

1 CREATION/*Family Leaders* At Home in the Garden

Genesis 1:1 -- CREATION

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,

Genesis 1:26 – HUMAN VALUE & RESPONSIBILITY

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

Genesis 2:16-17; 3:24 – ADAM & EVE: THE FAILURE OF HUMAN LEADERS:

¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” . . . 3:24 God drove the man out of the Garden

Genesis 3:15 – THE PROMISE OF A PERFECT LEADER and SAVIOR

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

(The rest of the Story is about How God brings this “offspring” / leader/ Savior into the world)

2. PATRIARCHS: *Family Leaders* At Home in The Promised Land

Genesis 12:1-3 ABRAHAM: A GREAT LEADER STARTING FROM SCRATCH

¹²Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 50:19-20 JOSEPH: A GREAT LEADER IN EXILE

¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your slaves.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. swear.

3. EXODUS to EXILE:

Judges, Kings, Prophets, Govt. Officials

a. Moving Home to the Promised Land

Exodus 4:10-12 MOSES: A GREAT LEADER (a leader like THE Savior: Deuteronomy 18:15-22) DEPENDENT ON GOD

¹⁰But Moses said to the Lord, “O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.”

¹¹Then the Lord said to him, “Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? ¹²Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak.”

MOVING IN

Joshua 1:9 JOSHUA: A GREAT LEADER BRINGING PEOPLE INTO A NEW AGE

⁹I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

b. Moral & Spiritual Life

MOVING DOWN & UP

Ruth 1:16 RUTH: AN UNEXPECTED GREAT LEADER

Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

1 Samuel 3:10 SAMUEL: A GREAT LEADER HOLDING THE PEOPLE TOGETHER

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

2 Samuel 7:16 DAVID: A GREAT LEADER BUILDING A POWERFUL & UNITED KINGDOM (A 2nd leader like THE Savior)

¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Ezekiel 34:23-24 Then I will set over them one shepherd, My servant David, and he will feed them; he will feed them himself and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and My servant David will be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken”

1 Kings 3:9 SOLOMON: A GREAT LEADER

ESTABLISHING A KINGDOM WITH WISDOM (*The wise “Son of David”, like THE Savior*)

⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

MOVING DOWN

1 Kings 16:29-30 A SERIES OF BAD LEADERS/KINGS

²⁹In the thirty-eighth year of *King Asa* of Judah, Ahab son of Omri began to reign over Israel; Ahab son of *Omri* reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty-two years. ³⁰Ahab son of Omri did evil in the sight of the Lord more than all who were before him.

Amos 8:1-6

²God said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.” Then the Lord said to me, The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. ³The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day,” says the Lord God; “the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!”

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

2 Kings 19:19 HEZEKIAH: A GREAT LEADER SLOWS DOWN THE DECLINE

¹⁹So now, O Lord our God, save us, I pray you, from the hand of the King of Assyria, so that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone.”

3C. MOVING OUT, INTO EXILE!

2 Kings 24:20 THE CONSEQUENCES OF BAD LEADERSHIP -- EXILE

²⁰Jerusalem and Judah so angered the Lord that he expelled them from his presence. Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

Is. 9:2, 11:1-2 ISAIAH: THE RENEWED PROMISE OF A GREAT LEADER

9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a Great Light; on those who lived in a land of deep darkness, light has shined.

11:1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse . . . ²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might . . .

Jer. 33:14-16 JEREMIAH: THE RENEWED PROMISE OF A GREAT LEADER

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a Righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

3d. LIVING IN EXILE

Jer. 29:4-7, 11-14 JEREMIAH: HOW TO LIVE IN EXILE

⁴Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not

decrease. ⁷But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. . . . ¹¹For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I *will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.*

Esther 4:14 ESTHER: GREAT LEADERSHIP IN EXILE

“Who knows, perhaps you have come to royal power for such a time as this”

Daniel 6:7-10 DANIEL: GREAT LEADERSHIP IN EXILE

⁷All the [leaders of Persia] are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions . . .

¹⁰Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously.

4. MOVING BACK HOME

Ezra 1:1-3 CYRUS: THE END OF EXILE

I in order that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia: . . . ²“The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem in Judah. ³Any of those among you who are of his people—may their God be with them!. . . are now permitted to go up to Jerusalem in Judah, and rebuild the house of the Lord, the God of Israel: he is the God who is in Jerusalem;

Nehemiah 2:17-19 NEHEMIAH: LEADERSHIP TO REBUILD STRUCTURES

¹⁷Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild

the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace.” . . . So they committed themselves to the common good. ¹⁹But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they mocked and ridiculed us . . .

Nehemiah 8:2-3 EZRA: LEADERSHIP TO REBUILD FAITH

²The priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. . . ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

Jonah 1:1-2 JONAH: THE DANGER OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS

1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah, saying, ²“Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.”

Malachi 1:6-8 THE DANGER OF SPIRITUAL WEARINESS

⁶A son honors his father, and servants their master. If then I am a father, where is the honor due me?

You say, “How have we despised your name?”

⁸When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not wrong? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not wrong? Try presenting that to your governor; will he be pleased with you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts.

5. THE GREATEST LEADER COMES SAVIOR & KING

Luke 2:10-11 The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

The rest of the Story

MAKING THE WORLD/OUR LIVES

AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

INTO GOD’S HOME

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE KING