

JOSEPH

#1, If this is about Joseph, why study Abraham? – Genesis

This study will give two answers the question that the title poses. First: the sons of promise, (Rom 9:9-13) Isaac and Jacob, both received their wives (one being Joseph's mother) from Abram and Sarai's family in Haran. Second: in Gen 15:12-15, God revealed to Abram a circumstance, concerning the future of his seed - hundreds of years before it happened! Joseph lived against the backdrop this circumstance. We'll start our study back at Ur of the Chaldeans.



Genesis 11:27 Now these are the records of the generations of Terah. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran; and Haran became the father of Lot. 28 Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his birth, in Ur of the Chaldeans. 29 Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai; and the name of Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, the father of Milcah and Iscah. 30 Sarai was barren; she had no child. 31 Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans in order to enter the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran, and settled there.

[1.] Gen 11:27-31, Ur of the Chaldeans, The account of Abram starts with Terah, his father. When Terah left Ur, whom did he take along and where did they settle?

[2.] The map (pg 2), shows a possible route that Terah and his family traveled, which was along the "fertile crescent". Using the map draw in what you think the fertile crescent would look like.

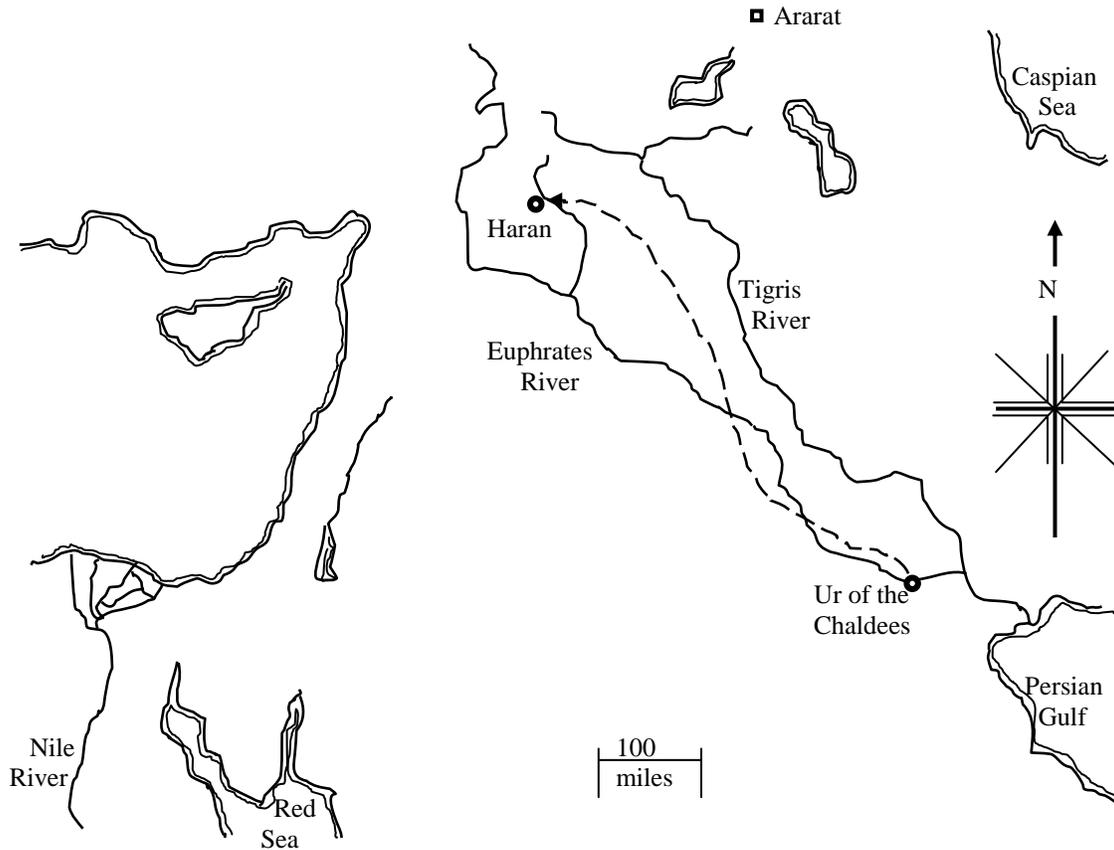
The term "Fertile Crescent" was popularized by University of Chicago archaeologist James Henry Breasted,

This fertile crescent is approximately a semicircle, with the open side toward the south, having the west end at the southeast corner of the Mediterranean, the center directly north of Arabia, and the east end at the north end of the Persian Gulf (see map, p. 100). It lies like an army facing south, with one wing stretching along the eastern shore of the Mediterranean and the other reaching out to the Persian Gulf, while the center has its back against the northern mountains. The end of the western wing is Palestine; Assyria makes up a large part of the center; while the end of the eastern wing is Babylonia.

Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia

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Haran, An ancient and still-existing, North Mesopotamian commercial city on the Belikh River, sixty miles from the entrance into the Euphrates. It is located in Padan-aram (“field of Aram”).

Unger’s Bible Dictionary

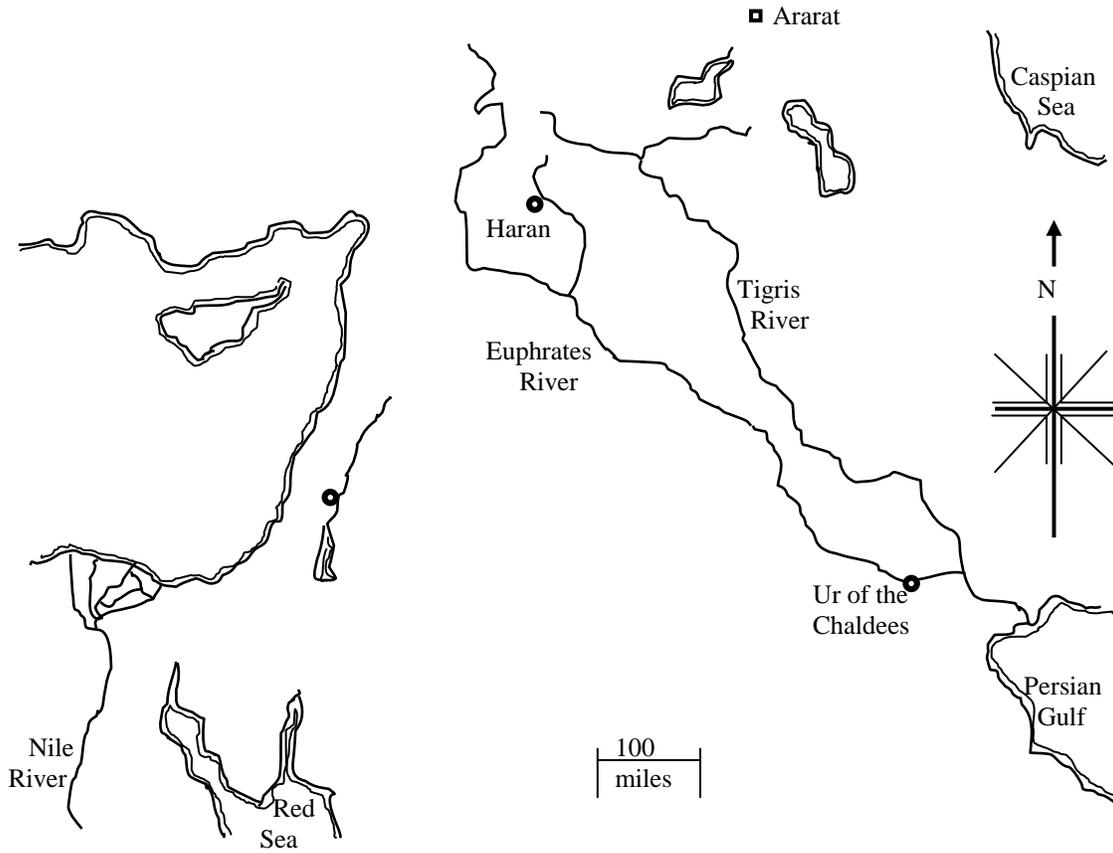
at Haran

Gen 12:1, 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;

[3.] Gen 12:1, Go forth from your country, And
from your relatives and from your father’s
house, **Where was this?**

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Gen 13:18 Then Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and there he built an altar to the Lord.

[4.] Gen 13:18, On map (above) draw in Abram's journey from Haran to the land God was to show him.



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Genesis 15:1, After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, " Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." 2 Abram said, "O Lord God, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 And Abram said, " Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir." 4 Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir." 5 And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, " So shall your descendants be." 6 Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

[5.] Gen 15:6, righteousness Look up the word and, in your own words, write down the definition.

[6.] Gen 15:6 again, Select who reckoned Abram as righteous.

- a) the pope
- b) the evening news
- c) the Lord
- d) Abram's mother

[7.] Gen 15:6 again, What did Abram have to do to be declared righteous?

[8.] II Cor 5:21, Write down how this verse describes the righteousness of the twice-born.

[9.] As a twice-born Christian, living in the time and place you find yourself, why or why isn't it easy to always "believe God".

[10.] Gen 21:3, What did Abraham and Sarah name the son that God "promised" them?

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Gen 24:2, Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he owned, " Please place your hand under my thigh, 3 and I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, 4 but you will go to my country and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac."

Gen 27:46, Rebekah said to Isaac, "I am tired of living because of the daughters of Heth; if Jacob takes a wife from the daughters of Heth, like these, from the daughters of the land, what good will my life be to me?"

Gen 28:1, So Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and charged him, and said to him, " You shall not take a wife from the daughters of Canaan. 2 "Arise, go to Paddan-aram, to the house of Bethuel your mother's father; and from there take to yourself a wife from the daughters of Laban your mother's brother.

[11.] Gen 24:2-4, to my country and to my relatives, **Where did Abraham send his servant to find a wife for Isaac?**

[12.], Gen 24:51, What was the name of the girl chosen to be Isaac's wife?

[13.], Gen 27:46-28:2, Where did Isaac send Jacob to find a wife?

OK then, the question was, "if this is about Joseph, why study Abraham?" The first part of the answer was, Isaac and Jacob, both received their wives (one being Joseph's mother) from Abram and Sarai's family in Haran. We completed some study of scripture to verify this fact.

Next, we will look at the prediction that God gave to Abram.

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Gen 15:13 God said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants (**seed**) will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years. 14 "But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with many possessions. 15 "As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age.

[14.] Gen 15:13-14, God said to Abram, **Write down the predictions (I got four) that God told Abram:**

[15.] Gen 15:13-14, enslaved and oppressed, How soon, after God's statement to Abram, did this happen?

[16.] Gen 15:15, As for you, If Abram wasn't enslaved, what happened to him?

[17.] xtra credit, a land that is not theirs, What was this land?

As we enter the study of Joseph, we will see God's prediction unfold with Joseph being a prominent person in God's plan.