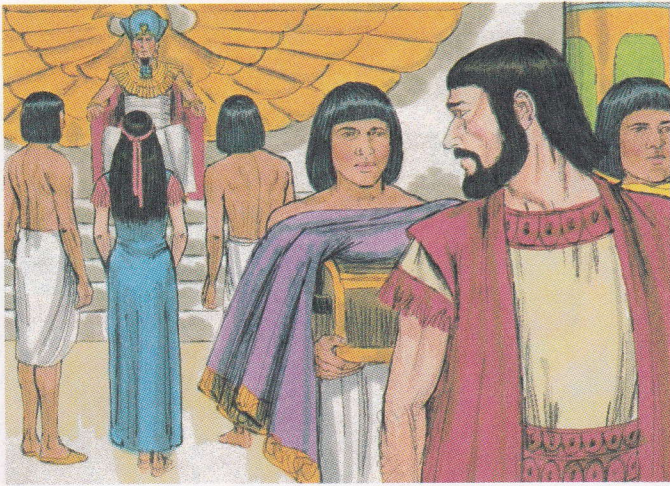
4 When Abram got to Canaan, he camped at a place called Shechem. There God appeared to Abram, saying, "This is the land I am going to give you and your children."



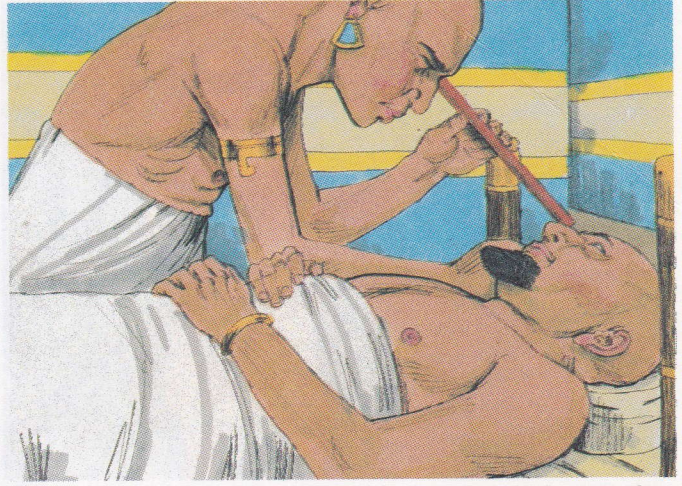
5 Abram built an altar to the Lord at that place. Then Abram moved on south. There was a bad famine in Canaan at that time, so Abram decided to go on down to Egypt for a while.



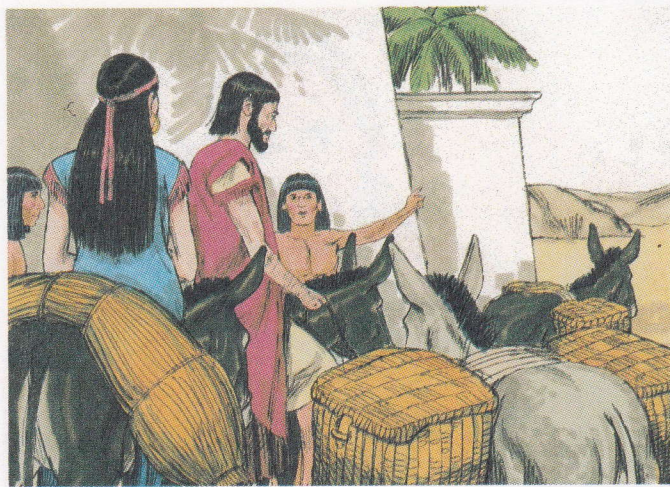
6 But Abram was worried. He was afraid the Egyptians would kill him in order to take Sarai, because she was so beautiful. So he told her to say that she was his sister, not his wife.



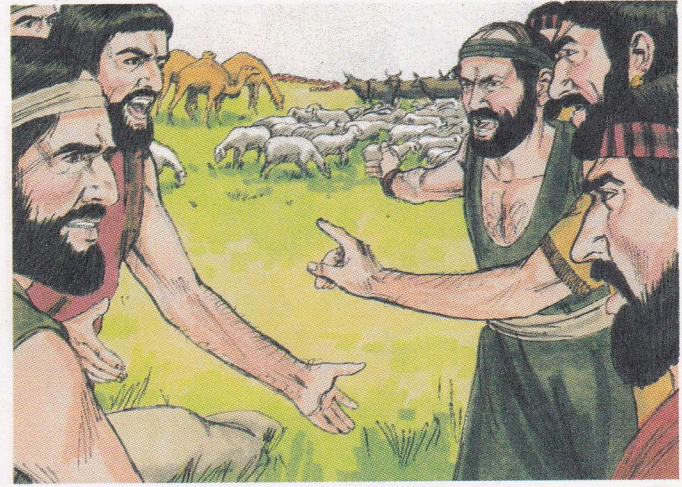
7 Just as Abram had feared, when they got to Egypt the king wanted Sarai for his wife. The king had her brought to his palace and he gave gifts to Abram.



8 But it was not right for the king to take another man's wife as his own, so God caused terrible diseases to strike the king and the other Egyptians living in the palace.



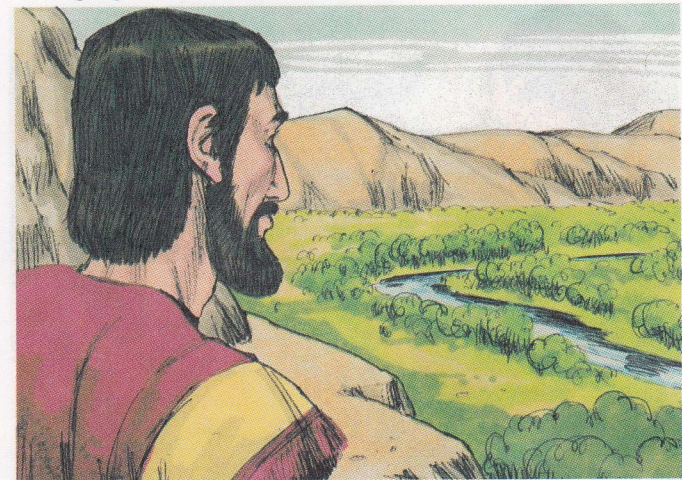
9 When the king figured out what had happened, he told Abram to take Sarai and go away. The king's men took Abram and his wife and sent them out of Egypt.



10 So Abram returned to Canaan. Soon his servants and Lot's servants began to have fights. Both men had large herds of sheep and goats, and there was not enough grass to feed them all.



11 "Quarreling and fighting are bad," Abram said to Lot. "Let's live in different places so there won't be any more trouble." Lot agreed and decided to move to Sodom. Abram stayed near Hebron.



12 Then the Lord spoke to Abram again. "This land will belong to your descendants forever," he said. "And I will give you so many descendants that you won't be able to count them all."