

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

Psalm 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

תְּחַזֵּלֶךְ מ שֶׁב ה תְּחַזֵּלֶךְ מ שֶׁב ה יְטַזֵּן
Look unto Abraham your father and unto Sarah that bare
H5027 H413 H85 H1 H413 H8283 H2342

אַל בְּ יְטַזֵּן אַבְרָהָם אַבְרָהָם אַבְרָהָם אַבְרָהָם
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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