



FIRE AND GO

Lesson 1: The Biblical Basis for Missions

Tracing God's Heart for the Nations in the Old Testament



The Myth

~~Missions began in Matthew 28 with the New Testament.~~

The Reality

God's missionary purpose runs through every book of the Bible.

The Great Commission began in the heart of God before the foundation of the world.

God is **NOT** a Tribal Deity.

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Gen 1:1)

The Foundation of Missions: Every person matters to God because every person bears the Imago Dei (Image of God).



Scattered for a Purpose

God arranged the nations so that they would seek Him.



One Blood

(Created from one origin)

Appointed Boundaries

(Determined times & dwellings)

Seeking the Lord

(Positioned to find God)

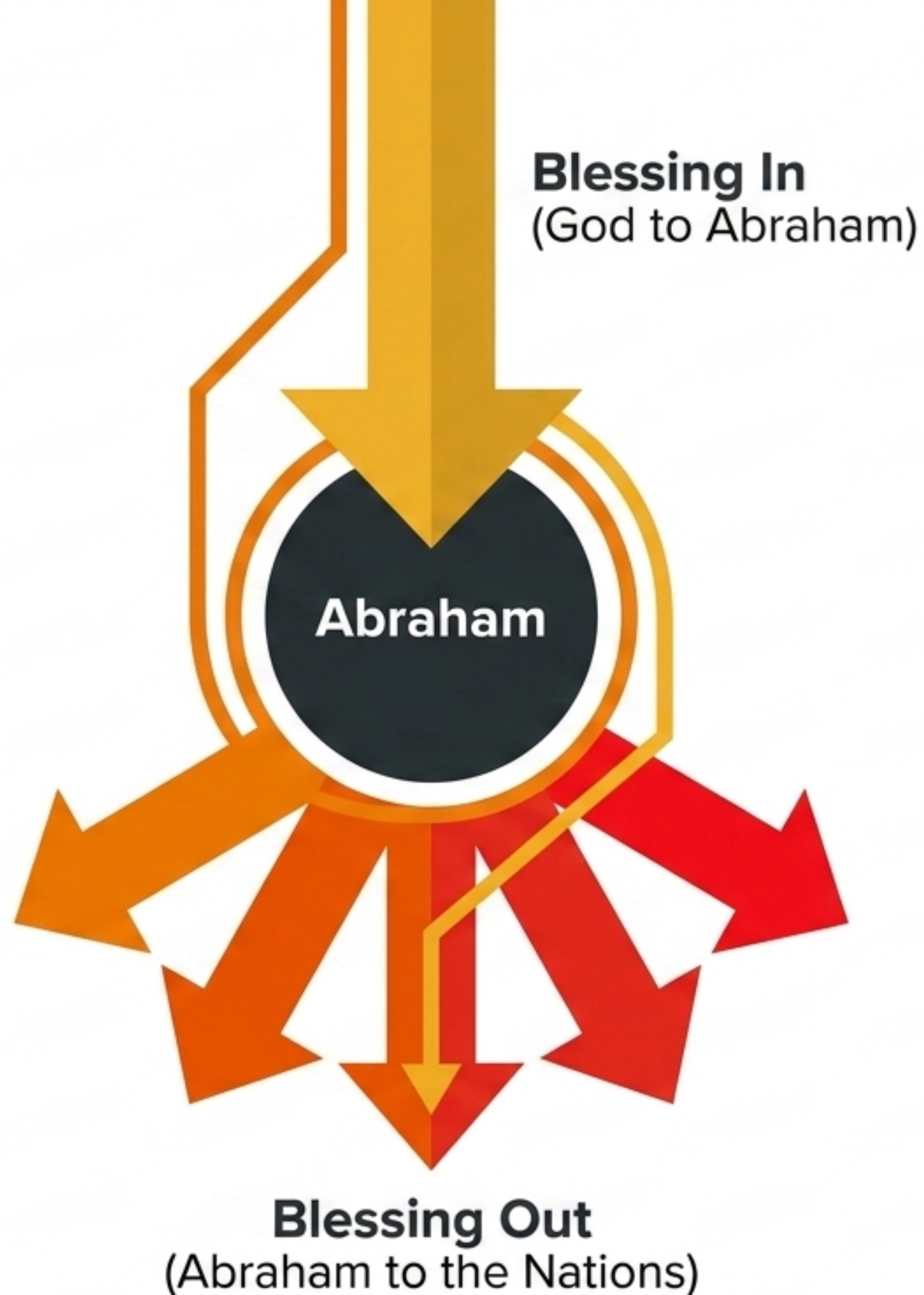
Acts 17:26-27

“...and in you **ALL** the families of the earth shall be blessed.

— Genesis 12:3

A Global Covenant

- The gospel was preached to Abraham beforehand (Galatians 3:8).
- God's blessing is never a passing thought—it is a permanent purpose meant to flow outward.



A Channel, Not a Dead End

"You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests..." (Exodus 19:6)



A priest stands between God and the people.
Israel was called to draw the world to the living God.

The OT Missionary Heart



Psalms: “Declare His glory among the nations” (Ps 96:3). God’s blessing aims for global salvation (Ps 67).



Jonah: God’s deep, relentless compassion for pagan enemies (Nineveh).



Isaiah: “I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles” (Isa 49:6).

The Same Spirit, The Same Fire

The Spirit who moved in Genesis is the Spirit who drives us to the nations today.

The missionary fire in African Pentecostal churches is the direct continuation of God's ancient plan.

***When you hunger for the lost,
you feel the heartbeat of God.***

Reflection Questions

1 How does knowing God as the “Creator of all peoples” change how you view missions?

2 In what ways was Abraham’s calling similar to a modern missionary calling?

3 How did Israel fail in its calling, and what can African churches learn from it?

4 How does Psalm 67 connect your church’s blessings with global responsibility?



Prayer Focus

- Pray for a revelation of God's heart for the nations.
- Ask the Holy Spirit: *Which specific nation or people group are You placing on my heart?*
- Declare Psalm 67 over your church and ministry.

Action Step: The Jonah Study

- Read through the Book of Jonah this week.
- Write down **three things** God's attitude toward Nineveh teaches you about His heart for unreached peoples.
- Bring your reflections to share with your group.





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**A Pentecostal-Charismatic Missions
Course for African Pastors**