

RESTORATION BIBLE MINISTRIES

Understanding Abraham



by David Outon



Understanding Abraham

The purpose of Restoration Bible Ministries is to help people understand the Bible. The reason this is the purpose of the ministry has to do with my personal journey into God's word. Back in the early 80s, while in college, I was looking for answers to the big questions in life that all people seek answers to in their youth; who am I, why am I here, what do I believe, what's my purpose, the list goes on.

In the summer of 1984, I was in a music group that traveled all over the country. My father asked me to read the Bible since I was going to be out of church for three months. I thought that was a really good idea. I started in the Book of Daniel because I thought it was a good book of stories like, Daniel in the Lion's Den and such. However, I quickly learned that I had no understanding about what I was reading. I didn't know who Nebuchadnezzar was, I didn't know what the temple vessels were, and when I got to the prophetic chapters and was reading the prophecy of the Ram and the Goat, I was lost and very disappointed that I didn't understand what I was reading. I had been in church for 20 years and knew nothing about what I was reading.

So, I decided to start at the beginning and read the Bible through slowly so I could begin to understand what I was reading. It took me three years, but when I got to the end of the book of Revelation, I still didn't understand. In truth, I failed to see the big picture and didn't understand the plan of God.



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After I graduated from college, I got the opportunity to teach Bible in a Christian school. The third time I taught Genesis to the students, the Bible began making sense to me. I saw a pattern in the first 11 chapters of Genesis: God Creates, Satan Corrupts, God Judges and Restores. This pattern occurred with Adam and Eve, Cain and Able, Noah, and the Tower of Babel. But, when I got to Abraham, I saw God go on the offensive. He took this man, Abraham, and poured all of his goodness into him and his family. In this man and his family, is the plan of God accomplished including the incarnation of the Son of God.

As we are all aware, there is nothing in the universe more important, than the Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection, and Return of the Son of God. This was the plan of God from the Beginning and was accomplished through the life of Abraham.

1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, 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.**

Genesis 12:1-3

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In the phrase, “and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed”, is the purpose of the life of Abraham explained, the plan of God, the purpose of the Messiah, and the goal of every believer. It is the plan of God to bless all people of the earth, Not to judge and destroy all families of the earth. The most profound truth of all time is that the Messiah gave His life to bring salvation to all of the families of the earth. Only God is wise enough to bring such an incredible plan to fruition.

Understanding the purpose of Abraham was the point at which the Bible started making sense to me. When I saw God pouring all of His goodness into this man and his family for the purpose of blessing all families of the earth, understanding the Bible was now within grasp.

The Bible is the story of this man and his family, and accomplishing the plan of blessing all families of the earth with the Life of the Messiah. **God with Us.**

