OT-OV

Lesson 47

1. Last week I reviewed again the Four Unconditional Covenants; we then resumed our study of The Doctrine of Ishmael.

2. I want to review some of that learned last week and then pick up with new material on page two.

Doctrine of Ishmael

1. Ishmael was the firstborn son of Abraham by Hagar, an Egyptian maid of his wife Sarah. Abraham was 86 at the time and had lived in Canaan for 11 years.

2. Sarah gave her slave Hagar to Abraham to produce an heir for the family.

3. When Abraham was 99 God renewed His covenant with him; as part of this renewal God enjoined the circumcision of Ishmael as a sign of his membership in the covenant community.

4. God also announced that He would fulfill the divine promise through his wife Sarah, although Abraham looked on Ishmael with deep affection and prayed that he might be the promised heir (Gen 17:18).

5. When Ishmael at age 13 was circumcised, Abraham and all his household-those born to the men and women who had grown up in his employ and newcomers to the household through purchase from foreigners-were also circumcised.

6. Fourteen years after the birth of Ishmael, Isaac was born to Sarah and Abraham.

7. Sarah insisted, contrary to the customs of the times as evidenced by Abraham's displeasure (Gen 21:11-13), that Hagar and Ishmael leave to live in the wilderness of Beersheba, and later in the wilderness of Paran.



7.1 There is no record in the Scripture or elsewhere of animosity developing between Ishmael and Isaac. For example both sons tended to the burial of Abraham in the cave of Machpelah. (Gen 25:9)

8. While Isaac was his sole heir, Abraham endowed the sons of his concubines (Hagar and Keturah) while he was still living. (Gen 25:6)

9. Therefore Ishmael received some of Abraham's material goods. Keturah's sons were sent away eastward, whereas Ishmael went to the southwest.

10. Ishmael took an Egyptian wife and became the father of 12 sons and a daughter called Mahalath (Gen 28:9) or Bashemath (Gen 36:3). Mahalath became one of the wives of Esau.

Now for new material and point eleven.

11. The names of Ishmael's sons were Nebajoth, Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, Mishma, Dumah, Massa, Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. (Gen 25:13-15)

Gen 25:12 Now these are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid, bare unto Abraham:

Gen 25:13 And these are the names of the sons of Ishmael, by their names, according to their generations: the firstborn of Ishmael, Nebajoth; and Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam,

Gen 25:14 And Mishma, and Dumah, and Massa,

Gen 25:15 Hadar, and Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah:

11.1 Since most of these names occur as tribal entities of considerable influence, some scholars look upon this genealogy list as ethnic rather than personal.

11.2 The Nebaioth Arabs seem to have been the Nabaiati, mentioned in Assyrian records by Tiglath-Pileser III along with the Qidri (Kedar) mentioned by Ashurbanipal.

11.3 The Keder tribe is mentioned in the Assyrian records of Esarhaddon and Kedar was found inscribed on a silver vessel dating back to the 5th century B.C.

11.3.1 The Kedarites were known for their wealth in flocks and their men were famed archers.

Jer 49:28 Concerning Kedar, and concerning the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon shall smite, thus saith the LORD; Arise ye, go up to Kedar, and spoil the men of the east.

Jer 49:29 Their tents and their flocks shall they take away: they shall take to themselves their curtains, and all their vessels, and their camels; and they shall cry unto them, Fear is on every side.

Eze 27:21 Arabia, and all the princes of Kedar, they occupied with thee (i. e. Tyre) in lambs, and rams, and goats: in these were they thy merchants.

Isa 21:16 For thus hath the Lord said unto me, Within a year, according to the years of an hireling, and all the glory of Kedar shall fail:

Isa 21:17 And the residue of the number of archers, the mighty men of the children of Kedar, shall be diminished: for the LORD God of Israel hath spoken it.

11.3.2 They lived in black tents in unwalled encampments. (Son 1:5; Isa 42:11)

Son 1:5 I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

Isa 42:11 Let the wilderness and the cities thereof lift up their voice, the encampments that Kedar doth inhabit: let the inhabitants of the rock sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains.

11.3.3 In Isa 60:7 and also in Ashurbanipal's inscription they are referred to in connection with the Arabic tribe of Nebaioth. They seem to have roamed the Syrian the desert east of Palestine, but in the Persian period were also found in the desert south of Palestine.

Isa 60:7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together unto thee, the rams of Nebaioth shall minister unto thee: they shall come up with acceptance on mine altar, and I will glorify the house of my glory.

Isa 60:8 Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows? Isa 60:9 Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

Isa 60:10 And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee.

Isa 60:11 Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.

Isa 60:12 For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted.

11.3.4 At that time of Israel's return from Persia the Kedarites were ruled by "Geshem the Arabian" (Neh 2:19), who is called "King of Kedar" on a silver vessel discovered at Tell el-Maskhutah in the east part of the delta of Egypt.

Neh 2:19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

Neh 2:20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper

us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

11.3.5 Kedar and her confederate peoples exerted great influence from the delta region of Egypt to the Syrian desert and from Sennacherib's time to the Nabataean period.

11.4 Adbeel, the third son of Ishmael is also the name of an Arabian tribe mentioned in Gen 25:13 and 1Ch 1:29.

1Ch 1:29 These are their generations: The firstborn of Ishmael, Nebaioth; then Kedar, and Adbeel, and Mibsam,

1Ch 1:30 Mishma, and Dumah, Massa, Hadad, and Tema,

1Ch 1:31 Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. These are the sons of Ishmael.

11.4.1 His tribe resided in northwestern Arabia closer to Kedar and Nebaioth. Little else is known.

11.5 We know little of Mibsam except that he was a son of Ishmael. Certain Arab histories connect Mishma with an Arab tribe called Benee Mesma living in Saudi Arabia today. 11.6 Dumah is a son of Ishmael and the presumed ancestor of a tribe in Arabia (Gen 25:14; 1Ch 1:30), which gave its name to an oasis now called Dumat ej-Jendel, capital of the district known as the Jauf.

11.6.1 Dumah lies about halfway between the Gulf of Aqabah and Kuwait on the Persian Gulf.

11.7 Massa was one of the sons of Ishmael and a descendant of Abraham (Gen 25:14; 1Ch 1:30). According to the RSV, Agur (Pro 30:1) and King Lemuel (Pro 31:1) may have belonged to this Arabic tribe.

Sayings of Agur

Pro 30:1 The sayings of Agur son of Jakeh-- an oracle: This man declared to Ithiel, to Ithiel and to Ucal:

Pro 30:2 "I am the most ignorant of men; I do not have a man's understanding. Pro 30:3 I have not learned wisdom, nor have I knowledge of the Holy One.

Pro 30:4 Wh åo has gone up to heaven and come down? Who has gathered up the wind in the hollow of his hands? Who has wrapped up the waters in his cloak? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and the name of his son? Tell me if you know!

Pro 30:5 "Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Pro 30:6 Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.

Sayings of King Lemuel

Pro 31:1 The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him. Pro 31:2 What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows? Pro 31:3 Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings. Pro 31:4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink:

11.7.1 There are references to Massa, Tema, and Nebajoth in Gen 25:13-15 and in the Assyrian inscriptions of Tiglath-pileser III.

11.8 Hadar is an alternate form of Hadad, son of Ishmael (Gen 25:15). The letters Resh (r) and daleth (d) are similar in Hebrew and were frequently confused. He founded a tribe of the same name, attested in cuneiform records as the Hudadu.

11.9 Tema was the ninth son of Ishmael who was subsequently regarded as one of the 12 princes of Ishmael and whose name identified the village and encampment of his descendants. (Gen 25:15; 1Ch 1:30)

11.9.1 The residence of the clan is to be identified with the modern Teima, an oasis and caravan stop in northwest Arabia c. 260 miles southeast of Ezion-geber (Job 6:19), It lay on the caravan route between the land of spices and incense in south Arabia and the countries to the north such as the delta region of Egypt, Israel, and Syria.

Job 6:15 But my brothers are as undependable as intermittent streams, as the streams that overflow

Job 6:16 when darkened by thawing ice and swollen with melting snow,

Job 6:17 but that cease to flow in the dry season, and in the heat vanish from their channels.

Job 6:18 Caravans turn aside from their routes; they go up into the wasteland and perish. Job 6:19 The caravans of Tema look for water, the traveling merchants of Sheba look in hope.

Job 6:20 They are distressed, because they had been confident; they arrive there, only to be disappointed.

Job 6:21 Now you too have proved to be of no help; you see something dreadful and are afraid.

Job 6:22 Have I ever said, 'Give something on my behalf, pay a ransom for me from your wealth,

Job 6:23 deliver me from the hand of the enemy, ransom me from the clutches of the ruthless'?

Job 6:24 "Teach me, and I will be quiet; show me where I have been wrong.

11.9.2 In an oracle concerning Arabia the inhabitants of the land of Tema were urged to succor the Dedanites and Kedarites who were soon to flee from a crushing rout (Isa 21:14), perhaps a reference to the campaign of Tiglath-pileser III who claimed to have received tribute from the inhabitants of Tema or the troops of Babylon who would in one year conquer the middle east.

A Prophecy Against Arabia

Isa 21:13 An oracle concerning Arabia: You caravans of Dedanites, who camp in the thickets of Arabia,

Isa 21:14 bring water for the thirsty; you who live in Tema, bring food for the fugitives. Isa 21:15 They flee from the sword, from the drawn sword, from the bent bow and from the heat of battle.

Isa 21:16 This is what the Lord says to me: "Within one year, as a servant bound by contract would count it, all the pomp of Kedar will come to an end.

Isa 21:17 The survivors of the bowmen, the warriors of Kedar, will be few." The LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken.

11.9.3 In Jer 25:23 Tema is numbered among those peoples who were to drink of the cup of the wine of the wrath at the hand of the Lord, which apparently has reference to the conquests of Nebuchadnezzar.

Seventy Years of Captivity

Jer 25:1 The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was that was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon ...

Jer 25:18 To wit, Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and the kings thereof, and the princes thereof, to make them a desolation, an astonishment, an hissing, and a curse; as it is this day;

Jer 25:19 Pharaoh king of Egypt, and his servants, and his princes, and all his people; Jer 25:20 And all the mingled people, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Azzah, and Ekron, and the remnant of Ashdod,

Jer 25:21 Edom, and Moab, and the children of Ammon,

Jer 25:22 And all the kings of Tyrus, and all the kings of Zidon, and the kings of the isles which are beyond the sea,

Jer 25:23 Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and all that are in the utmost corners,

Jer 25:24 And all the kings of Arabia, and all the kings of the mingled people that dwell in the desert,

End Lesson