

Isaiah 51:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you:
for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

Analysis

The historical rehearsal 'I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him' emphasizes God's ability to multiply from nothing. Abraham's singularity ('him alone') shows that numerical smallness doesn't limit God's purposes. This encourages remnant theology - faithful few are sufficient for God to accomplish His plans. The progression (call, bless, increase) models redemption's pattern: election, justification, glorification.

Historical Context

When exiles felt numerically insignificant (compared to Babylon's masses), this reminded them that Israel began with one elderly, childless couple. Their ancestor's faith in impossible promise should inspire their own trust in restoration promises.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Abraham's example of faith in impossible circumstances encourage you when you feel inadequate for God's calling?
2. What does God's pattern of working through small, weak remnants teach about how He displays His power?

Interlinear Text

לֹא	אֶבְרָהָם	אָבִיךָ	וְאֶל	שָׂרָה	תְּחַלֵּלָךְ
Look	unto Abraham	your father	and unto Sarah	that bare	
H5027	H413 H85	H1	H413 H8283		H2342
כִּי	אִם דַּ	קָרָאתִי יוֹ	וְאַבְרָהָם הוּא	וְאַבְרָהָם:	
H3588	him alone	you for I called	and blessed	him and increased	
	H259	H7121	H1288	H7235	

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 33:24 (References Abraham): Son of man, they that inhabit those wastes of the land of Israel speak, saying, Abraham was one, and he inherited the land: but we are many; the land is given us for inheritance.

Isaiah 29:22 (References Abraham): Therefore thus saith the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob, Jacob shall not now be ashamed, neither shall his face now wax pale.

Genesis 24:35 (Blessing): And the LORD hath blessed my master greatly; and he is become great: and he hath given him flocks, and herds, and silver, and gold, and menservants, and maidservants, and camels, and asses.

Genesis 22:17 (Blessing): That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

Genesis 24:1 (Blessing): And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.

Joshua 24:3 (References Abraham): And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.

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