



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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Way Point 9

Half Truths and Whole Lies

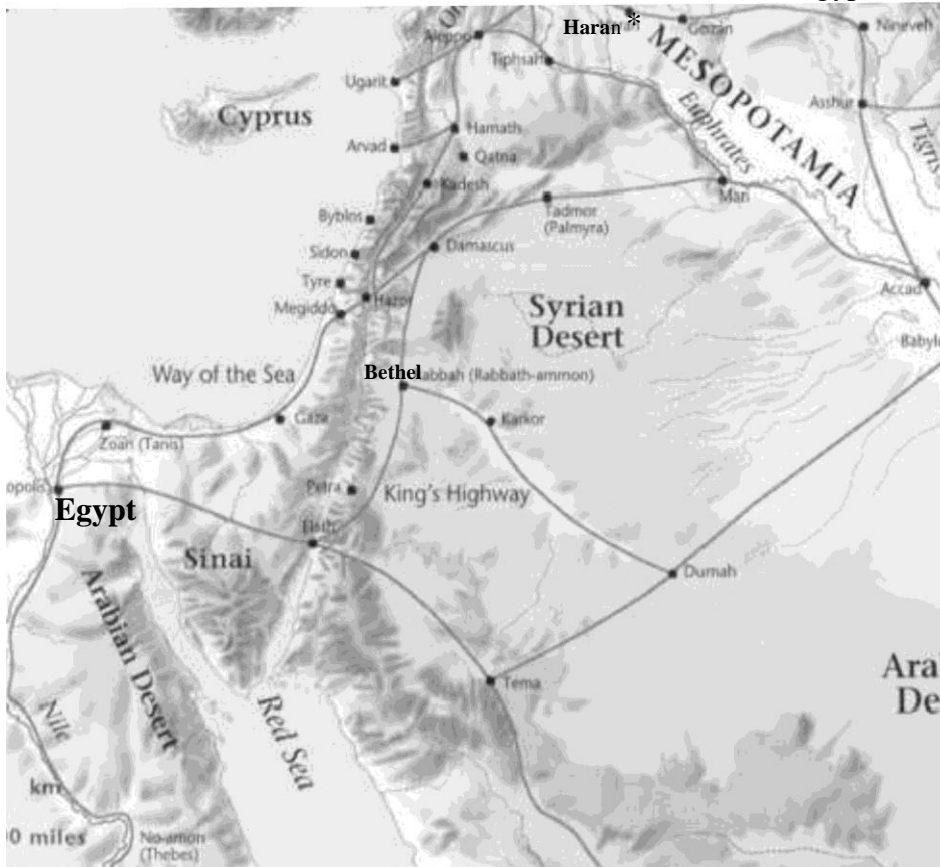
Story of Abraham Lying About Sarah

Travel Log

Personal Notes

When we left our last Way Point Abraham (Abram) was headed south in the land of Canaan. God had promised that his descendants would possess the land. *Genesis 12:7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.*

South of the land of Israel lies the continent of Africa and Egypt.



I- Canaan Behind, Egypt Ahead: *Gen 12:10*

Abraham journeyed into Egypt with his wife Sarah and Nephew Lot along with their herds. Before we are to critical on him let's look at the reason he journeyed on south.

First you will recall that it said in *Genesis 12:6 "And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land."*

Lined area for personal notes.



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These Canaanites were the nations that the Jewish people hundred of years later were instructed to destroy. This destruction was not just a random act of violence however, it was an act of judgment upon their sin by God. Notice what is said in **Genesis 15:16** *“But in the fourth generation they (the descendants of Abraham) shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.”*

The Amorites were descendants of one of the sons of Canaan. The *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* says:

“The name Amorite is used in the Old Testament to denote (1) The inhabitants of Palestine generally, (2) The population of the hills as opposed to the plain, and (3) a specific people under a king of their own.”

So, the time was not yet right for Abraham’s descendants to live permanently in the land. And, by the way, at this time Abraham had no descendants. He at this time could not have been a large enough group to occupy the land. There were only seventy descendants two generations later.

The other obvious reason for Abraham going on toward the south, at this time, is the famine. Notice **Genesis 12:10** *“And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land.”*

Many times great population shifts took place because of the availability of food. You will recall that during the time of Joseph the descendants of Jacob, the twelve sons who became the tribes, were moved to Egypt because of famine. We will get to that Way Point on down the trail.

II- Half Truths and Whole Lives: Gen 12:11-20

We pick up our story in the precious text of the Bible as they come near to Egypt. Please notice the half-truths that were whole lies.

Genesis 12:11-12 *And it came to pass, when he was come near to enter into Egypt, that he said unto Sarai his wife, Behold now, I know that thou art a fair woman to look upon: 12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Egyptians shall see thee, that they shall say, This is his wife: and they will kill me, but they will save thee alive.*

Abraham, the great man of God, the man whom God would ultimately bless beyond his wildest dream or expectations shows his humanity here. He is concerned for his safety as they go into Egypt. We do not any worry express in the first 1000 plus miles of his journey thus far, even as he entered the land of the Canaanites. But



Coordinates:

Genesis 12:10-13:4; 20:1-18

Sights to See:

- 1- A partial truth is most of the time a whole lie.
- 2- Abraham told only part of the information concerning his relationship with Sarah in order to deceive.
- 3- Fear at times makes for bad judgment.
- 4- The providential protection of Abraham is evident even in his failures. Is it not even in ours.
- 5- Many times we are guilty of thinking if we can get by with it one time we can again.
- 6- Perhaps the saddest part of this story that has not been mentioned to this point is that Isaac, Abraham’s son, followed in his fathers footsteps. Notice **Genesis 26:1** *And there was a famine in the land, beside the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went unto Abimelech king of the Philistines unto Gerar.*

Genesis 26:7 *And the men of the place asked him of his wife; and he said, She is my sister: for he feared to say, She is my wife; lest, said he, the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah; because she was fair to look upon.*

