

Lesson Four – God’s Salvation Plan & Moses

- **Last week we learned about God’s creation and the fall of man through original sin.**
 - **REVIEW**
 - *The Sin Adam committed is called?* **Original Sin**
 - *The Demons are _____ Angels.* **Fallen**
 - *God gave Adam and Eve the gift of _____.* **Free Will**
 - *God created man with a _____ and a _____.* **Body and a Soul**
 - *Man is created in image and likeness of _____.* **God**
- **Today we’ll continue to learn about God’s salvation plan by looking at the people God chose to guide His chosen people.**

1. Genesis to Abraham

- God’s salvation plan started with the fall of Adam & Eve.
- Adam & Eve → Cain & Able → Cain Killed Able → Cain wandered off in the desert had a son → Enoch
- After Cain → Adam & Eve → Seth → Enosh → → this line lead to **Noah**
- God saw that man was wicked and every thought of his man evil. (Gen 6:5)
- Noah was righteous in God’s eyes → God established a covenant with Noah and his descendants.
- Noah had three sons → Shem, Ham, and Japeth
- From these three son the earth was populated
- Eventually **Abram** was born →
- God chose Abram to start a great nation and God promised to bless this nation

2. God Calls Abraham/The Sacrifice of Isaac

- God called Abraham and made a covenant with him promising to make Abram the father of many descendants who would become a great nation in the Promised Land.
- Abram agreed to the covenant and God changed his name to Abraham.
- When God changes someone's name this signifies that person is to play an important role in God's Salvation plan.: Jacob → Israel Saul → Paul Simon → Kephas (Peter) Sarai → Sarah
- Abraham is called by the church: **Our Father in Faith → First Patriarch**
- Abraham had a son named Isaac who was loved dearly by Abraham and Sarah
 - God tested Abraham's faith by asking him to sacrifice his only son!
 - Knowing that man must Love God above everything else he obeyed God. What FAITH!
 - Abraham took Isaac to the top of a mountain to offer his son as a burnt offering to God
 - Isaac thought they were going to sacrifice a lamb
 - The angel of God stopped Abraham just as he was about to sacrifice Isaac and revealed that this was a test of God.
- **This is a prefigurement of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross.**
 - Isaac carried wood on his back to the top of a mountain
 - Some historians believe that the mountain was the same mountain Jesus was sacrificed on!
 - God did eventually provide the Lamb – The Lamb of God → JESUS!
 - John the Baptist called Jesus the Lamb of God (John 1:29)
- After Abraham's death **Isaac** became the **Second Patriarch** of God.

3. Covenant Continues with Jacob

- Isaac married Rebekah and they had two sons: Jacob and Esau
- God chose Jacob as the one who would continue the covenant and renamed him to → **Israel!**
- Jacob became the **third Patriarch!**
- God's people used his name as the name of their community.
- Jacob had 12 sons who became the 12 tribes of Israel.
 - Some hypothesize that Jesus chose his apostle from each tribe → The Twelve Apostles!

4. Story of Joseph

- Jacob had many sons. Joseph was especially dear to him.
- Jacobs other sons became very envious of this and grew angry with Joseph.
- One day they sold Joseph to slave traders and convinced Jacob that he had been killed by wild beasts.
 - Joseph reminds us of Jesus who was sold for 30 pieces of silver.
- Joseph was bought by an Egyptian ruling family and became a trusted servant of the Pharaoh.
- He became 2nd in command of all of Egypt while the chosen land of Israel was experiencing a famine.
- The Sons of Jacob travelled to Egypt to ask for food. To their surprise they found Joseph in command!
 - Instead of having them killed or thrown in Prison Joseph embraced them and gave them all the food they needed. Joseph's family and the Israelites moved to Egypt and lived in peace with the Egyptians for 400 years.
- Joseph prefigures Jesus. Like Jesus Joseph forgave those who wronged him.

Lesson Five - Moses

1. Moses

- Eventually a certain Pharaoh who did not know Joseph made the Jews slaves of Egypt.
- The Jews were forced to do hard manual labor and were used as “beasts of burden”.
- Gods people began to think God had abandoned them
- This is when God sent a very special person to rescue them from Egypt! → Moses
- Moses was the first of God’s prophets.
- Moses was born in Israel to a poor woman.
- At the time the Pharaoh demanded that the firstborn of the Jews be killed because the Jews were becoming a very powerful group.
- Moses’ mother hid him in a basket by the Nile River where he was found by the Pharaoh’s daughter who adopted Moses and raised him as one of the family.
- Moses knew he was a Jew and would visit the slaves who were working.
- During one visit he saw an Egyptian hit a Jew and he killed the Egyptian. → This caused him to be in great trouble.
- Moses fled Egypt and became a herdsman, married, and raised a family.

2. God Calls Moses

- God eventually appeared to Moses in a burning bush and told Moses to deliver the Jews from slavery. God promised to be with him.
- God revealed His name to Moses → Yahweh which means I AM! → **Revelation!**

- The name **I AM** → tells us that God is eternal and is the source of all that exists.

3. Moses Returns to Egypt

- Moses returned to Egypt with his brother Aaron where he was accepted as a prophet by the Jews.
- Moses was sent with the message that the pharaoh let God's people go free!
 - This did not go over well with the pharaoh so he increased the Jews labor.
- God sent 10 plagues to punish the Pharaoh's stubbornness.
 1. Water turned into Blood
 2. Frogs overran the country side
 3. Gnats were thick like dust
 4. Flies
 5. Animals died
 6. Boils and sores afflicted men & animals
 7. Hailstorms
 8. Locusts destroyed their crops
 9. For three days darkness came upon Egypt.
- Even after all these plagues the Pharaoh did not listen to Moses.

4. The Tenth Plague– The Passover

- Before sending the 10th plague God had Moses instruct the Israelites to hold a special meal which would be a special sign that they were members of God's sacred people.
 - Every family was to kill a Lamb and eat it with bread and bitter herbs. They were to eat standing ready to leave.

- They were to sprinkle the lamb's blood on their wooden doorposts.
- This would be a signal that their home was to be spared of the 10th plague.
- The Angel of Death carried out the plague killing the firstborn of every house except those who marked their doorposts with the blood of a lamb!
- This is a prefigurement of the Mass where we offer the Father the Eucharistic Sacrifice of Jesus who is the "Lamb of God".

5. Exodus

- Because of the 10th plague the Jews were freed from Egypt by the Pharaoh.....
- However, he quickly changed his mind and sent his soldiers to bring them back.
- As the Jews approached the Red sea God intervened and parted the sea and provided a path for the Jews to escape.
- When the soldiers went after them the sea crashed down onto them.
- The Jews witnessed the great power of God, but they quickly forgot.....
- After they escaped they fled to the desert where water and food were scarce and began to complain to Moses.
- God heard their cries and sent them bread from heaven called "manna" and made water flow from a rock.
 - The Manna prefigures the Eucharist!

6. The Ten Commandments

- After three months of wandering in the desert the Israelites arrived at Mt. Sinai.
- God appeared to Moses and gave him the Ten Commandments and Moses proclaimed them to his people.
- God then called Moses back up the mountain where He gave **Moses the stone tablets which contained the 10 commandments.**

- 1. I am the Lord your God: You shall not have strange Gods before me.***
- 2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.***
- 3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.***
- 4. Honor your father and mother.***
- 5. You shall not kill.***
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.***
- 7. You shall not steal.***
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.***
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.***
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.***

[VIDEO – The 10 Commandments? \(3MC – DVD #2 – Sanctification – Part 42\)](#)

- While the Israelites were waiting for Moses they turned their backs on God and melted down their gold jewelry and formed an Idol or a false God.
- They then worshipped this image.
- When Moses found out he was very upset and he destroyed the Idol.

- The Israelites were sorry and promised to obey God.
- God renewed his covenant with His people once again.
- The Ark of the Covenant was built to hold the stone tablets (10 commandments)
- As part of the new covenant God commanded the priests of Israel offer animal sacrifices to Him in their worship.
- During these sacrifices the people would ask for God's forgiveness. These sacrifices were not perfect like the sacrifice of Jesus was.
- For forty years the Israelites wandered the desert until reaching the Promised Land. Moses died shortly after this.

7. Joshua and the Judges of Israel

- Joshua was Moses successor. He was a great warrior and led the Israelites into many battles recapturing their lands lost during their time as slaves in Egypt.
- After Joshua's death there was a new kind of leadership: The Judges.
- The Judges were military heroes who won great victories for the Israelites recapturing their lost land.
- Once their land was recaptured the period of the Judges ended.

8. The Rule of the Kings

- With their land reclaimed the Israelites needed a King to rule over them and guide them in God's ways.
- God chose a prophet named Samuel to anoint certain men as King's of God's people.
- Saul was the first king...
- David became the second and greatest King the Israelites ever had.
 - He wrote the Book of Psalms

- God promised David that one day one of his descendants would reign as king forever! → JESUS!
- Solomon, David's son became the next King. He wrote part of the wisdoms books and had a beautiful temple built in Jerusalem!
- After Solomon' death the Israelites experienced many difficulties and began to fight between each other finally dividing up into two areas. The northern area was known as Israel while the southern area was known as Judah.
- Only Judah was to remain faithful and only it was to receive the promise God made to David! → Jesus!

Class Questions:

1. What does the term "prefiguration" mean?
2. Who is our "father in faith"?
3. The sacrifice of Isaac by Abraham was a prefiguration of whose sacrifice?
4. Who was Moses? → First of God's prophets
5. What are the Ten Commandments?
6. What was the Passover?
7. How did the Kings differ from the Prophets?

Next Week:

- 1) We will have a test over what we have learned so far.
 - If you've been paying attention in class it should be easy!
 - You are free to take your books home to study, but PLEASE.....BRING THEM BACK!
- 2) Then.....we will learn about God's Prophets.