

- i. From Genesis 12 to the end of the Old Testament, the story of Abraham's family, God's instrument to redeem His creation, will be told. In that story we discover that Israel is as much part of the problem as they are the solution to it.
 1. The flawed Abraham
 - a. The lie about Sarah
 - b. The Ismael tragedy...innocent suffering in the story of redemption.
 2. Flawed Jacob
 - a. Cheats his brother and deceives his father-suffering Esau.
 - b. Is cheated by Laban
 - c. His sons sell one of their brothers into slavery. Suffering Joseph and Jacob
 3. A lesson about what God is doing about evil.
 - a. He brings good out of it
 - b. He restrains and contains but does not eliminate-no reason given for this.
 4. The Hebrews in bondage
 - a. Liberated by the God who hears their cries-but did not prevent the slavery.
 - b. The liberated ones quickly turn on the One who liberated them and prefer returning to slavery.
 5. The People Israel in the Promised Land.
 - a. The Messy Conquest
 - i. Was this a misunderstanding?
 - ii. Did God really demand this violence towards the Canaanites?