

Key to Unit 2 GOD'S FAITHFUL PRESERVED

Here are our suggested answers for Unit 2.

Question 1. Explain how the ancestry of **the woman's seed** was nearly wiped out.

Cain slew noble Abel. Able was replaced by Seth (meaning "designated") Gen. 4:25. He was designated ancestor to "**the seed**" Gen. 3:15. Centuries later, mankind became so corrupt. that only one good person remained a descendant of Seth Noah. Only his family survived the flood.

Question 2. Explain in which of the three ways Cain was being tempted [Gen.4:2-9]

Pride (Gen.4:5,7). God rejected Cain's sacrifice because he had not done it faithfully (Heb.11:4). Cain's pride was hurt. He became enraged. The sin of pride mastered him. He lured his innocent brother into the fields, attacked and murdered him.

Supplementary information:

Gen.4:6-7 "Cain, why are you enraged? Why are you morose? If you conformed you would be buoyant, but since you're rebellious then sin crouches at the opening and wants to consume you, but you yes you must overcome it."

John 8:34 "Anyone sinning is sin's slave".

RECAPPING

1. God created everything perfectly.
2. To incite man to rebel, Satan slandered God.
3. God predicted **the virgin's son who:**
4. would defeat Satan, restoring the status-quo.
5. Seth - ancestor to **the virgin's son.**
6. The world was repopulated from the flood's sole survivors — faithful Noah's family.

Understanding the Bible

Unit 3 GOD SELECTS A FAMILY

Centuries elapse - woman's seed not born

After the flood, mankind sank into idolatry. Rather than worshipping the Creator, they worshipped the creation and things they made with their own hands.¹ Abram (a faithful descendant of Noah's eldest son, Shem^A) lived in the luxurious city of Ur [located in south-east Iraq]. God asked Abram to abandon his home for territory his descendants would inherit. But Abram himself would not inherit it. Living in tents like a nomad, he let God lead him from place to place not even knowing where he was going.²

Arriving in Canaan [modern Palestine/Israel] God showed Abram all the land his descendants would inherit and made several promises to him:-

1. His descendants would inherit all that land.
2. His descendants would be a great nation and be innumerable, like the stars and the sand on the seashore.^B
3. ***In his "seed" all the nations would be blest.***
Could this be **the woman's seed?**

Suddenly, a priest of God Melchizedek King of Salem [*modern Jerusalem*] confronts and blesses Abram. This King-priest is obviously Abram's superior, yet we never meet him again.

God renamed Abram — Abraham [father of multitudes] and his wife Sarai — Sarah [princess]. Sarai was childless and too old to have children. Still they trusted God.⁴ Then miraculously, aged Sarah did have a son — Isaac. Then God put Abraham's faith to the test. ***God asked him to sacrifice that son*** — the heir to the

promises.⁵ Abraham made an altar [*where Jerusalem is*]. He laid Isaac on it - raised his knife and — ?

God repeated the promises to Isaac. Isaac had twin sons named Esau and Jacob. Esau, the heir, didn't value his birthright,⁶ which included being ancestor to **the woman's seed**. But Jacob appreciated its importance and persuaded Esau to part with it. God changed Jacob's name to Israel which means - Ruling with God.

Jacob had 12 sons. One — Joseph — was sold into slavery. Despite this, he became governor over all Egypt's produce.⁷ In Canaan famine threatened the lives of Jacob's family. They sought relief in Egypt. Joseph persuaded the Pharaoh [king] to let them live in Egypt.

Jacob predicted that the descendants of another son — **Judah^C** — ***would retain their tribal identity^D until "Shiloh" came.*** Shiloh means "***He to whom it belongs***". Could the person called "Shiloh" be **the woman's seed?**

The Book Called Job

This book tells of a thoroughly good man of God named Job who lived in Uz^B [south Jordan] probably when the Israelites lived in Egypt.

In extreme suffering, castigated by his friends, Job made four astounding statements:-

- "Even if He/it slays me, yet ***I will confidently wait for Him.*** I can definitely acquit myself before Him" (13:15,16a). That is - before the LORD God. ^E
- "Because I personally know that my ***redeemer lives, and that at the end^F He will stand upon the earth***". (19:25)

- "So after my skin is destroyed, **yet in my body I will behold God.**⁶ Whom I, me-myself, will behold for myself. That is my own eyes will see and not someone else's." (19:26-27a), then at the end of v.27:-
- "My yearning for this engrosses me." ⁹

Many of God's prophets had this yearning.¹⁰

<u>Approximate Time-scale</u>	<u>Before year 2,000</u>	
Year Zero	The Creation	6,000 yrs..
Year 1,650	The Flood	4,350 yrs.
Year 2,080	Call of Abraham	3,920 yrs.
Year 2,280	Joseph in Office	3,720 yrs.
Year 2,480	Job (very approx.)	3,520 yrs.

Suggested Reading

Genesis 11:27-12::9, 13:1-18:15, 21:1-14, 22:1-19, 23:1-2, 24:1-67, 25:7-11, 25:19-26:5, 27:46-28:5, 28:10-17, 29, 30:22-24, 31:3, 33:18-20 35, 37-50.
Job 1:1-10, 13:15, 19:23-27.

Oddities to ponder over

- *Will the virgin's son be in some way similar to Melchizedek?*¹¹
- Abram had to travel a long way to Moriah. *Did God have a special reason for asking Abraham to sacrifice his son in Moriah ?*

Question:-

How did God use Joseph to preserve the tribal line, through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Judah, from extinction?

Interesting Notes:-

- A) Shem's descendants are called Semites.
- B) Thousands of years before scientists knew it God said the stars were innumerable.

- C) The word Jew comes from the name Judah.
- D) ***When Jerusalem was destroyed (AD 70) all the tribal records were lost. So "Shiloh" had to come before then.***
- E) The word "Him" in Job 13:15 & 16 refers to "the LORD" in 12:9. When every letter in the words GOD and LORD are capitals, they are from the Hebrew word YHWH. Some Bibles use the word "Jehovah". The Hebrew word YHWH means "He exists" - God is real.
- F) Since "Shiloh" had to come before AD 70 ***what did Job mean by "at the end"?*** What was going to end at or before AD 70 ? ¹²
- G) When would Job, in his body, behold his redeemer - God - on the earth? ⁹

Useful References:-

- 1 Rom.1:19-25.
- 2 Acts.7:2-5, Heb. 11:8-9,13.
- 3 Gal. 3:8. Heb. 11:12. "seed" is singular (See: Gal. 3:16).
- 4 Rom.4:16-21, Heb. 11:11.
- 5 Heb. 11:17-19, James 2:21-23.
- 6 Heb.12:16-17.
- 7 Acts 7:9-15.
- 8 1 Chron.1:4,17
- 9 Matt.27:50-54
- 10 1 Peter 1:10-12
- 11 Ps.110, Heb. 5:1-10, 6:19-20, 7:1-22.
- 12 1 Cor.10:11, Gal.4:4 Heb.1:1-2, 8:13 & 9:26

Send any queries to:-

Please include your name and address and state the unit and question with each query.

©2000 Simply Christians - Longford www.muqaddas.eu

*Understanding
the
Bible*

Unit 3

**GOD SELECTS A FAMILY
[From Abraham to Joseph]
with
Key to Unit 2**