

YOU CANNOT SERVE TWO KINGS

Matthew 1:1; Genesis 12:1-3

By tracing Jesus' lineage as the Son of Abraham, Matthew 1 refers to the _____ God made with Abraham
The Abrahamic Covenant—God's promises to Abraham promise a kingdom and a king: 4 reasons for this view

- 1) "I will make of you a great nation" means a "real" nation like the _____ nations—with a land and a king
- 2) "I will make your name great" is a phrase used throughout the OT of _____ like their greatest king, David
- 3) When God elaborates the Abrahamic Covenant in Genesis 17:6, He explicitly promises a _____
- 4) Most important is the broader context: the first use of the word _____ is found in Genesis 10:9-10
 - a) "A mighty hunter" = a tyrant or a despot: Nimrod was a mighty hunter of _____ to subject them to his rule
 - b) "Before the Lord" = "before His face" but our modern vernacular would put it: "IN His face" → _____
 - c) The name "Nimrod" means "let us _____" because Nimrod led a kingdom of rebellion against God
 - d) According to Gen. 11:4 Nimrod and those he subjected determined to make for themselves a _____
 - e) God's promise to Abraham in Gen. 12:2 is a direct _____ to the determination of this group of rebels

CONTRAST #1: One kingdom disobeys God's _____, the other kingdom obeys God's _____

- A. At the end of the flood, God commanded men to fill the earth, but these rebels refused to be _____
The kingdom of Babel was founded on the idea that _____ should have their own way but God no place
- B. In contrast, God demanded that Abraham obey and leave behind his country and his _____
Genesis 12:4 makes the point that Abraham obeyed: in this kingdom _____ has His way not man

CONTRAST #2: One kingdom is the _____ of man, the other kingdom is the _____ of God

- A. The men at Babel held a council and said, "Let us ... let us ... let us ..." This kingdom was _____ idea
There are always kingdoms—even religions—that are based on self-will, self-effort & self- _____
- B. In contrast, in Gen. 12:2-3, God said seven times, "I _____"—this kingdom was established by God
Abraham often failed/sinned, but God did not fail; He provided _____ to Abraham—all was of God

CONTRAST #3: One kingdom is of _____; one kingdom is of _____

- A. At the end of the flood, God commanded men to fill the earth, but these rebels refused to be _____
This kingdom appeals to most men who want what they can _____ and touch and feel and count
- B. In contrast, God promised to Abraham only what he could not _____ --a homeland far away in Canaan
Hebrews 11:8-10 indicates that Abraham had _____ in God's promises of a city whose builder is God

CONTRAST #4: One kingdom God _____ and frustrates; one kingdom God _____ and builds

- A. Gen. 11:5-8 says the Godhead held a council & decided to frustrate the plans of men & _____ them
Such human kingdoms have a degree of success but ultimately God will not permit them to _____
- B. Gen. 12:2-3 uses the word "bless+" 4 times: God gave these blessings though it seemed _____

CONTRAST #5: One kingdom ends in _____ & judgment; one kingdom ends in the _____ & His kingdom

- A. At Babel they built a ziggurat—a "tower unto heaven" where they worshipped the sun, moon & _____
Babel survives in the NT as Babylon, ruled by Anti-Christ, only to be destroyed by God's _____
- B. In contrast, the kingdom that God promised Abraham ends with the _____ born the 1st Christmas
We may be part of this kingdom by _____ in Christ's cross and by willingness to obey to the king