14 January 2007

MORNING WORSHIP Text: Genesis 12-17

Abraham: Vital Lessons learned about walking with God

(I) INITIAL WALK WITH GOD

"So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him... And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed Haran." **Genesis 12:4**

1. Commencement of walk with God

- a) Older age- Seventy five years old
- b) Obedience to God's word
- c) On-going communion with God

2. Commendable efforts

- "...And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him." Genesis 12:7
- "...he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD." **Genesis 12:8**
- a) Responding in appreciation
- b) Responding in worship
- c) Responding consistently

(II) INCONSISTENCY AND INCONGRUITY

- 1. Under trying circumstances in Egypt (Genesis 12:11-16)
- a) Succumbing to fear
- b) Selfish survival instincts kicks in
- c) Special mercy and protection extended

[&]quot;Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said..." Genesis 12:7

2. Under another set of trying circumstances

- a) Marrying Hagar
- b) For the sake of obtaining an heir
- c) Special problems arising from this situation

(III) INVITATION TO WALK BETTER

"When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, 'I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless." **Genesis 17:1**

- 1. Another appearance
- a) Many appearances already
- b) Yet another one was made

2. Another chance

- "...walk before Me and be blameless..." Genesis 17:1
- a) Abraham not blameless
- b) Learning from mistakes
- c) Challenge to walk blamelessly
 - i) Sinless perfection not in mind
 - ii) In greater consciousness
 - iii) With greater faith
 - iv) With deeper understanding