

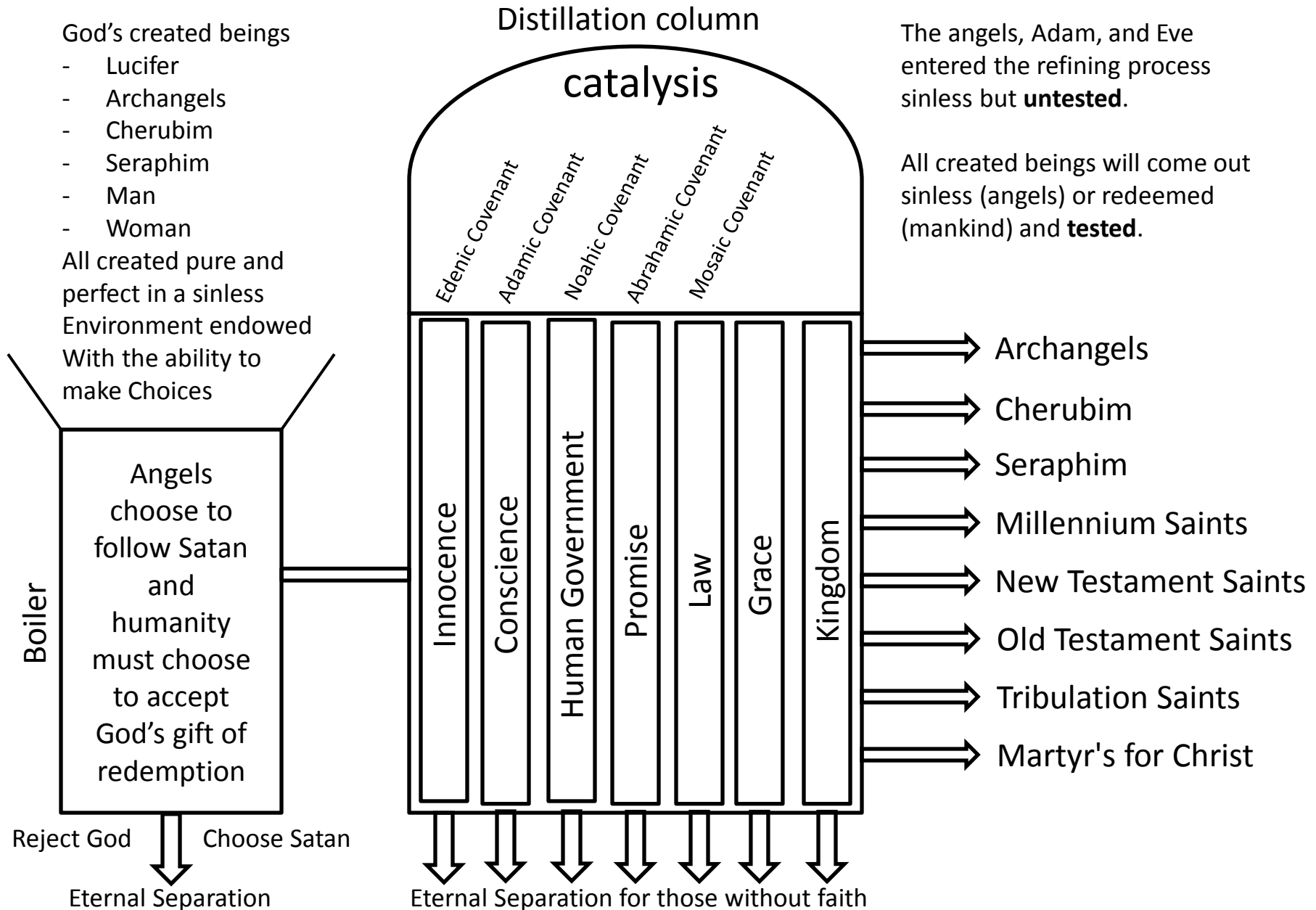
Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Revealed Plan of God from Eternity Past to Eternity Future



www.RefiningaCreation.org

God's Refining Process for His Created Beings



Refining a Creation for Eternity

God's Economies for Mankind

Overview



Edenic



Adamic

Innocence



Noahic

Human Government



Abrahamic

Promise



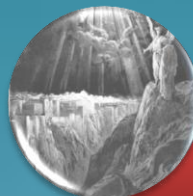
Mosaic

Law



Postponed

Grace

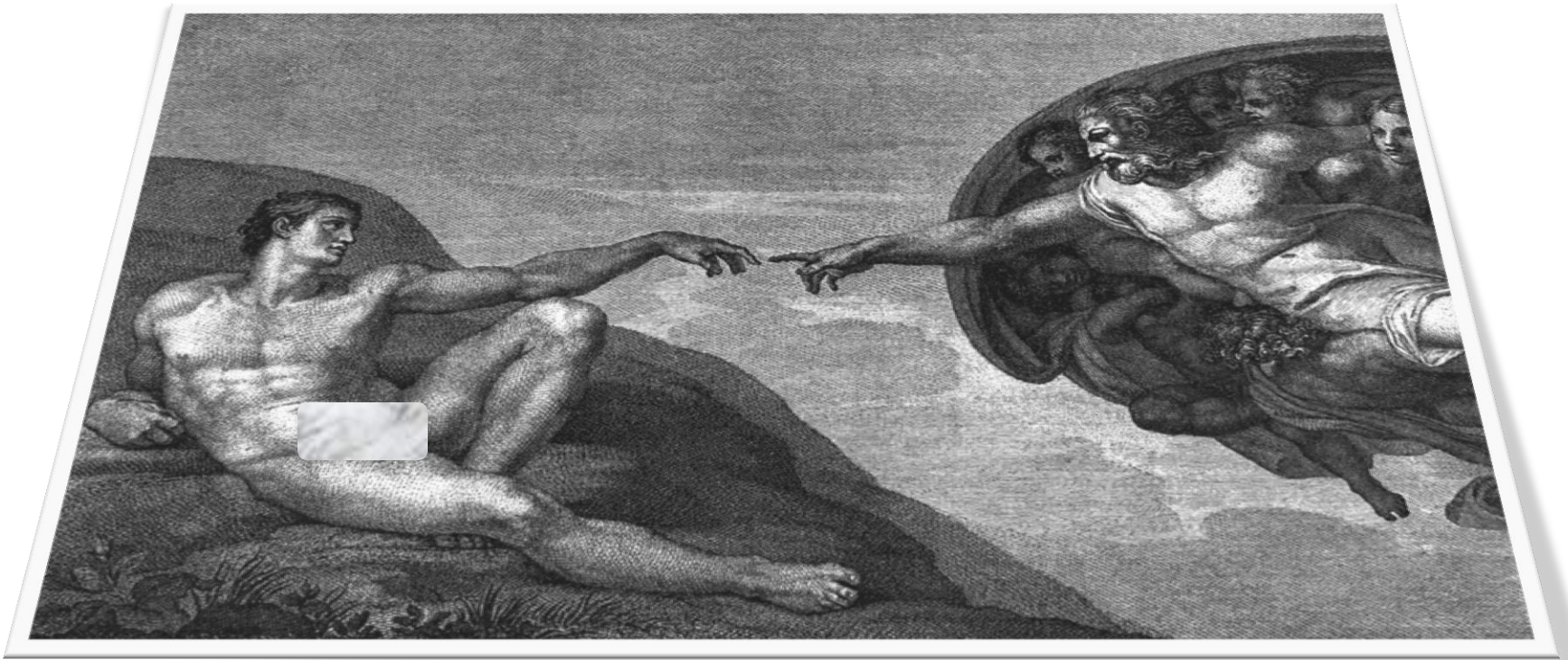


Fulfillment

Kingdom

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The First Economy



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Edenic Covenant (Gen 1:28-30; 2:15-17; Hos 6:7)

Parties to the Covenant

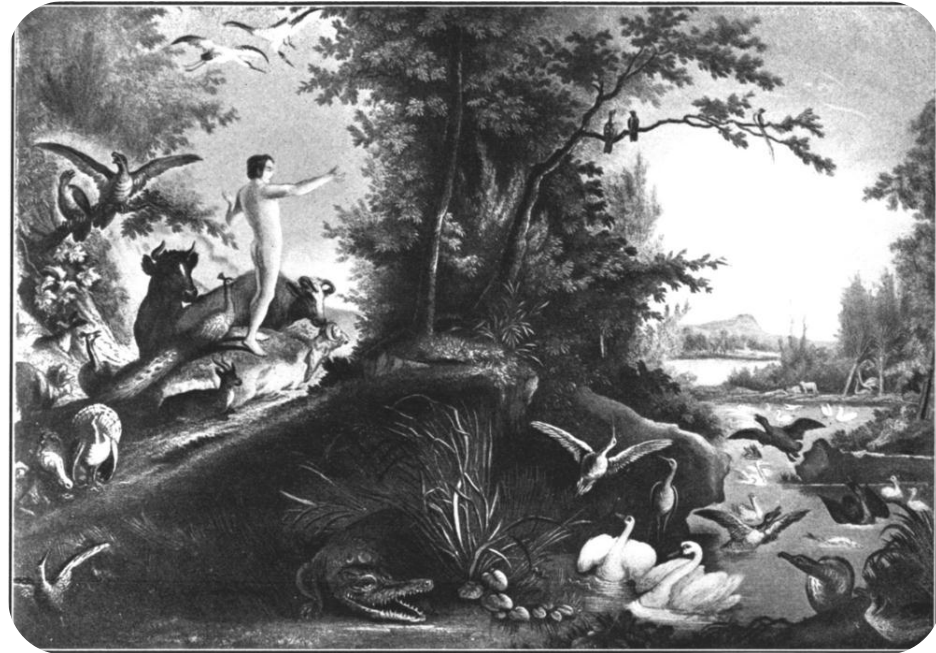
- God and Adam

Conditions of the Covenant

- Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth
- Subdue the Earth
- Rule over the animal kingdom
- Plants are for food (vegetarian)
- Defined roles
- Guard the garden
- Not eat from one tree
- Penalty for violating the commands is death

Token of the Covenant

- Tree of Life



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Review of past lessons

Dispensation of Innocence

Man's Responsibilities

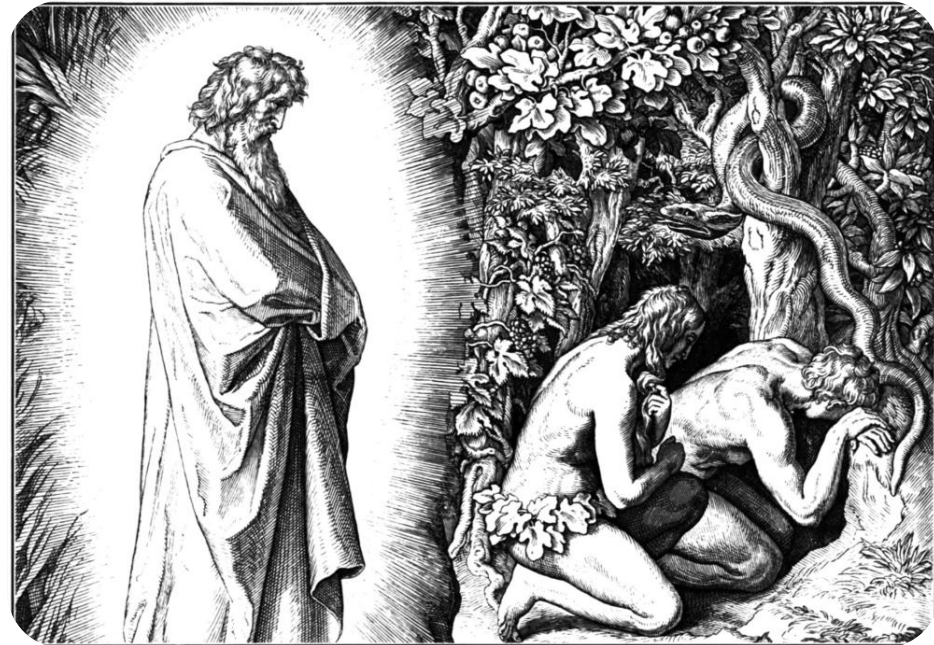
- Man's responsibilities in the garden were to fulfill the Edenic Covenant, essentially to multiply and fill the Earth and subdue it. Mankind was forbidden to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Man's Failures

- Man's failure was to eat of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. It is important to note that while the woman was deceived, the man made a conscious decision to disobey God.

The Resulting Judgment

- Pain in childbirth, Authority struggle, Earth antagonistic to man, Man irresponsible to animals, Plants of the field for food, Expelled from Eden, Spiritual and physical death



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Approaching God in the Dispensation of Innocence

God walked with man

- Genesis 2:15 - Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.
- Genesis 3:8 - They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day,

God spoke to man

- Genesis 2:16 - The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely;

God had fellowship with man

- Genesis 2:19 - Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name.



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The Second Economy



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Review of past lessons

Adamic Covenant (Gen 3:14 – 3:21)

Parties to the Covenant

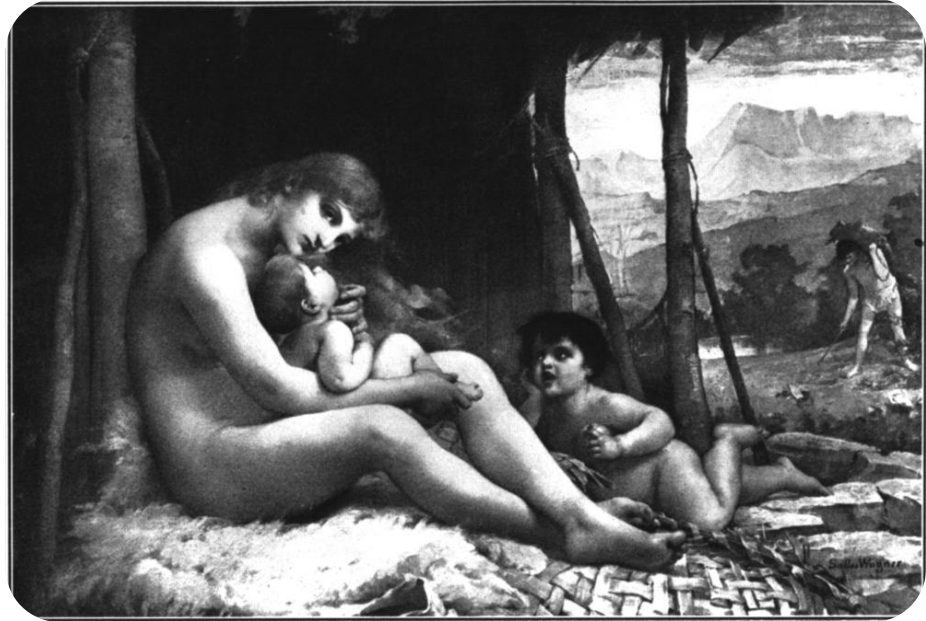
- God and Adam as the representative for mankind

Conditions of the Covenant

- Transformation of the animal kingdom
- Protevangelium (first gospel) and promise of Satan's defeat
- Woman cursed in area of assigned duties
- Man cursed in area of assigned duties
- Physical death (return to ground)
- Man remains a vegetarian

Token of the Covenant

- Spiritual death



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Dispensation of Conscience

Man's Responsibilities

- Man's responsibilities, having been ejected from the garden, was to fulfill the Adamic Covenant, essentially to multiply and fill the Earth. Mankind was to respond to God through the prompting of his conscience and as evidence of his faith in the promised seed, to bring an acceptable blood sacrifice as God had instructed them to do.

Man's Failures

- Mankind, having been given the ability, through their conscience, to desire a relationship with God and the provision, through blood sacrifices, to approach God, failed to do so and instead followed after their own evil lusts. The wickedness and evil became so great and widespread, God decided to let mankind start anew.

The Resulting Judgment

- God, being true to His word, spared the only faithful humans and a small remnant of air breathing creatures and started over in order to fulfill his promise of redemption



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Approaching God in the Dispensation of Conscience

Approach God by Faith

- Hebrews 11:4 - By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.

Blood sacrifice as example of faith

- The test then becomes “with a conscience, guided by that conscience, will man choose to do good and approach God by means of sacrifice as the example of the sacrifice that God indicated”.
- Leviticus 17:11 - ‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.’



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Review of past lessons

At The End Of The Second Economy

Promise of Redemption Maintained - Genesis 6:8-9, 18; 7:1

- But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD. These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God.
- “But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.
- Then the LORD said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, for you alone I have seen to be righteous before Me in this time.

Angelic Conflict - 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6

- For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;
- And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

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The Third Economy



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Noahic Covenant (Genesis 8:20 – 9:17)

Parties to the Covenant

- God and Noah as the representative for mankind

Conditions of the Covenant

- Be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth
- Man to be feared by animals
- Mankind allowed to eat meat
- Mankind not to eat or drink blood
- Institution of capital punishment
- Never again a universal flood

Token of the Covenant

- Rainbow



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Review of past lessons

Dispensation of Human Government

Man's Responsibilities

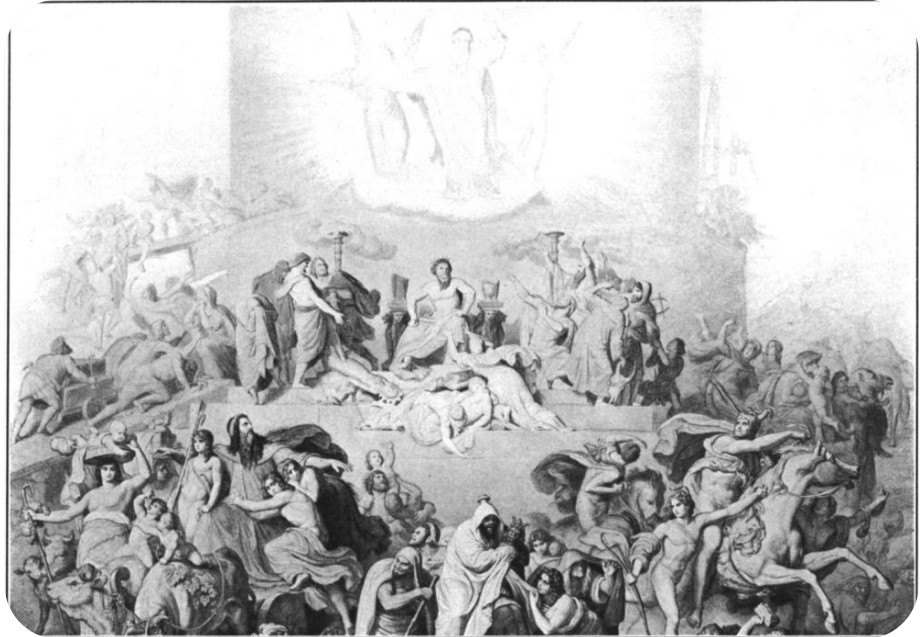
- Man's responsibilities were to fulfill the Noachic covenant. Mankind was to be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth. Mankind was to govern itself with the full authority of capital punishment.

Man's Failures

- Failure to govern successfully appeared on the scene almost immediately, for Noah became drunk and incapable of ruling. The people, instead of obeying God's command to scatter and fill the earth, conceived the idea of staying together and building the tower of Babel to help achieve their aim. Fellowship with man replaced fellowship with God.

The Resulting Judgment

- As a result, God sent the judgment of the tower of Babel and the confusion of languages. He also graciously intervened in that He did not utterly destroy the nations but chose to deal graciously with Abraham and his descendants.



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Review of past lessons

Small Remnant of Righteous – The Example of Job’s Theology

God’s sovereignty – Job 1:21

- He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked I shall return there. **The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away.** Blessed be the name of the LORD.”

God’s justice – Job 13:15–16

- “Though He slay me, **I will hope in Him.** Nevertheless I will argue my ways before Him. **“This also will be my salvation,** For a godless man may not come before His presence.

God’s promise of salvation – Job 19:25

- “As for me, I know that **my Redeemer lives,** And at the last **He will take His stand on the earth.**



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Review of past lessons

At The End Of The Third Economy

Promise of Redemption Maintained - Genesis 12:1-3

- Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father’s house, To the land which I will show you; And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

Angelic Conflict - Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7

- God allows Satan to persecute the faithful that He knows are mature enough to endure the trials. This strengthens the faithful and allows God to show His grace, mercy, and love. God also demonstrates that His righteousness and justice are compatible with His love.

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The Fourth Economy



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 12:1-3)

Parties to the Covenant

- God and Abram as the father of the Jewish race

Conditions of the Covenant

- Fourteen provisions including the token of circumcision

Token of the Covenant

- Circumcision



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Promises made to Abraham

Father of great nation (Israel)

Possess the Promised Land

Father of other nations

Many descendants became kings

Receive personal blessings

Be a blessing to others

Name to become great

Promises made to Israel

Become a great nation

Become innumerable

Possess the Promised Land

Victory over enemies

Promises to Gentiles

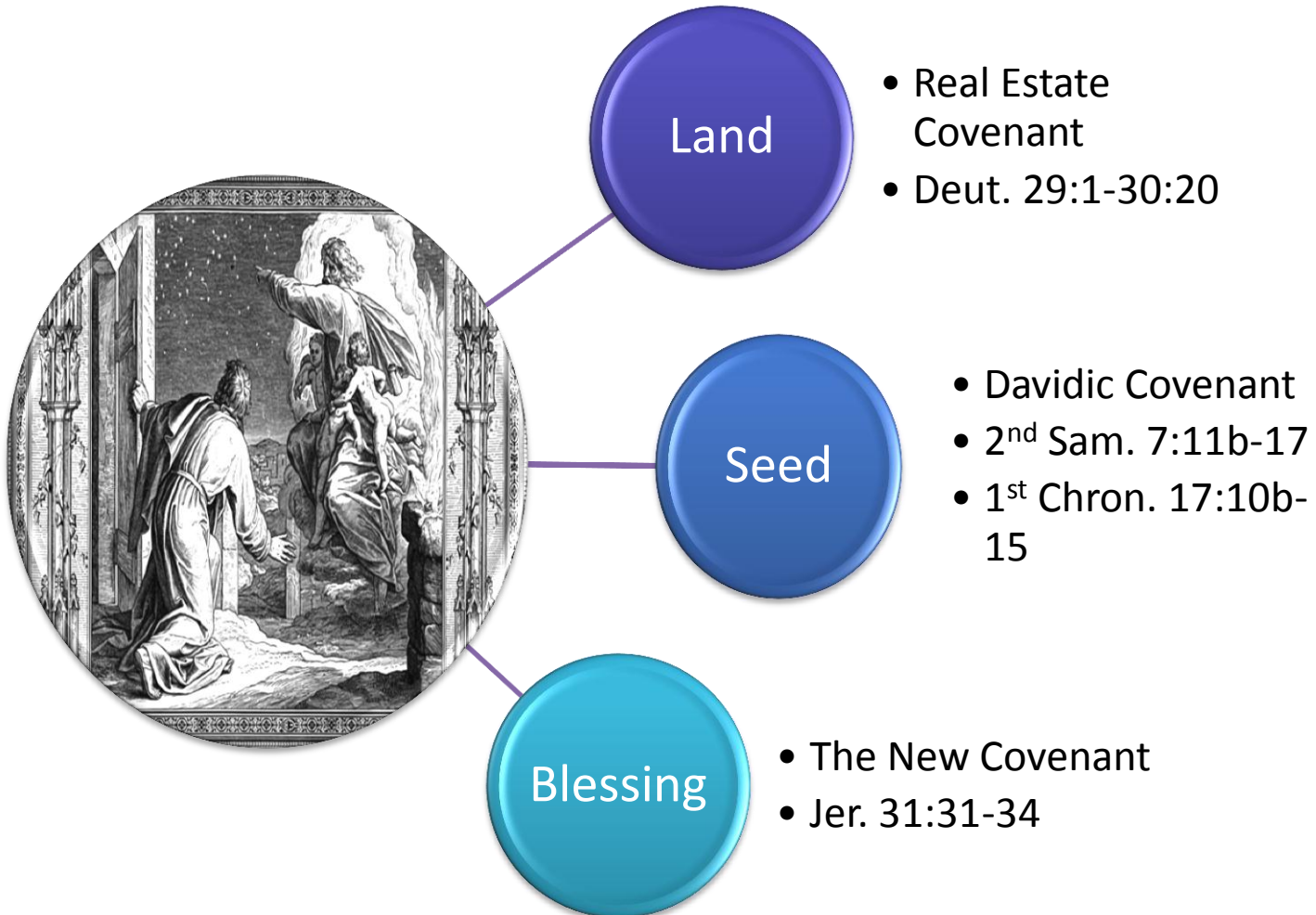
Blessings for blessing Israel

Cursing's for cursing Israel

Spiritual blessings through the seed of Abraham – The Messiah

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Dispensation of Promise

Man's Responsibilities

- The responsibility of the patriarchs was simply to believe and serve God, and God gave them every material and spiritual provision to encourage them to do this. The Promised Land was theirs, and blessing was theirs as long as they remained in the land. The people of the promise; Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the children of Jacob (Israel) were to stay separate from the nations around them.

Man's Failures

- Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and his twelve sons continued to intermingle with the Canaanites and surrounding nations.

The Resulting Judgment

- God sent the family down to Egypt where the surrounding Egyptians would not associate with them. Soon after they would be enslaved.



Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Fourth Economy

Life in Captivity

How to approach God – Israel

Acts 7:2-19

Abraham

great great great great great great great grandson of Shem.

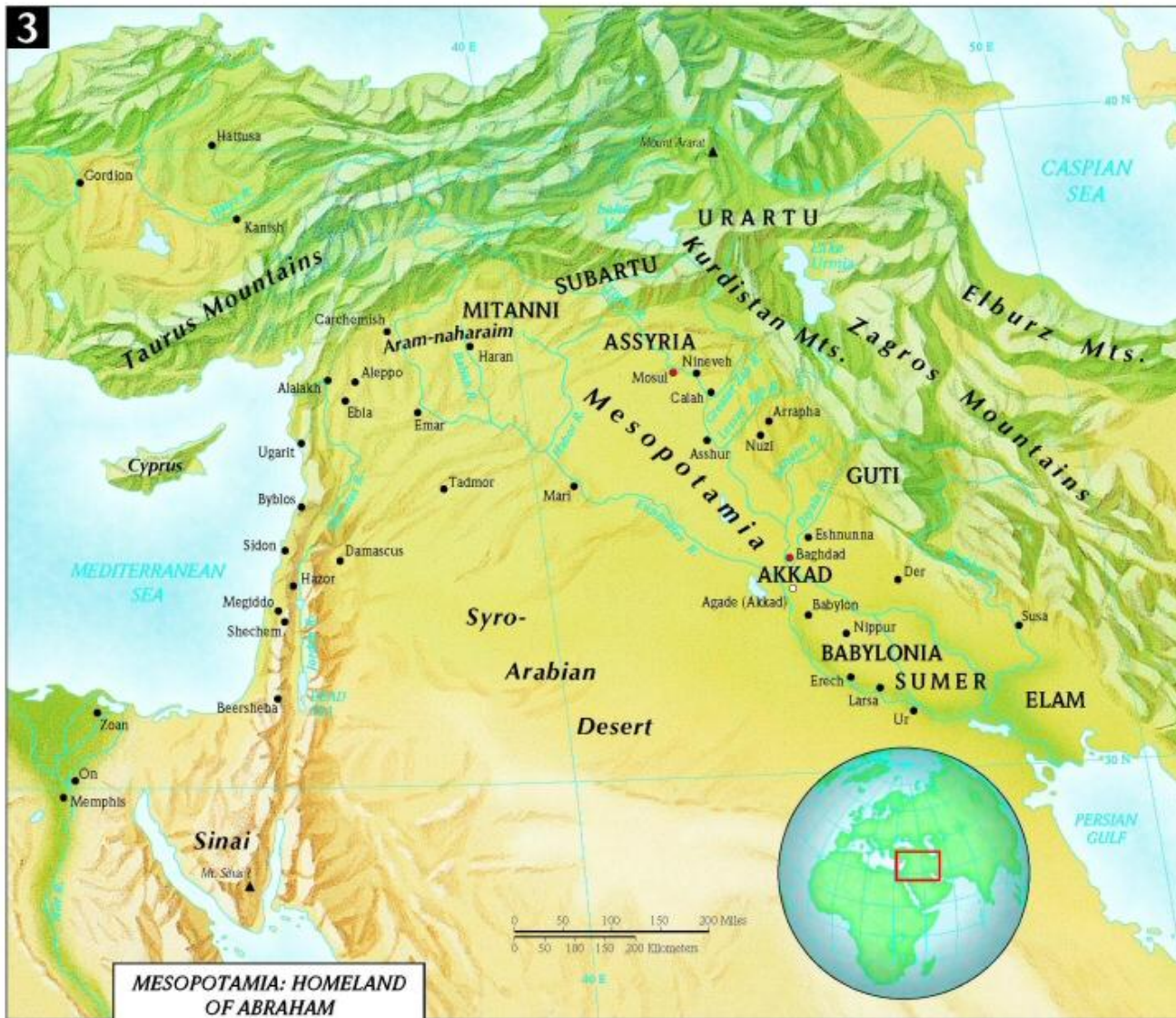
Born around 1996 BC in Ur of the Chaldeans, Two years after death of Noah.

Married to Sarah and concubines Hagar and Keturah.

Abraham believed God and was reckoned to him as righteousness. (Gen 15:6)

Abraham had eight sons.

Abraham lived to 175 years old.



Brisco, T. V. (1998). Holman Bible atlas. Holman Reference (5). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.



The excavations at Ur showing the palace foundations in the foreground with the ziggurat in the distance.

Brand, C., Draper, C., England, A., Bond, S., Clendenen, E. R., Butler, T. C., & Latta, B. (2003). *Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (1642). Nashville, TN: Holman Bible Publishers.



The excavations at Ur showing the palace foundations in the foreground with the ziggurat in the distance.

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Haran Plain



Haran, Beehive Houses

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The Fourth Economy

Life in Captivity

How to approach God – Israel

“Ur was consecrated to the worship of Sin, the Babylonian moon-god. It shared this honour, however, with another city, and this city was Haran, or Harran. Harran was in Mesopotamia, and took its name from the highroad which led through it from the east to the west. The name is Babylonian, and bears witness to its having been founded by a Babylonian king. The same witness is still more decisively borne by the worship paid in it to the Babylonian moon-god and by its ancient temple of Sin. Indeed, the temple of the moon-god at Harran was perhaps even more famous in the Assyrian and Babylonian world than the temple of the moon-god at Ur.

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The Fourth Economy

Life in Captivity

How to approach God – Israel

“Between Ur and Harran there must, consequently, have been a close connection in early times, the record of which has not yet been recovered. It may be that Harran owed its foundation to a king of Ur; at any rate the two cities were bound together by the worship of the same deity, the closest and most enduring bond of union that existed in the ancient world. That Terah should have migrated from Ur to Harran, therefore, ceases to be extraordinary. If he left Ur at all, it was the most natural place to which to go. It was like passing from one court of a temple into another.

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The Fourth Economy

Life in Captivity

How to approach God – Israel

God first spoke to Abram – Gen 12:1

Abram obeyed God and left Haran at the age of 75 – Gen 12:4

Abram built an alter to God – Gen 12:7

Abram called upon the name of the Lord – Gen 13:4

Abram gave a tenth of possessions to Melchizedek the priest – Gen 14:20

Abram believed what God had promised and was reckoned righteous – Gen 15:6

Abram name changed to Abraham – Gen 17:5

Abraham obeyed God concerning circumcision – Gen 17:24

Abraham received the Incarnate Christ – Gen 18:8

Abraham obeyed God concerning offering Isaac – Gen 22:10

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Fourth Economy

Life in Captivity

How to approach God – Israel

God selected the name Isaac and declared the covenant thru him – Gen 17:19

Isaac prayed on behalf of Rebekah and she conceived – Gen 25:21

Jacob's dream and promise of God – Gen 28:13-15

God tells Jacob to return to Canaan – Gen 31:3

Jacob offers a sacrifice – Gen 31:54

Jacob reminds God of the promise – Gen 32:9-12

God wrestled with Jacob – Gen 32:24

God changes Jacob's name to Israel – Gen 32:28

God told Jacob to move to Bethel – Gen 35:1

God reminds Jacob of the covenant – Gen 35:10-12

God instructs Israel to move to Egypt – Gen 46:1-7

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Fourth Economy

Life in Captivity

How to approach God – Israel

Exodus 1:8-14

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Behold, the people of the sons of Israel are more and mightier than we. “Come, let us deal wisely with them, or else they will multiply and in the event of war, they will also join themselves to those who hate us, and fight against us and depart from the land.” So they appointed taskmasters over them to afflict them with hard labor. And they built for Pharaoh storage cities, Pithom and Raamses. But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread out, so that they were in dread of the sons of Israel. The Egyptians compelled the sons of Israel to labor rigorously; and they made their lives bitter with hard labor in mortar and bricks and at all kinds of labor in the field, all their labors which they rigorously imposed on them.



EGYPT: LAND OF BONDAGE

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- City (modern name)
- ≡ Cataract

Brisco, T. V. (1998). Holman Bible atlas. Holman Reference (6–7). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

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Egypt: Land of the gods

Cradle of religions

Start: 3:30

End: 12:33

