

Does It Make Any Difference Today What God Promised Abraham almost 4000 years Ago?

God's call initially came in UR (Acts 7:2), reiterated in Haran here. A was middle-aged, prosperous, settled, pagan when God called him. Responded in faith. Tremendous promises

I. Personal promises, 12:2

1. A great nation. 13:16; 15:5. Can see 3000 stars with naked eye.
2. Bless him. Materially, 24:35; spiritually, 21:22.
3. Name great. With others 23:6; with God, friend, 2 Chron 20:7; Isa 41:8; Jas 2:23. Bec of fath. Heb 11:6.

What diff? Existence of Jews and their being a blessing to the world (v2b). Diff in the past contning to present.

more General promises, 3.

4. Bless those who bless him. 14:18. Sons of Heth (Hittites) 23:1-20 became great Josh 1:4.
5. Curse those who curse him. 20:2 Abimelech. Deut 30:7; Joel 3:1-3; Matt 25:31-46.

6. Bless all families. Gal 3:8, 16, 29.

All this belongs to past and continues to present.

II. Land promise, 15:7-21.

Specific land. Locate on map. River ^{90 miles E. Suez.} Egypt or Nile
Unique ratification of promise of land.

Possible fulfillments.

1. Conditions not met so no need to fulfill, Gen 26:5
2. Joshua, 21:43. Not fully nor long. Gen 17:8 fulfilled.
3. Solomon, 1 Kings 4:21 *2 Sam 8:2*
4. By church spiritually on earth or in heaven.
5. In new earth.
6. In M yet future and on this earth. Need prem scheme.

What diff? a future for Israel on earth after 2nd coming. Remember now they return inunbelief.

III. Promise of righteousness, Gen 15:6; Rom 4:1-5.

What diff? All in the world now and for eternity.